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TANZANIAN TO LEAD GLOBAL WAR AGAINST NTDS PAGE 4



EU AVAILS 6.6BN/- FOR CLEAN COOKING DRIVE PAGE 6



Ayala land's AREIT to proliferate asset base to \$3 billion by 2030

Mwinyi dies at 98

To be buried in Zanzibar tomorrow

By Guardian Reporter

FORMER President Ali Hassan Mwinyi (98) died yesterday at a Dar es Salaam hospital, where he was undergoing treatment for lung cancer.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan announced the sad news in a brief televised address at State House in the commercial capital, declaring seven days of national mourning starting today.

She said that flags across the country will fly at half-mast across the mourning period, with the burial lined up for tomorrow in Zanzibar.

"With great sadness, I hereby announce the passing of former President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, who died this evening at Mzena Hospital in Dar es Salaam where he was undergoing treatment of lung cancer," the president, visibly grief-stricken said.

She said the former president had been undergoing treatment since November last year when he was flown to a London hospital and later readmitted to Mzena Hospital.

Born on May 8, 1925 at Kivure village, Coast

Region, on Tanzania Mainland and raised in Zanzibar, Mwinyi served as the second President of the United Republic of Tanzania from November 5, 1985 to November 23, 1995.

He had earlier served as third President of Zanzibar - from January 30, 1984 to October 24, 1985.

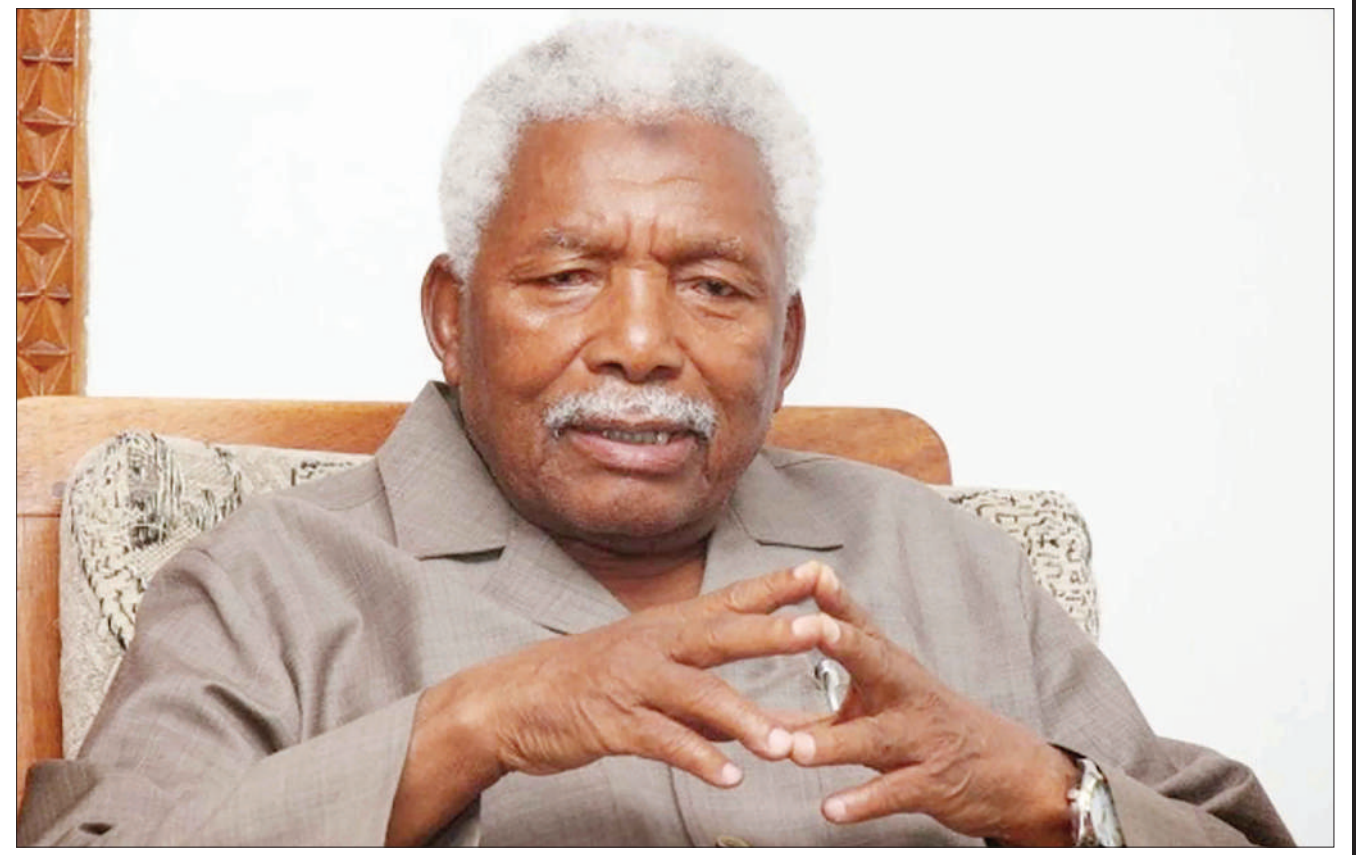
He had his primary and secondary education at Mangapwani and Dole Secondary School in Zanzibar, respectively, from 1933 to 1942 and thereafter attended a two-year teaching course at the Zanzibar Teachers' Training College.

He pursued further professional training at the University of Durham, near Newcastle city, in north east England, thus setting for a professional career in teaching.

He became principal of the Zanzibar Teachers' Training College and was soon thereafter recruited into public administration in 1963 as principal secretary in Zanzibar's Ministry of Education.

From 1970 to 1975 he served as Minister of State in the Union President's Office, Health minister and Home Affairs minister, where-

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Battle for top spot as Al Ahly hosts Yanga in CAF CL Group D

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Man Utd and Liverpool to meet in FA Cup quarter-finals, Chelsea survive

ATCL clears the air over engine fault on Saturday

"If a malfunction occurs, safety measures should be given priority and we at ATCL our priority is the safety of passengers"

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

AIR Tanzania Co. Ltd (ATCL) has cleared the air on how one engine of its Airbus A220-300 aircraft started emitting smoke in the air and was rerouted to Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Ladislau Matindi, the ATCL director

general, told journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the plane was recently in Germany for maintenance. It was used for 200 hours in the country since it was delivered from maintenance, he said.

Up to that point the plane did not show signs of technical failure but then it developed a technical fault mid-air, with

the passengers scenting smoke that was traced to a fault in one of its engines, he affirmed.

The plane which was heading to Mbeya, a two hour trip, took off in Dar es Salaam at 6:00 am on Saturday and after half an hour the fault was noticed, as the engine got very hot and started emitting smoke that entered the air conditioning system, he explained.

The smoke continued for five minutes while the pilot and crew examined the situation, so the pilot decided to turn off

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Air Tanzania Co. Ltd managing director Ladislau Matindi briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the national carrier's Airbus A220-300 aircraft that developed engine problems at the weekend while in the air heading to Mbeya. R-L: ATCL acting Chief of Security Emmanuel Twai, Captain William Zelotte, who was in command during the flight, and flight attendant Mwanaidi Mwanga. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Ministers, envoys scan 2024 financial horizon

By Henry Mwangonde

SENIOR cabinet ministers yesterday participated in the 2024 High Technical Level Strategic Dialogue with envoys of the development partners, to evaluate the tone of government policies and strategies ahead of the next government budget estimates.

After meeting behind closed doors for four hours, Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba said at a press briefing that the government has lined up measures to make the country's economy inclusive by investing heavily in productive sectors such as agriculture, which will facilitate public participation in the development process.

Doing so will help building a resilient, competitive and inclusive economy at this time of global uncertainties, he said, affirming that the good thing is that development partners have shown trust towards what the government is doing.

They have especially shown satisfaction with progress in the mega projects that the government believes will transform the country's economy, he said.

The government is now focusing on investing in production sectors in line with projections set out in national development plans and the envisaged 2050 Vision, he stated.

"By promoting investment in agriculture in its entirety, including livestock,

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PM raises funds, rescues woman in house auction

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday initiated a fund raising drive on the spot to rescue the house of a woman, Maria Abihudi who lost her house in an auction

instructed by a local ward tribunal in Musoma District, Mara Region.

The woman was brought before the ward tribunal by her neighbour over a land boundary dispute but she failed to appear in the case hearing for maternity causes,

whereupon the tribunal ruled that the house be sold.

Addressing a rally and allowing inputs from the crowd, the premier listened to the woman's sad story and decided to conduct an emergency fundraising, collected 2.8m/-

to cover various costs raised during the hearing of the case.

He instructed the concerned authorities to adhere to decisions issued by legal bodies when working on the processes

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Mwinyi dies at 98

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upon he resigned over an administrative mishap in a remand prison, and thereafter served Tanzania's Ambassador to Egypt up to 1977.

He was then recalled as Natural Resources and Tourism minister and later became Minister of State in the Vice President's Office, making him a major link in the Union government's handling of Zanzibar issues.

After a disturbance during the

20th Zanzibar Revolution anniversary - on January 20, 1984 - the central committee of the ruling CCM replaced the then Zanzibar President, Sheikh Aboud Jumbe Mwinyi with Ali Hassan Mwinyi, right up to the country's 1985 General Election when the party nominated him as its contender for the 'yes' and 'no' vote for the Union presidency. He triumphed, serving as Tanzania's president for a full two successive five-year terms as provided for under the country's Constitution.

Ministers, envoys scan 2024 financial horizon

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fisheries and forestry, we will capture the majority of the population, hence pushing ahead with ending poverty," he said.

The dialogue was held under the theme: 'Towards Vision 2050: Accelerating Resilience and Inclusive Development in Times of Uncertainty,' the minister noted, reiterating that massive investment into production sectors which employ the majority of the population will reduce the gap between the poor and the rich.

"This will offer solutions to the current employment challenges but also enable development of the private sector to create more jobs for the youth," he said.

He expressed expectations of addressing the scarcity of foreign exchange supplies, notably the US dollar, intimating that the problem may come to an end following the completion of the Julius Nyerere hydropower project (JNHPP), in view of various measures the government was putting in place.

Dr Donald Mmari, the REPOA executive director, said the dialogue session was important as it helps the government to inform development stakeholders on what the country has achieved in implement-

ing its development agenda.

He declared that Tanzania has managed to reach the lower middle-income status though there are challenges which remain that need to be collectively resolved.

"We need to be able to improve the business environment so that the Tanzanian economy can be more inclusive, grow faster and more competitive to make people part of the development process," he emphasised.

This can be achieved through investing in private sector growth to create more jobs through infrastructure outlays to improve chances of policy outcomes and to make it attract foreign direct investment (FDI), he added.



This will offer solutions to the current employment challenges but also enable development of the private sector to create more jobs for the youth

PM raises funds, rescues woman in house auction

FROM PAGE 1

to return the house to the woman, while handing over 2.5m/- to Regional Commissioner Said Mtanda and 300,000/- to the woman.

Out of the 2.5m/- a chunk of 0.5m/- will go to the buyer of the house who had already made an initial payment to the ward tribunal, but was asked by the RC to feel pity for the woman.

He agreed and rescinded plans to purchase the house but asked that he be repaid the sum already deposited, while the lion's share of 2m/- is to be handed to the ward tribunal to cover for costs of the case.

The rescued lady told the premier that she failed to attend the case hearing as she travelled far from home for maternity leave, and when she came back she found her house already been sold.

In his other remarks, the premier expressed government commitment to oversee development projects as funds are being injected in every sector of the economy and social services.

At a Bwai primary school grounds rally in the district, he said that government delivery of develop-

ment projects was key to welfare, including water supply, education, electricity and improved road networks.

"President Samia Suluhu Hassan works on development sectors from rural areas to the national level," he said, underlining that the main issue is to ensure the lives of the people are further improved, urged people in the region to cultivate greater support for government efforts in engendering socio-economic growth.

Responding to a query by Special Seats MP Agness Marwa on loans to small scale businesses, the premier affirmed that loans from local government authorities (LGAs) will soon be reinstated.

She had earlier questioned misdirecting such loans from small-scale businesses to private interests of unscrupulous lenders, appealing to the government to intervene.

He was non-committal over the Musoma District Council 'hosting' a girls secondary school named under Esther Matiko (Special Seats, Chadema), noting that the matter was still under discussion among councillors.

17 pupils confirmed dead as meningitis hits Nigeria

LAGOS

At least 17 schoolchildren across five schools in Nigeria's north-eastern Yobe state have died after an outbreak of meningitis, authorities have confirmed.

Among the deceased are pupils in primary schools and others in boarding secondary schools, the state commissioner for education, Mohammed Sani-Idris, told the BBC.

A total of 473 suspected cases have been recorded so far, he said.

Meningitis is an infection which causes an acute inflammation of the outer layers of the brain and spinal

cord. It can be life-threatening unless diagnosed and treated early.

Vaccination is an effective way of preventing meningitis.

The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) had earlier in the year put out a public health advisory on the disease.

It highlighted that the dry season could "increase the risk of infection, especially with crowding and poor ventilation".

Most cases of the disease in Nigeria are reported in what has been termed the "Meningitis Belt," which covers all 19 states in the northern region.



Vedatus Maribe (R), Mara regional manager of the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads), briefs Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in Musoma municipality yesterday on progress in the implementation of the 35bn/- Musoma Airport expansion project. The PM is on an ongoing official tour of Mara Region. Photo: PMO

ATCL clears the air over engine fault on Saturday

FROM PAGE 1

the faulty engine to avoid harm, he said.

As the air started clearing, the crew informed the passengers of the mishap, and further, that the plane was to be rerouted back to Dar.

After the plane arrived in Dar es Salaam, 104 passengers agreed to travel using another ATCL plane while 18 passengers requested to change the day for them to travel.

"It is true that the engine malfunctioned and smoke entered the plane, but there was no fire and the passengers were not handed breathing equipment," he said.

Online entries said that smoke filled the cabin, making it difficult to breathe, a situation that lasted less

than five minutes, which the CEO said was a routine problem.

Online discussion affirms routine emission of smoke on take-off, while emitting smoke after half hour duration of the flight is not a common occurrence. The CEO said that the public must understand that it is an aircraft and situations of malfunctioning are not surprising. "If a malfunction occurs, safety measures should be given priority and we at ATCL our priority is the safety of passengers," he elaborated, stressing that none of the 122 passengers on board suffered any harm.

Emmanuel Twai, the firm's head of security, said failure is expected on any vessel, but what is essential is to observe safety precautions when it happens.

The pilot of the Airbus was right to return the plane to Dar es Salaam so that the plane's engineers could check the problem and work on it before starting another journey, he stated.

"The action taken by the pilot was absolutely correct because if they had gone to Mbeya, the plane might not have received the same quick services as it did here in Dar es Salaam where there are all engineers and aviation professionals," he said.

He said that not every error that occurs during flight is notified to the public and that has been done to remove the panic in the community about civil aviation.

"When incidents like this happen, we have internal procedures to monitor and deal with them, that's

why you won't hear everything, we have come forward to inform the public after seeing others misleading about what happened," the CEO intoned.

While ATCL senior staff explained at length the manner in which the company handles flight emergencies, certain observers wondered whether the quality of maintenance in Germany was up to standard, and a curious fault like emitting smoke in mid-air is noticed after being in use for 200 hours.

Another dimension of the matter is the quality of the aircraft itself, in which case a possible problem with feasibility of maintenance, its likely duration after billions of shillings are spent on extensive maintenance.



Shinyanga regional commissioner Christina Mndeme (L) pictured in Shinyanga yesterday responding to a raft of pleas and grievances by the municipality's residents. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

VPO stresses broad soil quality research

By Guardian Reporter

GAPS in soil quality research affects food production amid extreme weather patterns due to climate change, Union and Environment minister Dr Selemani Jafo has declared.

He made this assessment at a side event, the policy business forum at the sixth international conference of the United Nations Environment Agency (UNEA 6) in Nairobi, scheduled for Wednesday to Friday.

A statement released yesterday by the Vice President's Office (VPO) said that the minister expressed Tanzania's desire to improve capacity for research in soil quality to map out land degradation that

affects food production and the economy in general.

In his remarks, he recounted strides that the country has made in environmental conservation, explaining the efforts that Tanzania is taking to deal with the challenges of land quality.

The government has increased budgetary allocations for the agriculture sector, including investing in modern agriculture, he stated, urging institutions as well as businesses to take up soil research investments as it is key to the production of quality raw materials and food crops.

UNEA 6 focused on the effects of climate change, biodiversity destruction and environmental

came under the theme 'Strong, Integrated and Sustainable Efforts to Combat Climate Change, Biodiversity Destruction and Pollution.'

The UNEA global meet is intended to help restore harmony between humanity and nature, thus improving the lives of the world's most vulnerable people, a background statement indicated.

As the planet's only universal membership forum for the environment, UNEA provides a unique platform for courageous decisions and new ideas to chart a bold plan of collective environmental action. In so doing, UNEA-6 facilitates efforts to achieve the sustainable development goals, it affirmed.

Abdallah Hassan Mitawi, the Union deputy permanent secretary in the VPO accompanied the minister, as well as a range of experts in the conference, which opened on February 26 and closed March 1.

Conference delegates seek to prepare a policy formula on the environment that restores ecological harmony, to improve the lives of people facing environmental challenges.

Tanzania is one among countries facing the effects of climate change by causing drought, unpredictable rain, floods and livestock deaths. In response to those challenges, the government has been taking various measures to deal with those effects, the minister underlined.



Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko speaks on arrival at a geothermal energy source in Naivasha town, Kenya, yesterday for an official visit. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

RESIDENTS of Mpwapwa District, in Dodoma Region are set to benefit from a newly-launched project to prevent child sexual abuse.

The project was launched recently by Children and Dignity Forum (CDF), a non-governmental organization, and will be implemented in Pwaga and Lupeta wards.

In statement issued yesterday, CDF executive director Koshuma Mtengeti said the primary objective of the two-year initiative is to decrease the incidence of child sexual abuse, particularly among girls, by fostering community engagement in prevention efforts.

"Through this project, CDF

Initiative out to curb child abuse in Mpwapwa District

will collaborate with various stakeholders, including children in schools, teachers, school administrators, government officials, landlords, healthcare providers, parents and fatherhood groups," she said.

She said the collaborations will occur within the targeted wards where CDF already has established partnerships.

"CDF will implement a range of activities, including providing sexual health education to teenagers, empowering healthcare

providers to offer quality and youth-friendly reproductive health services, supporting parents and landlords near school areas, and training teachers to recognize and prevent sexual violence against children," she said.

Additionally, the project will involve identifying and addressing challenges related to sexual violence in the community, as well as conducting community-wide education initiatives through debates, pamphlets, public meetings, and media campaigns.

Mtengeti said CDF will engage with various government officials in Mpwapwa District Council, including those working in the social welfare office, the department of community development, education department, district medical officer's office, gender and child police desk, district court, as well as ward and village executives from Lupeta and Pwaga wards.

This collaboration aims to ensure comprehensive support and coordination in child protection efforts across the district.

US gov't hands over two renovated labs to TPDF

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE US government through Walter Reed Army Institute of Research-Department of Defence (WRAIR-DoD) yesterday handed over two renovated laboratory buildings at Makambako Dispensary in Njombe Region and Mbalizi Military Hospital in Mbeya Region to the Tanzania People's Defence Force (TPDF).

A statement released yesterday by the US embassy in Dar es Salaam said the handover ceremony, held at the Mbalizi Military Hospital, was attended by Brig Gen Charles Mwanziva of TPDF, Defence Attaché at the US Embassy LTC Gerald Mathis, WRAIR-DoD Country Director Mark Breda and Henry Jackson Foundation Medical Research International (HJFMRI) Executive Director Sally Talike Chalamila.

The US government, through PEPFAR, is the largest supporter of HIV/AIDS relief in Tanzania.

"So far, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in Tanzania supports more than 1.5 million people on lifesaving treatment," reads the statement.

"WRAIR-DoD has been operating in Tanzania since 1999, working to end HIV through research and the implementation of PEPFAR prevention, care, and treatment programs for civilian and military populations."

Since 2006, the US has provided lifesaving treatment to a total of 23,730 clients 88 percent of whom are virally suppressed and can no longer transmit the disease.

At the event, Mwanziva said: "I thank WRAIR-DoD from the American Embassy, the funders of the HJFMRI project, who are successfully implementing various HIV interventions in our 21 military health centers. I am pleased that the Defence Attaché from the American Embassy, LTC Gerard Mathis has joined us here today. This demonstrates the strong cooperation between the US Department of Defence and the TPDF."

LTC Mathis said: "Through funding from the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), WRAIR-DoD will continue to support the TPDF in the provision of quality HIV/AIDS services at all 21 supported military facilities

throughout Tanzania to attain the 95/95/95 UNAIDS goals and achieve HIV epidemic control by 2030."

Breda pledged to "continue supporting this program to significantly strengthen TPDF laboratory testing capacity and help ensure appropriate treatment, which in turn will save lives."

"The initiative is part of PEPFAR's investment through the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research to support the Country's initiatives of strengthening laboratory services to provide informed decisions to various HIV clinical and diagnostic activities within the TPDF health facilities," said Chalamila.

"WRAIR-DoD has been operating in Tanzania since 1999, working to end HIV through research and the implementation of PEPFAR prevention, care, and treatment programs for civilian and military populations."

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RFQ No. 24832, 27132, 27300 and 27303

Purchase of Medical Supplies, Consumables and Equipment

Due Date and Time for Receipt of Offers: Thursday, 14th March 2024 at 3:00 PM EAT

Jhpiego (pronounced "ja-pie-go"), is an international non-profit health organization affiliated with the Johns Hopkins University.

For more than 45 years and in over 40 countries, Jhpiego has empowered front-line health workers by designing and implementing effective, low-cost, hands-on solutions to strengthen the delivery of health care services for women and their families. By putting evidence-based health innovations into everyday practice, Jhpiego works to break down barriers to high-quality health care for the world's most vulnerable populations. Jhpiego's focus is on training and support for health care providers-including doctors, nurses, midwives and health educators working in limited-resource settings throughout Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Jhpiego's program management strategy recognizes the technical complexity and geographical, cultural, socio-economic and political diversity among our programs. We develop global program initiatives and technical interventions that can be adapted for country-specific applications. In support of this field-driven philosophy, Jhpiego uses a decentralized organizational structure that consists of a global "delivery system" designed to implement the entire portfolio of Jhpiego awards with assistance from key technical, programmatic and administrative staff.

Jhpiego Tanzania office hereby invites submission of quotations from eligible suppliers for supply of medical supplies, consumables and equipment.

Interested eligible bidders may request for a complete set of bidding documents from the following email address: TZ-Jhpiegobids@jhpiego.org

A prospective bidder having any question regarding this RFQ shall send an email 3 days prior to the due date and time for submission of offers to the email address provided in this advert.

All proposals must be delivered to the physical address indicated below by **Thursday, 14th March 2024 at 3:00 PM EAT**.

Jhpiego reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal, and to annul the bidding process and reject all proposals at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to bidders. Late proposals, electronic proposals, proposals not received shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Country Director,
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

TradeMark Africa (TMA) is a leading African Aid-for-Trade organisation that was established in 2010. TMA aims to grow intra-African trade and increase Africa's share in global trade, while helping make trade more pro-poor and more environmentally sustainable. Our focus on reducing the cost and time of trading across borders through enhanced trade policy, better trade infrastructure, standards that work for businesses, greater use of digital innovations and a focus on creating trade access for vulnerable groups, has contributed to substantially lower cargo transit times through improved border efficiency, and reduced trade barriers.

TMA recently rebranded from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA), reflecting our ambitions to serve partners in driving continental-wide trade gains, and are expanding from East and the Horn of Africa to Southern and West Africa. TMA operates on a not-for-profit basis and is funded by institutional and philanthropic development partners. TMA works closely with regional and continental intergovernmental organisations, national Governments, the private sector, and civil society organisations to deliver results that drive shared prosperity and reduce poverty.

TMA wishes to invite interested qualified firms/consortiums to participate in the following tenders:

- (Tender number: PRQ20231065) Consultancy for repeat assessment of Transport and Trade performance along the Northern and Central corridors in East Africa

Tender documents can be obtained at <https://www.trademarkafrika.com/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarkafrika.com

The closing date for the submissions is **on or before 3rd April 2024 at 12.00 p.m. (Kenyan Time)**.

Interested and qualified firms/consortiums MUST submit proposals via the emails indicated in the respective tender documents. The maximum size of each email with attachments should not exceed 5 MB.

TMA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 7 days or less prior to the submission deadline.

217857901

Govt assures insurance investors: Conducive condition guaranteed

By Carlos Banda

THE government has assured investors in the insurance sector that Tanzania has huge potential for returns and offers an opportunity to expand their businesses to other countries within the eastern and southern Africa.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, Minister of State in the President's Office (Planning and Investment), made the statement in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday during the 25th anniversary celebration since the founding of ICEA LION General Insurance company in Tanzania. The celebration was attended by a wide range of insurance firms, brokers, agents and clients.

"I want to assure you that this country at the moment provides the best environment for investment. We tick in almost every factor that is important in terms of attracting investors. If you speak of political stability and security which is the first factor which investors look at, we are okay," he said.

Prof Mkumbo said that Tanzania has a population of over 60 million people which serves as a potential internal market, adding that the country also serves as a link to other countries such as the DRC, Burundi, Uganda, Kenya and Rwanda owing to the good bilateral ties Tanzania has with its neighbours and its political stability, peace and security.

He said that the government is continuing to improve the legal framework, citing the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) as a notable example.

"This is why we have made serious reforms in the past 25 years both legally and policy-wise with respect to the insurance industry here in Tanzania. We will also keep on improving our education system to ensure we produce people who are skilled, who will be able to match with the requirements of the investors. I therefore call upon ICEA LION to continue investing and

expanding its business," he said.

"We are opening up a lot of opportunities because we want to attract serious investors in the insurance industry, transport, logistics, climate and LNG project which is going to be huge. I believe all these developments present opportunities for insurance sector in the country."

Dr Baghayo Saqware, Commissioner of Insurance at TIRA, called upon ICEA LION and other investors in insurance sector to invest in other sectors, pinpointing agriculture sector which stands as a potential sector to conduct business.

"We are in the process of establishing agriculture insurance scheme which will be supported by the government. We understand that over 70 percent of our people are engaged in agriculture. All along the value chain there is a need for insurance protection. If you can protect strategic crops, strategic farming communities through the insurance cover, there is a big business there," he said.

Ilala District Commissioner Edward Mpogolo said the government is ready to cooperate with ICEA LION and other insurance service providers to spread awareness and knowledge to the public and eliminate insurance fraud. "Kariakoo market is an area which has been affected by fire accidents. The government is ready to cooperate with stakeholders to educate people on insurance because many people in the area are not insured. Through joint efforts we can navigate ways to sensitize residents of Dar es Salaam.

Jared Awando, Director of ICEA LION said that the company will continue investing in Tanzania, explaining that it boasts more than 80 brokers and 25 agents it has worked with for 25 years, serving millions of clients across the country in Arusha, Mwanza, Mbeya, Morogoro, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma and its recent entry in Zanzibar.



Zaina Foundation director Zaina Njovu pictured in Moshi municipality yesterday conducting Digital Rights training for Kilimanjaro Region women journalists. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

Don stresses role of education in women's empowerment

By Guardian Correspondent

GIRLS and young women in the country have been urged to realise power within them, utilise education opportunities and work hard to reach their full potential.

Prof Deus Ngaruko, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academics, Research and Consultancy at the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) made the call on Wednesday in Singida Municipality during the opening of a two-week training for female students under the Special Foundation Science Programme.

He said the programme is a

special component designed to help female students who fail to obtain minimum entry requirements set by various universities.

Prof Ngaruko said if well supported, women and girls are good game-changers and can contribute immensely to improvement of social welfare in the country.

He said the programme which benefits hundreds of girls in the country, is implemented under the support of the Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) project.

"I believe that those who have

got the opportunity to be in this programme will excel well and later be able to join universities of their choice; so, make sure you effectively utilise this opportunity to achieve your dreams," he told participants.

The don noted that many of the beneficiary girls and young women in the programme passed through various challenges during their secondary education journey, something which in one way or another affected their academic performance.

He thanked the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology for implementing the HEET

programme which has started to bring positive outcomes to the university and society.

"We want to increase the number of students joining universities; the number is still very low due to various challenges but through HEET, a good number of girls will be supported to join various universities in the country," he said.

Jacob Leopold, director of the Institute of Continuing Education (ICE) at OUT said the institute through its tutors are well prepared to train students to enable them perform well in their exams and join higher education.

Tanzanian appointed to lead global war against NTDs

By Guardian Correspondent

UNITING to Combat Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), a global advocacy organisation dedicated to ending Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) has announced the appointment of Dr Winnie Mpanju-Shumbusho as the new Board Chair.

A respected health leader, Dr Winnie Mpanju-Shumbusho has more than two decades of experience in global health systems. She previously served as the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Assistant Director General for HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria and NTDs until her retirement in 2016, leading WHO's work in prevention, control, impact-mitigation, country support, inter-country collaboration and global partnerships.

She has also played a key role in mobilizing political commitment, resources and action needed to combat HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria, NTDs; and building resilient health systems including in the founding,

governance, and efficacy of the Global Fund.

Speaking on the appointment, Dr Winnie Mpanju-Shumbusho said: "It's an honour to be appointed as Chair of Uniting to Combat NTDs. It has been my long-held belief that we can change the course of over one billion people who continue to be held back by these preventable and treatable diseases, many of them found in our African Continent. The opportunity to continue serving these individuals and communities was simply not something I could turn down. I am looking forward to working with the team to help champion investment to ensure that our vision of a world where NTDs are no longer a threat to people's lives becomes a reality. This is a really exciting time to be joining the organisation with a newly refreshed strategy focused on resource mobilisation and a busy year ahead to capitalise on opportunities for sustainable financing for NTDs."

Thoko Elphick-Pooley, Executive Director of Uniting to Combat NTDs said: "We are delighted to have Dr Winnie Mpanju-Shumbusho joining us as our new Board Chair. She is a deeply respected trailblazer in global health, with a wealth of experience from her previous leadership roles. Her experience will be invaluable as she leads us in our mission to end NTDs by 2030. Having Dr Winnie's vision and drive at the forefront will be fundamental as we look to explore new partnerships and unlock sustainable financing to reach all who are still affected by NTDs, and I am excited for what is to come working with Winnie."

In addition to her current role, Dr Mpanju-Shumbusho serves as the Co-Chair of the Lancet Commission on Malaria Eradication, member of the Panel for a Global Public Health Convection and board member of the University of California in San Francisco Institute for Global Health Sciences.



Mary Maganga, Permanent Secretary in the Vice President's Office, pictured yesterday checking one of the indigenous fruits found in Iringa Rural District's Ilalalimba reserve forest. She was on an inspection tour of progress in environmental conservation efforts by the Sustainable Environmental Restoration and Biodiversity Conservation Project. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



USAID/Tanzania Heshimu Bahari (Respect the ocean) Project

JOB VACANCY

Deputy Chief of Party-Implementation

Chemonics International Inc, a U.S. based international development company, seeks a Deputy Chief of Party-Implementation for the USAID Heshimu Bahari ("Respect the Ocean") Project. The five-year project aims to improve the ecological resilience and productivity of Tanzania's high marine biodiversity areas. Tanzania's coral reefs are among the world's fifty most climate-resilient reefs based on biological and oceanographic characteristics, and Tanzania's marine and coastal ecosystems support a diverse range of coral reefs, seagrasses, open-ocean pelagic habitats, and mangroves. Not only do the ecosystems support species such as dugongs, sea turtles, and sharks and rays, but they also support a variety of livelihoods such as artisan fishing, aquaculture, and marine/coastal-related tourism activities. Overfishing, poorly planned infrastructure projects, and climate change all threaten not only these ecosystems and their fauna and flora, but also livelihoods and food security. These obstacles, together with the lack of a functional marine management area (MMA) framework, underdeveloped governance systems, insufficient funding, and an unincorporated private sector, severely limit effective management and measurable impact in marine biodiversity conservation.

To help address these challenges, Heshimu Bahari aims to establish an enabling environment and science-driven framework for sustainable MMA and wild-caught fishery co-management by government, communities, and the private sector. The Project has four integrated objectives:

1. Strengthening the enabling framework for a network of MMAs and Fishery Replenishment Zones to support biodiversity conservation, climate resilient communities, and sustainable wild-caught fisheries.
2. Community co-management of MMAs/wild-caught fisheries and climate resilience strengthened.
3. Private sector investment in MMAs and wild-caught fisheries expanded.
4. Integration of relevant science to MMA and fisheries policy and management improved.

The Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP)-Implementation will collaborate with Heshimu Bahari's leadership to manage the Project's work and operational plans. The DCOP-Implementation will provide managerial oversight of and effective management of work plan activities, compliance with the contract, and integration with monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) activities that provide implementation feedback and opportunities for adaptive management. In particular, the DCOP-Implementation will ensure effective collaboration between the technical, grants, MEL/communications, and operations teams to implement the project cycle, from intervention design and planning to implementation, iteration, and knowledge sharing. The DCOP-Implementation will deploy effective personnel and resource management skills to ensure that Heshimu Bahari's work plan activities are completed on time, are of high quality, and are cost-effective. The DCOP-Implementation will collaborate effectively with team members, consortium partners, counterparts, USAID, and other development partners. In collaboration with the Chief of Party (COP), the DCOP-Implementation will also foster conditions for learning, including an environment for sharing ideas, solutions, and challenges as well as the skills to detect, analyze, and respond quickly to implementation challenges.

Responsibilities Include:

- As a member of the leadership team, collaborate closely with the COP and Finance & Administration Director to provide technical and managerial oversight for Heshimu Bahari, including the development and implementation of the Project's annual work plan, budget, and operations plan; quarterly and annual reports; other project deliverables; and responding to USAID requests.
- Maintain rigorous focus on the achievement of Heshimu Bahari's key performance indicators and on fulfilling the terms of the Project's contractual scope of work and annual work plan/deliverable schedule; and collaborate with MEL/communications staff to elevate learnings and

ensure knowledge informs iterative implementation with the technical team, consortium partners, and grantees.

- Collaborate with the COP to effectively manage talent, the consortium, and team dynamics. Provide coaching and mentoring if needed to enhance skills needed to manage work plan activities and ensure appropriate monitoring and evaluation of activities to support learning and adapting.
- Support the grants, operations, and technical teams to implement the Heshimu Bahari intervention cycle ensuring efficient and streamlined grant management and implementation procedures.
- Support the COP to ensure that USG rules and regulations and Chemonics policies and procedures are followed; identify and mitigate risks to USAID, the Project, and Chemonics.
- Coordinate with the COP and operations team to determine resourcing strategies and priorities for optimal cost control and operational efficiency; manage these priorities and ensure compliance with, and updating of the Project's operations plan.
- Provide staff and grantees with support in financial management, procurement compliance, and technical planning, including developing tools and resources to facilitate implementation.
- Collaborate with communications specialist to develop communications products and provide editing, content quality control, and adherence to branding and marking plan on communications materials, reports, and deliverables.
- Facilitate the coordination of financial reports and communications procedures with Chemonics' Project Management Unit to ensure accurate monthly forecasts.
- Supervise three to five technical and/or administrative staff.
- Represent the Project in meetings and workshops as requested by the COP.
- Serve as Acting COP and perform other duties as assigned by the COP.

Qualifications:

- Master's degree required in international development, business administration, political science, environmental science, natural resource management, public policy or related field. Minimum five years of relevant, progressively responsible project management experience on USAID-funded prime contracts required; experience working on USAID-funded prime contracts implemented in East Africa preferred.
- Experience with natural resource management, climate change adaptation, livelihood development, and/or private sector engagement preferred.
- Demonstrated capacity in project management and experience using relevant tools to implement activities adhering to international norms and standards; specific experience shall include procurement, grants and/or subcontract management, human resources, finance, and standards of business conduct.
- Proven experience with implementing partner financial cycles including budget planning, monitoring, forecasting, and reporting.
- Exceptional English written and verbal communication skills.

The position will be based in Dar es Salaam, reporting to the Heshimu Bahari Chief of Party.

Application Instructions: To apply, please submit your CV and application by March 21, 2024 through the link here. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Early applications strongly encouraged. No telephone inquiries, please. Finalists will be contacted.

Chemonics is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its selection and employment practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factors.



Prof Kitila Mkumbo, Minister of State in the President's Office (Planning and Investment), cuts a cake in Dar es Salaam earlier this week at celebrations to mark the 25th anniversary of ICEA LION General Insurance. Witnessing the event are Insurance Commissioner and Tanzania Insurance Regulatory managing director Dr Baghayo Saqware (2nd-L), Ilala district commissioner Edward Mvogolo (3rd-L), ICEA LION board chairman Joseph Wangai (R) and ICEA LION Group chairman James Ndegwa (2nd-R). Photo: Carlos Banda

Govt promises action as PWDs list challenges

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government plans to review laws, policies and regulations governing people with disabilities to enable them fully access their rights.

It also intends to start visiting the private sector employers to see if they comply with the employment requirements for people with disabilities.

Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities) Patrobas Katambi made the statement here yesterday, adding that while the law is quite clear, some employers deny people with disabilities their rights.

He said while the Persons with Disabilities Act, No 9 of 2010 clearly stipulates the rights, most employers do not adhere to it, adding that even some offices do not have friendly infrastructure for the group nor the equipment.

The meeting convened by Ikupa Trust Fund brought together over 150 people with disabilities from

across the country to discuss challenges facing them.

According to the deputy minister, the government has approved a 3bn/- budget for the renovation of colleges of people with disabilities and a similar amount for construction of two new ones in Mwanza and Kigoma regions.

"Leaders at all levels should implement the people with disabilities law to the letter, failure of which is tantamount to discrimination," he said.

He added that the government considers establishing a special fund for the support of people with disabilities in the country.

Speaking earlier, Hamisi Sekejo, chairperson of workers with disability who is Procurement Officer with the Tanzania Electric Supply Company (TANESCO) highlighted several challenges facing PWDs at work.

He cited lack of support equipment and infrastructure in most public offices, negative perception that PWDs should be given light duties or easy tasks and lack of database of people with disabilities, their levels of education and expertise.

Other challenges, he said include lack of experts to empower PWDs to cope and benefit at different environments in the country and the need for special allowances to enable them to attend training, seminars and courses.

This, he said, should enable them to pay for upkeep of their assistants.

Stella Ikupa, founder and executive director of Ikupa Trust Fund, said the meeting was focused on success and challenges facing PWDs in the workplace.

She noted that despite efforts put in place to improve the working environment, PWDs still face several challenges with infrastructure leading on the list.

Villagers engaged in eco-friendly projects to protect forest

By Guardian Correspondent, Lushoto

RESIDENTS of 21 villages surrounding Magamba Nature Reserve Forest in Lushoto District, Tanga Region have benefited from various agriculture and eco-friendly projects supported by the Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Fund (EAMCEF).

The projects include avocado and spice farming, beekeeping, aquaculture and production of energy-saving stoves to help reduce deforestation.

Addressing reporters here recently, tree planting project coordinator in Lushoto District Mfaume Mhonda said the project commenced in 2013 and has benefited 11 groups established by the villagers.

He named some of the beneficiary villages as Magamba, Migambo, Irente, Kwesimu, Gorogoro and Nywelo.

"The project involves training villagers on preparation of tree nurseries and working closely to ensure that trees are planted and cared for; we want to ensure that eco-friendly initiatives are sustainable to fight deforestation and other activities that harm the environment," he said.

Shafii Salehe, secretary of Umoja Tree Planting Group said in 2023, they grew a total of 10,000 tree seedlings and sold 6,000 of them and distributed 2,000 seedlings free to the communities.

"These initiatives do not only conserve the environment but also increase income," he

said.

Joyce Shedafa, also a beneficiary, said the project has helped them improve their lives and that many people have started to join the groups due to various benefits which they have witnessed.

"We were spending most of our time in the forest for charcoal production and firewood collection in order to get income, but now with the projects, our priorities have changed since work hard through our groups to improve incomes and at the same time conserve the environment," she said.


Magreth Victor, EAMCEF programmes officer in Northern Zone, said the tree planting project is implemented in the villages to restore destroyed forest and degraded land in

the villages.

"We have been issuing 15m/- to a group when it sends a project proposal, this has been done to many groups and others have started to get profit from their projects," she said.

Yohana Mtangi, chairman of Yoghoi environmental protection group, said that the group started with a tree planting project in 2017 and has since added avocado farming to improve income.

"In 2022, we received a funding of 10m/- from EAMCEF with which we planted a total of 15,000 tree seedlings, some of which we sold and others we planted in our villages," he said.



BARRICK

BULYANHULU

Advertisement

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-24-02-01 – SUPPLY OF NORMET CHARMEC MC 605 D(V)

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:

Specifications:

- 1 x Normet Charmec MC 605 D(V) to suite Orica 1160DS; Specs DOC064064; Engine Mercedes-Benz OM 904 LA-110 KW/2200 RPM – Engine and exhaust brakes-Tier3; Cabin type enclosed FOPS/ROPS; Charging system productivity and ergonomics; Hydraulically driven pressure washer with standard reel and washing rod; For enclosed cabin air conditioning with heating for enclosed cabin; Carrier productivity Fast fuel filling system, Automatic lubrication system M-series, Boom suspension, 2 reversing cameras – 2 displays; Electric pump for brake release; wheel chocks with brackets; Included Options, detonator box lining, Antistatic rubber (default); Regular basket installation (default); Standard 2 – men basket (default); variable displacement pump system 190 bar at 2200 rpm; single pump for carrier and process 135 l/min (default); LED side lights; White/White (default); Driver seat mechanical suspended T-back seat with 3-pont seat belt (default); Flat cable grounding straps (default); Compressed air inlets with water separator on carrier; Water inlet with filter pressure regulator; 12V-18A Power supply in cabin with socket and connector; Inlet plug for jump start; Hand pump for filling hydraulic tank; Commissioning and start-up training for Operators.

Key documents:

- Clear and detailed Quotation.
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of dealership as required.
- 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.
- 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-24-02-01 – SUPPLY OF NORMET CHARMEC MC 605 D(V)" 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: **08th March 2024**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited.

217859001



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Advertisement

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-24-01-14 – SUPPLY OF MACLEAN GR5 MOTOR GRADER

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:

Specifications:

- 1 x MacLean GR5 Motor Grader; Carrier C/W 6WD, Articulated Frame, Stick Steering; Enclosed Cab C/W Heat & AC; Engine Mercedes 906@201 HP(150KW)+ Mesabi Radiator + HTI; Transmission Hydrostatic drive system – 6WD; Engine End Axle Dana model 150 tandem bogie axle, locking differential; Rear Axle Dana model 223 steer axle, limited slip, 15 degree oscillation; Service Brakes independent front and rear hydraulically applied service brakes; Secondary Brakes SAHR spring applied hydraulic released emergency/park brakes; Tires solid 12.00 x 20; Articulation Joint tapered roller bearings, dual steer cylinders, central grease manifold; Controls System joystick drive and blade controls 24VDC electrical system; Blade & Circle Drive Moldboard 12ft (3.66m), 24" (0.6m) high, 0.88" (22mm) thick, Blade rotation 45 degrees, Blade tip 45 degrees forward, 4 degrees back; Commissioning and training for Operators 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-24-01-14 – SUPPLY OF MACLEAN GR5 MOTOR GRADER " 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: **08th March 2024.**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited

217859101

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

Stress laid on role of language during 'Francophonie Month'

MORE than 200 Tanzanian troops deployed in peacekeeping missions in various parts of the world have undergone training and have been awarded a diploma in French language by Alliance Française Dar es Salaam.

Mbarouk Nassor Mbarouk, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, said this in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday during the launch of Francophonie Month which will culminate on March 20, this year.

Dubbed 'Create, Innovate and Entrepreneurship in French' Francophonie means the community of French speakers and is led by the international organization of Francophonie based in Paris.

Mbarouk said the government recognizes the efforts undertaken by Alliance Française which plays part in increasing enrolment of students in French language programme, organizing events

showcasing French culture as well as offering a wide variety of online and offline resources covering different areas of learning and teaching of French language.

"We appreciate the role of Alliance Française; it has continued to provide French language classes to Tanzanian troops before they are deployed in peacekeeping missions in different parts of the world," he said.

Nabil Hajlaoui, French Ambassador to Tanzania said the diversity of this year's Francophonie programme is directly linked to the diversity of French itself, the language that has brought together plural spaces all round the world.

"French language as an international language has been a tool for enhancing security and maintenance of peace

between people in the region and neighboring countries," he said.

The envoy pledged the embassy's cooperation with the government which supported recognition of French as an official language through the East African Community.

Zakaria El Goumiri, Moroccan Ambassador to Tanzania acknowledged Francophonie's role in academic cooperation and culture, an effort that the community has observed for many years.

Tanzania is neighbored by many French-speaking countries such as DRC, Rwanda, Burundi, Comoros, Madagascar and Seychelles. DRC is the leading country in the world with French speakers out of France with more than 48 million people speaking the language.



Babati Water and Sanitation Agency engineer Iddi Msuya (4th-L) pictured in Babati Urban District on Wednesday briefing Manyara regional commissioner Queen Sendiga (in black cap), who was on an assessment tour of progress in the implementation of a 6bn/- sewage dam project at Maisaka in Babati Town Council expected to benefit 200,000 people. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey



Job Announcement Business Development Officer (Tanzanian National)

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) is a nonprofit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and regional offices around the globe. WorldVeg conducts research and development programs that contribute to improved incomes and diets in the developing world through increased production and consumption of nutritious and health-promoting vegetables. For more information about World Vegetable Center, please visit our website: worldveg.org

World Vegetable Center has signed a hosting agreement with IFDC to conduct its operation in Tanzania. World Vegetable Center is therefore seeking to recruit a Business Development Officer to be based in Arusha, Tanzania.

About IFDC

IFDC is a public international organization active in 27 countries in Africa, Asia, and America. IFDC uniquely approaches the global issues of food security and poverty by bridging the gap between research and impact, combining science-based innovations, holistic market systems development, an enabling policy environment, and strategic partnerships to assist farmers and countries to identify and scale sustainable agricultural solutions, including improved nutrient use efficiency. These approaches are needed to boost soil health and crop productivity while reducing the environmental impact of fertilizer use. IFDC translates research into action by using locally driven, environmentally sound, and impact-oriented solutions. With our partners, we seek to close the yield gap, eradicate global hunger, safeguard the soil on which our lives depend, and generate economic resilience for farming households and the countries in which they live.

IFDC is currently seeking passionate individuals to join its team, as the organization continues to expand its impact and work towards creating positive changes in agriculture and sustainable soil management across the world.

About the position

The World Vegetable Center on behalf of IFDC is looking to hire a Business Development Officer responsible for improving the operational efficiency and effectiveness of IFDC Tanzania's ability to identify new partners, funding opportunities, contribute to proposal development and associated business development marketing materials. The Officer will work closely with the Global New Business Development (NBD) team.

Key Responsibilities

- Contribute to identifying new partnerships and funding opportunities for IFDC Tanzania
- Contribute to projects/programs proposal development and work closely with the Global NBD team, in-country team, and relevant consortium partners.
- Developing and deploying systems for tracking new business development opportunities as well as preparation and timely submission of quality proposals; tracking, analyzing, and reporting on the proposal process/success.
- Play a key role in concept notes development, talking points for meetings, taking minutes and action points, etc.
- Contribute to technical discussions and report writing.
- Drafting sections of proposals and business development marketing materials: management plans, corporate capability statements, and personnel inputs for proposals.
- Perform any other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

Qualifications

- University degree, preferably in Business Administration, Communication, Development Studies, Project Management, Food Security, Sustainability Studies, Proposal Writing, and related programs.
- At least 5 years of business development, business communication and/or fundraising writing funded proposals, previous experience working in an international NGO or any relevant experience in donor-funded projects such as USAID Experience in writing funded proposals, previous experience working in an international NGO or any relevant experience in donor-funded projects such as USAID

Technical Competencies

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to build strong relationships and effectively influence key stakeholders.
- Strong business acumen and understanding of sales processes, including lead generation, qualification, and closing techniques.
- Self-motivated and results-oriented mindset, with the ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Exceptional organizational and time management skills, with the ability to prioritize tasks and meet deadlines in a fast-paced environment.

The Reward: This is a Nationally Recruited Staff (NRS) position with competitive pay and benefits.

The candidate we hire will embody WorldVeg's Five Core Values:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Dedication to Innovation and Sharing | Supports the conduct of world-class science, respects ethical standards, and <i>Knowledge</i> is committed to sharing results in a transparent manner. |
| 2. Commitment to Impact | Aspires to achieve positive, tangible, and lasting impact contributing to Sustainable Development Goals. |
| 3. Commitment to Partnerships | Believes in the value of partnerships to advance research for development. |
| 4. Respect for People | Respect the diversity of gender, culture, ethnic origin, religion, age, beliefs, and views. |
| 5. Respect for the Environment | Strives to minimize its environmental impact and to introduce greener technology and practices. |

How to Apply: Applicants should submit a letter of application explaining their suitability for and interest in the position along with a curriculum vitae, a recent passport-size photograph, names, and addresses (including telephone/fax/e-mail) of three referees, and date of availability to info-esa@worldveg.org or the job bank site before **15 March 2024**. Please mention the position title in the subject line.

EU avails additional 6.6bn/- for clean cooking initiative

By Getrude Mbago

THE United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) has received additional funding of euros 2.4 million (6.6bn/-) from the European Union (EU) to facilitate expansion of the CookFund programme in Tanzania.

This, according to UNCDF, increases the overall funding from Euro17.0 million to euros 19.4 million to implement the programme until September 2026.

Peter Malika, head of UNCDF Tanzania said in a statement yesterday that the programme which is implemented in five regions of Tanzania Mainland and aims to curb reliance on charcoal and firewood for cooking in the country.

It is implemented in Morogoro, Coast, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Dodoma regions.

He said the additional funding enriches the programme impact by supporting legal and legislative aspects of biomass energy, including enforceability as well as piloting the switch and transitioning of public institutions from the use of charcoal and firewood to cleaner

fuel and appliances.

"Strengthening the legal framework and raising awareness on the urgency of climate change mitigation by adopting cleaner and efficient cooking alternatives contributes to achieving the National Energy Policy and Sustainable Development Goals. The strategic partnership with the government of Tanzania and European Union is the driving force for achieving these goals," he said.

Malika said clean cooking solutions serve a pivotal role in mitigating climate change impacts, forest degradation prevention and reducing health issues related to traditional cooking methods.

Over time, these solutions also aid in cutting down household expenditure on recurring purchases of charcoal or wood, he said.

He noted that addressing the market barriers of clean cooking business in Tanzania by increasing end-user affordability, enterprises capitalization and expanding availability outreach remains the primary focus of the programme.

He said the need for a national level awareness campaign is also

included in this new funding.

"The use of far-reaching media like radio and television will be deployed to increase awareness and benefits accrued to the use of cleaner fuel and appliances including women and girl's economic empowerment and mitigation of negative health impact," he said.

Malika added that the CookFund programme falls under the wider integrated approach to sustainable cooking solutions initiative of the EU.

According to him, UNCDF is the main implementer and fund manager but works with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) to ensure realisation of the set goals.

The programme aims to make clean cooking solutions easily available and affordable to the end users by stimulating the market for a sustainable cooking energy mix, strengthening the legal framework and sensitizing the public to change mindset and cooking behaviour from traditional methods such as burning wood and charcoal.

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has said that for Tanzania's capital markets to remain internationally competitive their managers must acquire relevant and dynamic skills to keep pace with developments in global markets.

Dr Natu Mwamba, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday while addressing the capital markets stakeholders' workshop on Implementation of the Financial Sector Development Master Plan (FSDMP) where she officially launched the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Programme.

The workshop was organized by CMSA in collaboration with Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment (CISI) London to discuss the implementation of the Financial Sector Development Master Plan (FSDMP).

She said that continued development of knowledge and skills is an essential ingredient for effective regulation of the markets

NAIROBI

THE UK's Minister for the Armed Forces has offered to personally meet the family of a Kenyan woman allegedly murdered more than a decade ago by a British soldier.

James Heapey told the BBC he "absolutely" understood the pain of the relatives of Agnes Wanjiru, whose body was discovered in 2012 in a septic tank near a British military base in Nanyuki, central Kenya.

Speaking during a visit to the country, he said: "I absolutely understand their pain...I am happy

'Capital markets managers ought to acquire new skills'

and protection of investors' interests as professionals would be appropriately equipped to manage emerging risks within and across markets effectively.

"I am glad to note that CMSA and CISI have identified this need and decided to address it by introducing the CPD that we are launching today, conducted with the view of increasing the number of certified capital market professionals who are recognized internationally," he said.

Dr Mwamba said that the programme involves tracking and documenting the skills, knowledge and experience that an individual gains both formally and informally as they work beyond any initial training.

She said that the programme will also enable capital markets players and professionals to demonstrate high levels of professionalism and expertise in the delivery of their services and in keeping pace with

the market dynamics.

The PS said development of various innovative products and advancements in information and communication technology increases the demand for dynamic, competent and innovative market professionals who are capable of structuring large and complex transactions that are capable of attracting investors.

Nicodemus Mukama, CMSA Chief Executive Officer, said that there are over 790 certified capital markets professionals in Tanzania trained under the programme. "We have launched the CPD Programme which marks another milestone in the development of capital markets in Tanzania," he said.

Christopher Morris, representative of CISI and President of the East Africa CISI Advisory Council said "I'm delighted to be part of this important workshop for capacity building of Tanzanian capital markets professionals."

UK minister set to meet family of Kenyan 'murdered' a decade ago

to meet and discuss and sympathise and understand as best I can."

During an earlier visit to Kenya, Heapey had suggested a meeting between British officials and Wanjiru's family, but none has since taken place.

In October last year, the family wrote an open letter to King Charles saying "British officials don't seem to care" about the case, and asked the monarch for a visit during his trip to the country.

The author of the letter, Wanjiru's niece Esther Njoki, welcomed Heapey's offer with "a warm heart" and said she hoped that "justice would be served and prevail this year."

"It's been 12 years of pain...and frustration," she told the BBC. "Every time they come, they promise, but their promises, they are unkept... And we are worried that time is really moving and nothing has been done."



Young volunteers take part in environmental cleanliness at the premises of a hospital at Kivule in suburban Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

14,000 traders reap benefits from water, sanitation, hygiene project

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

A TOTAL of 14,000 traders from Southern Highlands regions have benefited from a Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and economic empowerment project which aims to transform businesses and livelihoods.

Implemented by a Global Water Challenge, Amref Health Africa in Tanzania and the Tanzania Association of Environmental Engineers (TAEEs), the project also aims to improve water availability and sanitation in the communities.

Speaking recently here, the programme manager Mhuri James said the initiative, which is implemented with financial support from the Starbucks Foundation and Women for Water, has brought huge relief to communities in the region.

"Our major focus is to equip these communities with essential financial education to enable them establish and supervise entrepreneurial groups to improve their income, the project also supports water and sanitation projects," he said.

He said the project is currently on its second phase which is expected to reach 23 villages in Njombe Region and one in Mufindi District, Iringa Region.

"The project which commenced in May 2023 and expected to run until May this year, will benefit 13,952 people in eight wards of Njombe District which are Itandula, Mtwango, Iwungilo, Uwemba, Luponde, Yakobi, Ihangana and Kifanya," he said.

James said in the first phase it was implemented in 67 villages in Mufindi and Kilolo Districts in Iringa Region, benefiting over 15,000 people.

Enembora Lema, head of community development department at Njombe Town Council said the government has continued to increase efforts to serve communities with quality services and that support from various stakeholders provide a huge relief.

"Development stakeholders play a big role in addressing challenges that face communities; we appreciate this support from Starbucks and Global Water Challenge," Lema said.

Zambia declares national emergency over drought

By Kennedy Gondwe, Lusaka

ZAMBIA'S President Hakainde Hichilema has declared a national disaster to tackle the prolonged drought affecting the country.

Addressing the nation on Thursday afternoon, Hichilema said 84 districts out of a total of 116 were affected.

Zambia has been experiencing poor rains, with fears mounting that the country may experience hunger and struggle to meet its electricity demands as most of its energy is from water sources.

Water levels at Kariba Dam - which Zambia and neighbouring Zimbabwe use for hydroelectricity - had fallen to about 11.5 percent of

usable storage as of last December.

The president said the drought would affect the generation of more than 450 megawatts of power.

He said almost half of the land used for planting crops had been affected by the dry spell.

Hichilema said his government would work to ensure that additional maize and other food was brought into the country to make up the deficit.

He said he would use Zambia's defence forces "in this fight to save our lives and save families and create a longer term solution to drought". "We will work together to get together farmers to plant more crops. We shall also enhance the social support programmes for the

farmers that have been affected by the drought," he said.

"We call upon all our local and international partners to avail any excess food on hand to provide relief. Some partners have already extended their commitment to offer their support, such as the British, the UN system, the World Bank Group and others."

He called on farmers to use irrigation methods to cope with the dry spell. An estimated one million farmers have been affected by the drought.

Hichilema said his government would work with different stakeholders, opposition politicians and the church to tackle the situation.

Airtel Africa founder knighted by King Charles

LONDON

SUNIL Bharti Mittal, Chairman of Airtel Africa has been awarded Honorary Knighthood, the Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (KBE), by King Charles III, in recognition of his contribution towards promoting India-UK business relations.

The KBE is one of the highest honours conferred by the British Sovereign to civilians. It is awarded in honorary capacity to foreign nationals.

Mittal's contributions towards advancing India-UK business relations include his instrumental role in the listing of Airtel Africa on the London Stock Exchange

in 2019, where it is a constituent of the FTSE100 Index. He also led the revival of OneWeb (now Eutelsat), leading a consortium with the UK government and other strategic investors to offer satellite broadband services globally.

Mittal, a member of the India-UK CEO Forum, has been awarded the Honorary Doctor of Civil Law from Newcastle University and an Honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Leeds.

He is a member of the Vice Chancellor's Circle of Advisors at the University of Cambridge. Additionally, Mittal has served on the Governing Body of the London Business School (LBS) and as a Member of the India

Advisory Group at London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Mittal said: "I am deeply humbled by this gracious recognition from His Majesty, King Charles. UK and India have historical relations, which are now entering a new era of increased cooperation and collaboration."

"I remain committed to working towards strengthening the economic and bilateral trade relationships between our two great nations. I am thankful to the Government of UK, whose support and keen attention to the needs of business has been critical in making the country an attractive investment destination."



BARRICK
BULYANHULU

Advertisement REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-24-02-02 – SUPPLY OF NORMET SPRAYMEC LF 050 DC

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:

Specifications:

- 1x Normet Spraymec LF 050 DC; Specs DOC064204; Engine Liquid cooled turbo charged Deutz TCD 2012 L06 2V, 155 KW/2200 rpm, TIER 3 approved; Catalytic exhaust gas purifier and muffler; Transmission Dana 32 000 series power shift with pump drive group; Axle planetary type Dana 113; Tyres 14.00 – 24 PR28; Service brake hydraulically powered two-circuit oil immersed multidisc brakes in both axles; Parking brake spring applied hydraulically released fail-safe-type brake; Hydraulic frame steering; Orbitrol type frame articulated; Fuel tank capacity 300L; Hydraulic system diesel driven, variable displacement pump system for carrier and SB 500B, pump unloaded at start, pressure setting 210 bar, 130 L/min/2200rpm, gear pump system for agitator and nardoser, pressure relief valve setting 250 bar, 24L/min/2200 rpm, common hydraulic tank for all functions capacity 400L; 24 VDC Electrical system: Driver's compartment open 1-man cabin FOPS/ROPS approved; Centralized grease fitting for the carrier; Spray boom SB 500 B; Concrete spray pump NSP 30; Compressor hydraulically operated 8m3/min/7bar; Remote control 10m cable control with 2 joy sticks as a standard when open cabin; Concrete line left hand side assembly; concrete line diameter 65mm; Manual water hose reel 3/4" hose; Commissioning and Operator 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-24-02-02 – SUPPLY OF NORMET SPRAYMEC LF 050 DC" 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: **08th March 2024.**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited

217659101



BARRICK
BULYANHULU

Advertisement REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-24-01-12 – SUPPLY OF TWIN 110kW FAN

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:

Specifications:

- 2 x Twin 110kW Fan 550V 1400mm diameter,
- Each of the fan with 2 x 110kW Twin 550V 50Hz Soft Starter (Starter (C/W Delay & Pulse Start), ABB or Schneider Brand), 1400mm Inlet and discharge screen, 1400mm Bellmouth, and 2 x Silencers.

Key documents:

- Clear and detailed Quotation.
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of dealership as required.
- 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.
- 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-24-01-12 – SUPPLY OF TWIN 110kW FAN" 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: **08th March 2024.**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited

217659101

Researching on school dropouts can help a bit

THINGS are not quite falling apart in education in our country, but there are reasons to worry.

That is, if a section of our young people are satisfied with reading and writing, and need more than a push to join secondary school.

Signs of this situation have been there for years, like when pupils write obscurities in school leaving exam papers.

Each sphere of life or socio-ecology has its attractions for young people, regardless of whether it is early marriage or fishing along the coast, mining in Lake Zone regions, etc. Roaming with cattle and earning millions isn't out of order either.

Wishing not to depend solely on wisdom or hearsay, the upper level authorities concerned have formed a team of researchers to find out why the number of school dropouts across the country is rising.

The idea is to come up with recommendations on how to deal with the challenge, even if the key indications may be that society should simply live with it.

Education, Science and Technology minister Prof Adolph Mkenja just the other day announced the move at a two-day conference bringing on board education stakeholders and researchers from within and outside Tanzania, where dropping out of school was among the key issues.

The wider formulation of the issue, 'climate, environment and education', was prophetic in explaining the lack of interest in many years of climate change tuition.

This pushed young people to various survival strategies a bit early in life. In a past epoch that would have seemed all right in that they were armed with education and life skills.

But now things have changed somewhat, with education now having a more intensive definition

than just reading and writing and life skills also involving the ability to set up something of one's own preference.

To convert this difference into sociological terms, in his 1967 essay, Mwalimu Nyerere saw pupils and students as future peasants and workers.

The current mood in compulsory secondary school attendance and the youth's initiative for 'agribusiness' meanwhile in a sense mean seeing in each youth a hidden entrepreneur.

We see anyone still unable to start an income-generating project as yet uneducated, for life at present is self-employment, etc.

Then there is a hidden, if slightly cynical, position that all the hue and cry about dropping out of school mostly targets the boys.

In a way, the relevant authorities are unlikely to get sleepless nights that youths opt to tend cattle as their possible inheritance instead of attending secondary school.

Opting for artisanal mining isn't as disturbing either, in which case where the shoe pinches most is dropping out of school to get married. Still, these choices are tied together while youths abandoning school, and others, also need to marry.

An excellent illustration is when the minister reflected on Geita Region as top culprit in the school dropout tendency, wondering whether the cause was mining activities, and if yes, if it was the only reason.

Efforts to factor in other aspects such as sports and nutrition came in, while issues like the number of teachers and infrastructure or amenities to cater for girls' specific needs come up in dropping out of secondary school.

Still, it isn't easy to see how the government resolves these bottlenecks, ensuring that school-going youths already desperate in their situations head appeals to continue studying rather than stay idle.

Tanzania's voice at regional electricity trade meeting should have been louder

THERE was something curious in reports in the Tanzanian media on a just-ended meeting in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, bringing together ministers in charge of electricity from eastern African countries.

It was a three-day event deliberating on ways to promote regional trade in electricity, or at least to put some nuts and bolts in place, as promotions of the sort date back two decades already.

Reports said that the 18th Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) council of ministers meeting brought together senior government officials from 13 African countries determined to make advances in regional cooperation in the energy sector.

One problem was that just a few areas were cited, and Tanzania appeared to be on the margin, while some projects were more elaborately set out.

There is no question, as Kenyan top energy and petroleum officials noted, that governments in the region are committed to approving policies, plans and budgets helping to scale up the level of interconnectivity of eastern African grid electricity going forward.

The only case of significance cited was the importation of 200 megawatts in renewable energy from Ethiopia by Kenya and engaging in an energy exchange with Uganda.

It would thus appear that in the past few years of the past decade Tanzania isn't on everybody's lips as a source country to fall back on in case of electricity shortage. Unreliable hydropower source was swiftly given as the reason.

Tanzania's importance in the EAPP arrangement seems to have been the reverse of the wider tendency.

Officials at the meeting said countries in EAPP zone are currently trading over 3,400 GWh annually, which represents

a big achievement compared to the lowly 504 GWh in 2005.

While readers in Tanzania are more comfortable with megawatt hours, it is evident that Tanzania was more active when the trading levels were low but is on the margin when trading is admittedly higher. Leading the pack is Ethiopia, the generation capacity of whose main hydropower project stands at 5,150MW and comfortably supplies 200MW to Kenya.

Tanzania has equally significant plans especially when the 2,115-MW JNHPP is fully operational, as EAPP had plans to complete, commission and operationalise the Egypt-Libya, Egypt-Sudan, Ethiopia-Djibouti electricity transmission lines.

Interestingly, Ethiopia is not targeting Sudan for power sales but Tanzania has links with Zambia, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi and Malawi is not far from grid lines, when the capacity is right. We are a bit silent for a while.

A top Ugandan official said that regional trade is designed to move electricity from countries with surplus production to those with deficit production, thus ensuring reliable energy supply and reduced electricity outage risks.

Dar es Salaam residents would likely have wished that some electricity were purchased to ease outages. However, when the power sector is fully controlled by state-run firms, they presumably would rather have outages than import power possibly on cash basis.

That being the scenario, the EAPP framework is of massive relevance to our state-run Tanzania Electric Supply Company Ltd (Tanesco) and the Energy ministry as they can use it to sell electricity if it is in surplus. But importing power to stem outages demands a competitive environment, not monopolies.

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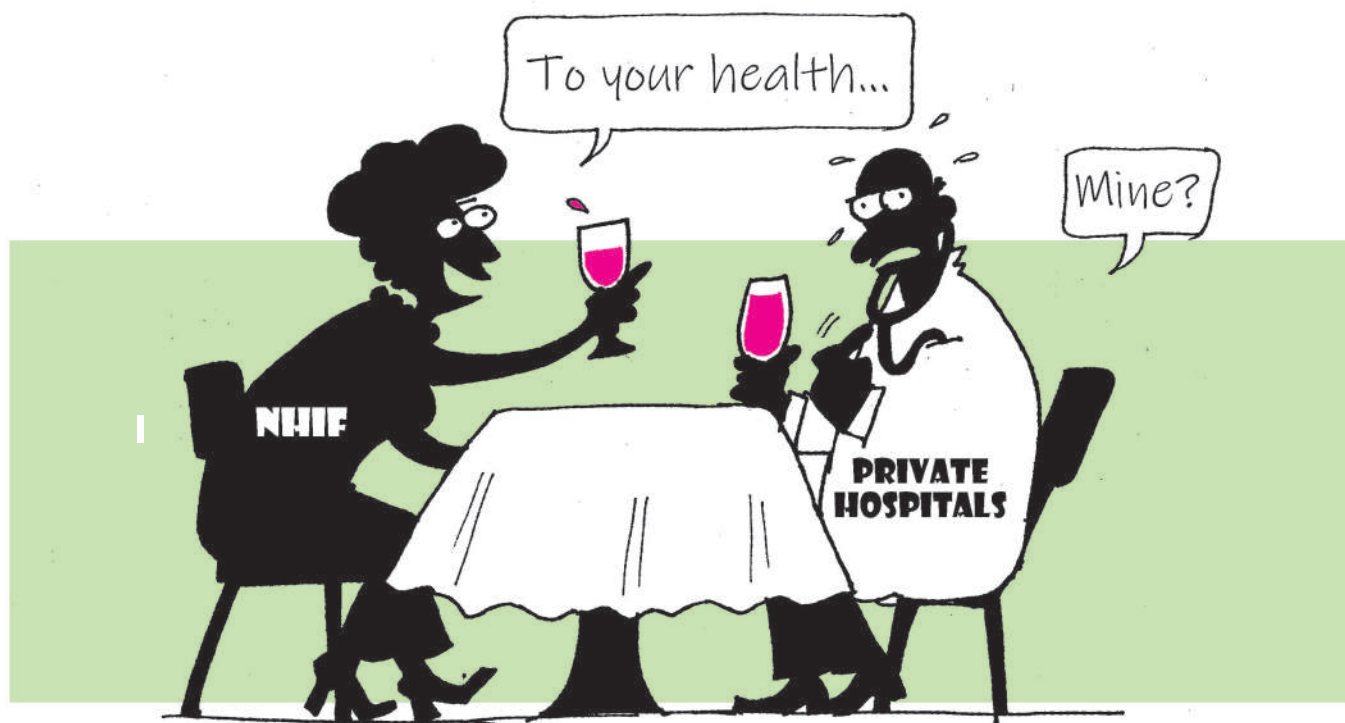
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Despite AI, audience preferences still central to content production

By Roshini Claire

DESPITE all the attention on artificial intelligence (AI), machine-based learning and various other technological advancements, the audience remains at the centre of journalism and news business models.

This is according to Sinead Boucher, Executive Chair at Stuff in New Zealand.

Bharat Gupta, CEO of India's Jagran New Media, meanwhile told the recently concluded Digital Media Asia 2023 conference in Singapore: "It is important to learn the reasons driving audience growth, given that India will soon possess the largest internet-using audience globally."

"In the past, growth was relatively static, with publishers focusing on producing content and expecting users to consume it. This later moved on to creating more interactive and dynamic sites," he said.

Elaborating, Gupta said: "Understanding audience science and behaviour - what content they want to consume and why - is essential in content production. Content teams should set goals in order to create content that will benefit their audiences."

Understanding the audience profile will help content teams to identify if a product is sufficient for the entire audience or not.

For instance, it is important to understand that GenZ (name given to the generation of people born between 1997 and 2012), GenX (people born between 1965 and 1980), millennials, and local communities have different interests, requirements, and preferences with regard to content presentation.

This will go a long way towards enhancing the type of content produced, meanwhile as language, user experience, privacy and safety are also paramount.

Thomas Schultz-Homberg, CEO of Germany's Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger Medien, pointed out how AI can help identify different audiences and recommend content that is specific to their individual interests. Nonetheless, **AI cannot replace editors who are needed in the content development process**, he said.

The audience is the focus at Stuff Ltd, although New Zealand has a much smaller population than India, said Sinead Boucher, adding: "We are part of people's everyday lives in New Zealand and are really proud of that."



She said the core priorities at Stuff place customers at the heart of the business model. These priorities include optimising data and intelligence to attract customers, improve their lives, and help them win with valuable content, products, and services.

Boucher also noted the importance placed on building the deepest, richest knowledge of New Zealanders by developing real-world connections with the audience of Stuff.

"Our audience is a direct mirror of the New Zealand population," she said, adding that, as such, it is important to understand the sentiments of the audience rather than merely examining data on engagement and site visits.

Boucher at it yet again: "We also noticed that people desired meaningful and joyful communal experiences following the (Covid-19) pandemic lockdowns. We realised that we needed to use our platforms to drive these experiences and tie in our digital and print content with these live events."

Schultz-Homberg pointed out that, moving forward, it is also crucial to foster the kind of journalism the audience wants and not merely provide them with content that publishers want them to consume.

Jagran New Media's Gupta additionally advised that content teams need to reflect the audience, saying, "If you are catering to an inclusive and diverse society, your team should also be representative of that change in order to produce content or bring that experience to the product."

The audience can also help produce content, advised Boucher, saying the Stuff Ltd-owned social media platform Neighbourly comprises 950,000 verified users and provides key data and insights into the lives of New Zealanders.

Adapting newsrooms for the

future

Business models and newsrooms require fundamental changes to cope with future challenges because, as Schultz-Homberg aptly warned: "Without technology, there is no future for newsrooms."

He said that it was vital for publishers to be ahead of the curve and identify how technology can help steer the way towards the future of publishing - such as with natural language processing.

Echoing his sentiment was Uma Patel, News Lab Lead at Google, Australia & New Zealand. She described newsrooms as the "engine rooms" and main drivers of business models.

"Newsrooms are good at holding powerful institutions accountable with a healthy dose of skepticism, but that skepticism can make it difficult to encourage risk - a vital ingredient for experimenting," she said.

Adapting and experimenting within newsrooms are crucial to ensuring the effective management of disruptions.

On this score, Patel described a framework created at Google that sought to help journalists experiment from within newsrooms, resulting in newsroom innovation. "It is important to embrace failure as well. If every experiment succeeds then we aren't experimenting," she said.

Combating misinformation

Recognising that Stuff was an essential source of quality, accurate news in New Zealand prompted executive chair Boucher to buy the company for one New Zealand dollar when the previous owners intended to close it. This involved completely resetting and reimagining the 165-year-old business to rebuild it for the future.

To grow specific reader revenue

products, the company needed to completely change its structure to pursue different strategies for digital and masthead publications.

"A large sector of the population was becoming very susceptible to misinformation," she said, adding: "Our vision was to become the most trusted news organisation in New Zealand."

Journalism has experienced diminished trust over the past few years, so we wanted to rebuild trust in journalism and media, she noted further.

Jaime Ho, Editor at Singapore's The Straits Times, SPH Media, submitted that there was an unmistakable trend towards polarisation, trust in the news had declined globally, and the news industry needed to identify how it played a part in fermenting or mitigating the issue.

He further submitted that Singapore's news media had largely managed to maintain audience trust, "but being widely read does not necessarily equate to trust, and vice versa. Furthermore, maintaining audience trust will continue to pose a challenge".

Overcoming news fatigue

According to Ho, audiences have actively minimised news consumption, including from social media, to better protect their mental health.

He said this has a direct impact on journalists and editors who must evaluate the risk-benefit ratio of news consumption - that is, recognising and minimising the downsides of social media while continuing to provide vital content. "News avoidance, fatigue or malaise may prove more detrimental than technology if we do not take steps to address these issues," Ho said.

He elaborated: "The most important disruption is the one that threatens the core of what we do and that is the relationship we have with our audiences..."

"We need the courage to test new ideas, platforms, and work processes to combat these issues, and newsrooms must encourage creativity and experimentation."

"We can often get quite glum talking about our challenges, but I daresay there still remains a lot of joy and meaning in what we do."

* A World Association of News Publishers (WAN-IFRA) dispatch. Roshini Claire is a writer and editor boasting over 15 years of experience in the publishing industry.

Every indication that Tanzania remains Russia's strategic partner

By Henry Mwangonde

THE enduring bond between Russia and Tanzania, dating back to the early 1960s when Tanzania broke free from British colonial rule, serves as a remarkable testament to the deep-rooted diplomatic relations and friendship existing between the two nations that have blossomed over the past six decades.

During the Cold War era, Tanzania, under the leadership of Julius Nyerere, pursued a policy of non-alignment, seeking support from both Western and Eastern bloc countries.

The Soviet Union, now Russia, saw Tanzania as a Strategic Partner in Africa and provided assistance in various sectors, including infrastructure, education, and defense.

Tanzania's alignment with socialist principles and its anti-colonial stance during the cold war, resonated with Russia's foreign policy objectives. This alignment led to increased cooperation between the two countries, with Russian aid contributing to Tanzania's development projects and economic initiatives.

However, the relationship was not without challenges, as Tanzania's non-alignment stance sometimes strained its ties with both superpowers.

After the Cold War end-

ed and Russia emerged as the successor state to the Soviet Union, the relationship between Russia and Tanzania underwent a significant transition.

The once 'informal' ties between the two nations gradually evolved from ideological alignment to a more pragmatic cooperation based on mutual interests.

During this transition period, both Russia and Tanzania adjusted their diplomatic approach to adapt to the changing global landscape.

The shift from ideological alignment to pragmatic cooperation was driven by the need to forge partnerships that would benefit both countries economically, politically, and socially.

Former President Boris Yeltsin with a Tanker driver after the cold war ended

For instance, both countries began to explore opportunities for economic collaboration, including trade agreements, investment opportunities, and joint ventures in various sectors such as mining, energy, agriculture, and infrastructure development.

When the two nations eventually formalized their relationship in 1961,

high-level diplomatic engagements and exchanges began to take place. The diplomatic bond signalled a commitment to strengthening bilateral relations and exploring areas of mutual interest.



Russia's Ambassador to Tanzania, Andrey Avetisyan, in talks with CCM Secretary General, Dr Emanuel Nchimbi in the latter's office in Dar Salaam last Friday.

This, they endorsed by forming a joint commission to accelerate relations in the areas of investment, trade and economic development between the two countries in 2019.

Efforts were further made to enhance people-to-people ties through cultural exchanges, educational scholarships, and collaborative programs in areas such as science, technology, and capacity building between the two countries.

This was evident when in July 2023 Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, visited Russia to attend the second Russian-African Summit held in St. Petersburg.

A summit that brought together leaders and investors from over 37 African countries and Russia, to discuss ways to strengthen partnership while also devising strategies to improve individual country challenges.

"Our participation in this forum is very beneficial for Tanzania as we can learn about other African countries' activities in various sectors and gain experience from them," Majaliwa said.

The relationship between Russia and Tanzania solidified after the two nations held discussions on security cooperation, regional stability and humanitarian assistance, promising each other their support in hard times. This partnership underscored the shared commitment to peace and security, fostering a safer environment for both countries and the broader international community.

Indeed, Russia and Tanzania have come a very long way and their relationship keeps blossoming as both countries continue to maintain diplomatic ties particularly in areas such as Trade, Energy, Education, and Healthcare.

When it comes to Education, Russia has been instrumental in providing scholarships and training opportunities for Tanzanian students and professionals, equipping them with valuable skills and knowledge that contribute to the advancement of various sectors in Tanzania.

This collaboration has not only bolstered economic growth but has also created opportunities for job creation and technological exchange.

Another significant cord that keeps strengthening the almost 63 years relationship between Tanzania and Russia, is their political ideologies.

Both Tanzania and Russia have not just been instrumental in nurturing and advancing their bilateral relationships, but also the commitment shown by leaders from both nations in promoting dialogue, co-

operation, and mutual respect.

In a gesture of diplomatic goodwill and engagement, Andrey Avetisyan, the current Ambassador of Russia to Tanzania, on Thursday February 23, paid a courtesy call to newly elected CCM Secretary General Dr Emmanuel John Nchimbi at his office in Dar es Salaam.

The less-than an hour meeting, although aimed at strengthening bilateral relations between Russia and Tanzania, also served as a perfect opportunity to discuss economic and other developmental issues all geared towards fostering dialogue and cooperation between the two nations.

Amb Avetisyan's courtesy call did not just underscore the longstanding friendship between Tanzania and Russia.

The visit also signifies the importance of maintaining and strengthening international partnership, building trust and laying groundwork for future collaborations between Tanzania and Russia.

As the two nations look forward to celebrating a milestone of 63 years of diplomatic relations this December 11, it is a fitting moment to reflect on the endearing partnership and mutual benefits that have characterized the relationship between these two nations over the past six decades.

The two, since establishing ties in 1961, have shared a rich history of co-

operation and collaboration across various fields, contributing to the development and prosperity of both countries. The bond forged between the two nations has transcended geopolitical shifts and global dynamics, standing as a testament to the strength of their enduring friendship.

Another significant area in which Russia and Tanzania have shared and benefited from each other is in economic cooperation. Over the years, both countries have engaged in trade agreements, investment ventures, and joint projects in sectors such as mining, energy, agriculture, and infrastructure development.

Looking ahead, as Tanzania and Russia continue to navigate the complexities of the modern world, it is imperative that they build on the foundation of trust and cooperation that has been established over the past six decades.

By exploring new avenues of collaboration, harnessing technological advancements, and embracing innovation, the ties between these two nations can further deepen their partnership for the benefit of both countries and their people, by upholding the values of mutual respect, solidarity, and shared prosperity. This is the surest way the two countries can continue to write new chapters of success and cooperation in many years to come.

By Guardian Reporter

Multilateral measures required in tackling human-wildlife conflicts

AN increasing trend of Human-Wildlife Conflicts (HWC) incidences in various parts of the country, especially at villages bordering National Parks, Game and Forest Reserves requires stakeholders' concerted efforts to ensure safety of both wild animals and human beings.

When wild animals, mostly elephants invade people's homes and farms they end up causing damages to properties and crops. At times, the big animals are killed by angry citizens.

These incidences have been increasing annually with the situation attributed to blockage of wildlife corridors, inadequate land-use planning, livestock intrusion into protected areas, climate change, disregard for advice given by experts on how to avoid HWC effects as well as existence of false beliefs in some societies.

Current statistics from the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) shows that incidences of HWC have been increasing at annual average of 23.76 percent while crop damage increases at an annual average of 118.1 percent.

According to Isaac Chamba, TAWA Conservation Officer, the confrontations between humans and wildlife are historical; adding the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism has been dealing with the challenge through its Wildlife Department before the authority was established in 2016.

"There was an increase in human-wildlife conflicts incidents in 2018. Before that time, the problem was small with little impact to the lives and properties of the people. The increase, led the ministry coming up with a National Human-Wildlife Conflict Management Strategy 2020-2024," said Chamba, noting the strategy that was launched in October 2020 is implemented by TAWA, Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA), Tanzania Forest Service Agency (TFS) and Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI).

He said in 2016/2017 there were 833 incidents whereas the number increased to 997 in 2017/2018 and 1510 in 2022/2019. He added that in 2019/2020, there were 1426 recorded HWC incidents. The number increased tremen-



dously in 2020/2021 reaching 1706, 2304 incidences in 2021/2022 and 2817 in 2022/2023.

Chamba who was speaking recently at a training organized by the Journalists' Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) with support from the Mitigation of Human Wildlife Conflicts in Tanzania project that is implemented by GIZ on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), said so far, a total of 44 districts are facing the challenge mentioning them as Busega, Kilosa, Meatu, Nachingwea, Rufiji, Lindi, Manyoni, Itilima, Tunduru and Bunda.

The project which is implemented in the Ruvuma landscape by the ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism will cover three districts—Liwale, Tunduru and Namtumbo districts.

Elephants are the leading wild animals in HWC as they contribute to the problem by 80 percent, he said, adding the other remained 20 percent involves wild animals such as lions, hyenas and monkeys.

The TAWA official noted that when the big animals enter into people's homes, citizens are required to inform wildlife officers instead of killing them since such an act is a legal offence.

"TAWA officers are responsible of taking the animals pack to the park. In between 2017/2018 and 2022/2023, the author successfully moved 60 lions and two hyenas from

human settlements. In 2022, we returned 270 elephants back to the forest reserve in Liwale and Nachingwea districts," he added.

In April last year when addressing the National Assembly, Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Dunstan Kitandula told the August House that the government is working to craft an emergency strategy to address complaints from victims of wild animal attacks.

The current wildlife regulations direct that survivors of wildlife attack should receive 200,000/- in compensation, 500,000/- for victims who have lost body parts and 1m/- for the death, said Kitandula, noting the government does not pay compensation for loss of life or injury caused by dangerous wild animals. It only pays consolation to the victim for the loss of life or injury.

The rate and procedure for payment of consolation for death caused by wildlife is stipulated under section 69 to 71 of the Wildlife Conservation Act, 2009 and the Wildlife Conservation (Dangerous Animals Damage Consolation) Regulations, 2011.

Application of the regulations took effect in 2012 whereas between 2012/2023 and 2022/2023, a total of 11.3bn/- has been paid to people who sustained injuries or died from wild animal attacks or incurred losses caused by straying destructive wild animals.

Expert opinions

John Noronha, HWC Expert said that in-

planning and implementing any human-wildlife conflict mitigation initiative, one should understand the values, social norms, beliefs, culture, economics, interactions between stakeholders and other social and political factors.

According to Noronha, mitigation and damage reduction interventions must be designed and managed collaboratively whereas officials and project staff need to build rapport with the affected communities and other involved parties, while remaining aware of their own positions.

He added that most of the conflicts involve species that range across highly fragmented habitats and or well beyond protected areas into human-dominated landscapes, noting that mitigating damage by wildlife to promote tolerance by people may provide only a short-term solution.

"It is important that communities living near wildlife are actively engaged in ideas and decisions, supporting, for example, biologists, ecologists and geographers in gaining an understanding of a given species' movement patterns, resource needs and behaviour. Such kind of planning generates important sectoral collaborations, across sectors—agriculture, forestry, health, environment, transport and energy agencies," he added.

The expert said that it is possible for humans to live with wild animals, but this requires people to apply protective measures such as building strong fences, cultivating crops that are not eaten by elephants, planting peppers around homes and farms.

He however noted that such protective measures against wildlife cannot be applicable at all places; hence the need to know the exact method to be applied to control damages at each of the specific ar-

eas.

Coexistence suggests that at some level and in some form a choice is being made by humans to share landscapes and natural resources with wildlife in sustainable ways. Moving from conflict to coexistence cannot be described as a continuum in which neither conflict nor coexistence is locked at a fixed point along the scale.

"Conflicts are not always negative, and words and language matter. Conflicts bring about change. They can be a positive opportunities leading to dialogue, stimulating action and forcing a potentially bad situation to be resolved or improved," said Noronha, adding if addressed properly, HWC can force people to look at underlying tensions and inequalities, thus work together for improved well-being, development and conservation.

Media role

Head of Communications Department at Ministry, John Mapepele, said the contribution of journalists in conservation efforts is important taking into considerations that a third of the country is reserved.

JET Executive Director, John Chikomo said they conducted training to equip journalists with the precise knowledge on HWC before they embark of field trips at the three districts. He said journalists will visit 30 villages across the districts whereas they are expected to accurately report to the public.

"Engaging journalists in mitigation of HWC is essential as they can reach a good number of people. Tanzanians need to be educated on the matter as well as informed on how they can protect themselves from the wild animals," stated Chikomo, adding that similar training will be conducted to journalists in the specific districts.

Anna Kimambo is the Advisor, Mitigation of Human-Wildlife Conflicts from GIZ, she added: "We are engaging journalists because we want the public to be well informed and stop considering the animals as enemies. This will help change people's attitude against wildlife and ultimately stop attacking them when pass near their homes."

'Pocket revolution': Smartphone convergence in the 21st century

By Intisab Shahriyar

EVER heard the words Walkman, Gameboy, Discman, Watchman, Camcorder? If the answer is no, you are probably 24 and born in the era of laptops and smartphones.

In which case, gather around kids, for I am about to spin a yarn on how it feels for fossils like me to live in a world where everything is at your fingertips and have everything you need in one handy convenient place.

Even for someone like me who has seen the birth, evolution, and eventual domination of smartphones, and therefore lived a life before it all, it still takes a monumental effort to imagine life even functioning without smartphones.

The quick Google search for a word you just heard, looking up someone's address and finding exact directions in Maps, snapping a photo of a bird sitting on a branch in front of a beautiful sunset, texting a friend 8,000 km away as if they are right next door – things like these still make me feel like I am living in the sci-fi cartoons I grew up watching.

While all of the above still makes me giddy with wonderment, those abilities alone are not enough to make it the global phenomenon that it is. You see, smartphones have not just replaced a handful of gadgets. No, the story goes much deeper than that.

Back in 2010, if you bought a smartphone, you were either a serial gadget freak or a massive show-off (sometimes a bit of both). That's because smartphones in the early days still had not attained half of the functionalities it has today, and so, people in 2010 were not ready to embrace them.

The cost of entry did not help matters either. What changed was how smartphones tactfully started to include things that enrich our lives. And that's what we will be looking at today – all the things that the smartphone revolutionised. The emergence, and later convergence, of smartphones is as great an innovation to modern society as the wheel was for ancient society, and for once, it is not hyperbole.

Communication

Most of you reading this probably do not know about the anxiety of 'calling abroad.' Back in the day, you could only do that via landline telephones, and the cost was astronomical enough to put off any unnecessary calls.

In the early noughties, there was MSN Messenger, so you could text someone, and Skype for video calls, but with how the internet was back then, even those were luxuries, because both required a computer.

The first breakthrough for communications was back when cellular phones hit the scene but still, things had remained mostly the same, apart from the introduction of texting via SMS, even during the early days of the smartphone.

With the rise of instant messaging services for smartphones, and eventually, video calling, and internet-based calling such as WhatsApp, Messenger, etc., communicating evolved into a whole new realm. Suddenly, talking to someone on the other side of the planet became as trivial as getting yourself a bottle of water from the fridge!



Even the concept of communication itself has undergone a massive change. From vocabulary-rich sentences to shortening words to save time and space (lyk, lyf, lol anyone?), to replacing words altogether for emojis and now, we can convey complex emotional states and phases through memes.

I am weird, you say? If you happen to have a time machine somewhere, drop by 2007 and mention 'meme' to someone, and see the faces they make. That, in itself, will be meme-worthy.

Smartphones can even break down difficult hurdles like language. Travelling somewhere with a different language and you see a sign on the road you do not know about? Take out your phone, start Google Translate, and done.

Yes, understanding a different language is that easy now, and it's poised to get even easier. The rise of AI (Artificial Intelligence) will help to bring down language barriers even more. There are already live-translation machines that can translate what a person is saying in your native language, in real-time, as the conversation happens, and soon, these features will appear in your regular phone calls.

Multimedia

Remember the Walkmans and Gameboys and whatnot I alluded to at the start? Smartphones put an end to every one of those gadgets. And here's how.

When people these days say they are bored, I wonder how that is possible when they have access to nearly every movie, TV show, music, book, and entertaining video ever made at their fingertips. That's right, smartphones have basically become our one-stop entertainment shops. After all, it's a big (relatively speaking) screen with speakers and the internet.

To cash in on this device, and the reach it has, streaming services have cropped up, offering movies, TV shows, and music to its users for a monthly fee. These ser-

VICES have also put systems in place that learn from your watching/listening behaviour and serve you content that suits your tastes, meaning you are always discovering new things to consume.

Remember digital cameras or camcorders? Once tools for enthusiasts, smartphones have enabled the everyday person to experience the joys of capturing their most treasured moments, or the freedom to chase after their creative passion for photo/videography, leading to all new careers and forms of content that we consume.

Were you a gamer in the '90s? Do you fondly look back on memories of playing Pokemon on a Gameboy in school during recess? Well, if you were unlucky enough to not own one, do not worry. Future generations will not have to go through this trauma, because smartphones are capable of playing games so vividly real, it makes old consoles look like a joke.

Did news of the Apple Vision Pro dominate your feed recently? Well, if it did, it did so for a good reason. With a resurgence of interest in VR/AR devices, after Google's spectacular fumble with the tech despite introducing them first, ordinary people will get a taste of an immersive technological showcase.

Picture this: you sit on your sofa, put on the headset and connect your phone to it. Suddenly, your entire vision is dominated by virtual screens while you see the real world.

Feeling like watching a movie? The headset will create a virtual movie theatre-sized screen. Feel like playing a game? Well, the headset will make you feel like you are IN the game. And the possibilities haven't even been realised yet.

Business and education

Are you someone who whips out their phone the moment they come across something unfamiliar and Google it to find out? That is but a small demonstration of how powerful of a learning tool a smartphone is.

Once upon a time, if you needed to look something up, you had to find it in a book. Now though, with the internet maturing into what it is today, and smartphones evolving enough to take full advantage of it, smartphones have become an unrivalled learning platform, becoming our pocketable private tutor.

With a smartphone, you can access and enrol in innumerable online courses, programmes, and degrees, or learn new skills, languages, and subjects, using various apps and websites, such as Duolingo, Khan Academy, and Coursera.

The days of lugging around heavy textbooks have almost faded into oblivion, thanks to e-books and educational apps that transform our smartphones into portable libraries. Learning a new language, mastering a musical instrument, or even delving into the intricacies of astronomy and astrophysics has never been more accessible.

Smartphones did not just revolutionise education, they also reinvented business. Smartphones are the key reason for the remote working opportunities we take for granted.

No longer being tethered to your desk, and the ability to transform your immediate surroundings, be it a café table, park bench, or comfy bed in a hotel suite, into your workspace does not just boost morale, but productivity as well.

Smartphones have also enabled the rise of small independent businesses through the use of dedicated sites or apps. Promotion has also been made easier because you no longer have to rely on a third person. You can promote your business/service the way you wish and appeal to an audience of your choosing.

Smartphones have also given rise to the 'gig' economy, connecting freelancers with clients across the globe, while entrepreneurs launch businesses with nothing more than a smartphone and a vision.

The smartphone-driven gig economy has also given rise to on-demand service platforms. These platforms connect cus-

tomers with various services, such as transportation, food delivery, and more, using technology and a network of workers.

Sounds complicated? Well, the food that is being delivered to you as you read this, is part of this new business opportunity that smartphones created.

Shopping and lifestyle

For those of you unaware of how we did things in the "dark ages" here's an example: if you wanted a packet of crisps, you had to walk to your local 'mudir dokan,' talk to the shopkeeper and buy one yourself. Well, rejoice Gen Zs and Alphas, for your need to avoid facing humans and doing illogical labour has been largely granted through online shopping via smartphones.

While online shopping has been around for some time, it really took off during the COVID-19 pandemic when you could not go outside for dear life. This taste of unlimited power of ordering whatever you need through your smartphone, having it delivered to your home, and paying for it digitally has been nothing short of a revelation for shoppers. Plus, with 'big brother tech' constantly listening and watching your internet activity, it can even suggest products you did not know existed but now cannot live without.

Smartphones are also becoming increasingly responsible for our general well-being. Hard to imagine? Not really. Start counting the number of smartwatches and fitness bands on people's hands and that should give you a rough idea. These smart devices, in conjunction with smartphones, monitor and provide ways to improve our physical health by tracking our steps, calories, heart rate, blood pressure, and sleep patterns. They also provide us with fitness suggestions, such as exercises, yoga, and meditation, that can be done anywhere, saving you a monthly gym membership.

Smartphones are also essential in telemedicine, allowing doctors and patients to connect, and share information and treatment advice from great distances. They can also connect us to health professionals faster than ever before in cases of emergency.

Social media

This is perhaps a smartphone's true claim to fame these days, and something that nearly all smartphone users spend most of their time on. It is genuinely difficult to explain social media, especially to an alien if one were to land today, but the simplest explanation would be that it's another plane/platform of interacting with the people around you and the world in general.

Platforms like Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), and Instagram have created a digital world and every user, its digital citizen. These platforms allow us to find communities where we would fit in, news we would be interested in, make friends we'd never find otherwise, and now, create a career, be that by becoming an influencer, entertainer, content maker, or simply running a digital business without any added cost.

Social media has its downsides, many of which are now finally coming into light, such as addiction, depression, anxiety, and so on, most of which are fuelled by the very algorithm designed to keep us on these platforms. However, I still maintain that while there are negatives to social media, the positive, for now, outweighs the negatives.

The smartphone's transformative impact on society is hard to argue against. These pocket-sized marvels have transcended beyond being mere gadgets; they can be safely called extensions of ourselves, enriching every aspect of our modern existence. With the big boom of AI just around the corner, the smartphone is about to go through another revolution, and its place in our lives will further converge as we go further into the 21st century. It may not look like a metal and glass slab, but rest assured, it will very much be here.

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 UMJUJAVYO 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

Ugandan warlord LRA's victims awarded share of £56m

THE HAGUE

VICTIMS of Ugandan warlord Dominic Ongwen have been awarded more than €52m (\$56m; £44.5m) by the International Criminal Court (ICC).

The order covers almost 50,000 people, including former child soldiers and children born out of rapes and forced marriages.

Ongwen was a ruthless rebel commander in the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA).

He is currently serving a 25-year prison term in Norway for multiple war crimes and crimes against humanity.

He was originally abducted as a child and forced to join the LRA but went on to become one of the leaders of the notorious rebel group. During his trial, his argument that he should also be treated as a victim was rejected by the court.

The crimes were committed by his rebel fighters in northern Uganda in the early 2000s.

Warning: This story contains details that some people may find upsetting

As part of the extensive compensation package, everyone who suffered, directly or otherwise, as a result of what Presiding Judge Bertram Schmitt described as Ongwen's "unimaginable atrocities" will be awarded €750 (\$812; £642).

Judge Schmitt described physical, moral, material, community and transgenerational harm, and explained the remainder of the \$56m would constitute collective reparations, to be invested in projects designed to rehabilitate and rebuild broken lives.

The LRA was formed in the late 1980s in Uganda, where it said its goal was to install a government based on the biblical Ten Commandments.

It was eventually forced out of the country in 2005.

As a reminder of the many ways in which communities were affected by the LRA, an extensive list of the ruthless acts committed by Ongwen was read out during the hearing.

Dominic Ongwen appears by video link for



Wednesday's hearingImage source, ICC

Image caption.

Dominic Ongwen appeared by video link for Wednesday's hearing

These included a catalogue of harrowing sexual and gender-based crimes that came to characterise Ong-

wen's campaign of terror.

Judge Schmitt recounted that soldiers had raped a woman with a stick used for cooking while her husband was forced to watch, babies were thrown into bushes and left to perish because their crying made it hard for new mothers to carry looted goods, women and girls were "distributed"

to soldiers and kept as sexual slaves - many forced to bear children after rape or forced marriage.

Children kidnapped and trained to be child soldiers were also among the victims - some were forced to kill others, as lessons to anyone who considered attempting to escape.

"Tens of thousands of individuals

suffered tremendous harm due to the unimaginable atrocities committed," as rebel fighters led by Ongwen attacked four camps for displaced people in northern Uganda, said Judge Schmitt.

Entire communities and families witnessed the attacks, after which people had to walk through villages strewn with dead bodies.

The court acknowledged it would take time before any payments were actually distributed and that not all victims would receive the amount at the same time - priority would be given to the most vulnerable people with the greatest need.

Ongwen has been declared indigent so the money will come from the Trust Fund for Victims.

The trust relies on voluntary contributions from ICC member states and to a lesser extent other public and private donors.

The trust's mandate is to fulfil reparations orders and provide victims with physical and psychosocial rehabilitation or support.

During the hearing, the judge said the trust didn't currently have enough to cover the full \$56m reparations, and urged countries, organisations, corporations and private individuals to step up and support its mission.

A compensation plan must be submitted to the ICC by September 2024.

The ICC, located in the Dutch city of The Hague, was set up to prosecute war crimes and crimes of humanity and genocide.

The ICC believes reparations symbolise and promote hope and resilience within war-ravaged communities and serve as evidence of the court's commitment to restorative justice.

Activists urge Nigeria to delay Shell's \$2.4bn sale of assets in deeply polluted Niger Delta

LAGOS

NIGERIAN activists and international environmental groups want the government to delay approving the sale of oil company Shell's onshore assets, claiming Shell is trying to shirk its environmental and social responsibilities in the highly polluted Niger Delta.

The London-based company is trying to sell its subsidiary Shell Petroleum Development Company - which operates its onshore assets in the delta - to Renaissance Africa Energy Company, a consortium of local companies. Shell says the \$2.4 billion divestment deal is part of a "wider reconfiguration of the Nigerian oil and gas sector."

But the Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO), a Dutch non-profit, released a report Wednesday saying Shell shouldn't be allowed to divest in the delta unless it takes "responsibility for its toxic legacy of pollution and ensures the safe decommissioning of abandoned oil infrastructure."

Protesters have appealed to the government of Nigeria, Africa's top oil producer, to halt the sale until environmental concerns are addressed. Lezina Mgbar, a 54-year-old healthcare worker and farmer who participated in a weekend demonstration in the country's oil capital of Port Harcourt, said her Korokoro Tai community in Ogoniland has been "severely" affected by oil spills.

"In the morning, children and women have to travel far to get water, so children often cannot get to school on time, and our farm yields are poor," Mgbar told The Associated Press. "We demand that Shell restore our land and clean our water before any divestment."

Scientific studies have found high levels of chemical compounds from crude oil, as well as heavy metals, in the delta,

where the industry largely drives Nigeria's economy but can leave communities' water sources slick with contaminants.

Activists say Shell has a history of poor divestment in the region. They point to a wellhead blowout in the Santa Barbara River, which flows through the Niger Delta, in 2021. The wellhead wasn't producing but wasn't decommissioned by Shell or its new owners, Aiteo Eastern E & P. The facility spewed crude oil and associated gas for 38 days and caused planet-warming methane to be released into the atmosphere, killed fish and devastated riverside farms.

Richard Steiner, an environmental consultant with a history of work in the Niger Delta, said the blowout on the Santa Barbara River highlights the risk of Shell and other oil majors transferring assets to new local firms without resolving legacy environmental and social concerns first.

"Many of the purchasing companies do not have the technical or financial capacity to manage these oil and gas operations safely," he said.

Shell says it assesses the financial strength, culture and social and environmental performance records of companies it sells assets to. A spokesperson added that "mandatory submissions to the federal government allow the regulators to apply scrutiny across a wide range of issues and recommend approval of these divestments, provided they meet all requirements."

Nigerian President Bola Tinubu, who holds the portfolio of petroleum minister, will ultimately decide the fate of the Shell-Renaissance transaction. His spokesperson did not comment when contacted on Monday.

SOMO's report documents other cases of environmental pollution that were



A member of Shell staff on the Bonga offshore oil Floating Production Storage

allegedly not addressed by Shell before past divestments. Two communities, Ogale and Bille in Rivers State, have been in court pushing to make the company address past environmental concerns.

Shell and other oil companies often blame third-party interference, namely militant attacks and vandalism by oil thieves, for spills. However, companies still must clean up regardless of the cause, according to Nigeria's law.

The deal with Renaissance is the latest move by Shell to limit its onshore operations in Nigeria while focusing on deepwater operations. Other companies, including Chevron, ExxonMobil and TotalEnergies, have been taking similar steps but without the scale of protests Shell,

which is the most dominant in the region, has faced.

The civil society coalition that helped organize protests aimed at delaying the sale have petitioned Tinubu to adopt a set of principles to ensure more responsible petroleum industry divestments.

That "would help ensure a transparent process that would assess the capacity of the incoming companies, with meaningful community consultation throughout, address environmental pollution and deteriorating and abandoned infrastructure," said Florence Kayemba, director of the Niger Delta-focused Stakeholder Democracy Network, one of the groups that came up with the principles.

Unlike in previous sales, Shell

is transferring all its subsidiary shares to Renaissance, resulting in a change of ownership that would see SPDC continue to carry liabilities. Shell has said SPDC, with new ownership, will continue with the current staff and be responsible for remediation where spills have occurred in the past.

SOMO's report noted the arrangement but said the energy giant is still trying to avoid its responsibility.

Audrey Gaughran, SOMO's director, said in a statement that "ensuring that the historical pollution, the lack of funding for safe decommissioning and poor financial transparency are fully addressed in Nigeria will be an important litmus test for a just energy transition across the world."

TACKLING TANZANIA'S HOUSING CRISIS AMIDST A SURGING POPULATION GROWTH

By Guardian Reporter

NAVIGATING the housing demands of Tanzania's burgeoning population, calls for a comprehensive approach that intricately integrates urban planning, affordability, sustainability, community engagement, technological innovation, and equitable access to essential services.

Based on current data, Tanzania, currently holding the 26th position among countries representing 75.1 percent of the global population, is poised to ascend to the 14th rank by 2050, with a projected population of 137 million.

With the current population standing at 62.7 million, the demand for housing is skyrocketing at an unprecedented rate, outstripping the available supply and intensifying the housing deficit.

Therefore, through strategic prioritization of initiatives and fostering strong collaboration among government entities, private sector stakeholders, and local communities, Tanzania can effectively address its housing challenges head-on.

This approach not only addresses the immediate housing needs but also sets the groundwork for vibrant, resilient communities where future generations can thrive.

In an exclusive interview with The Guardian, Dr. Julius

Shija, a London-based architect, highlighted that Tanzania, like many other developing nations, is grappling with rapid population growth.

With this surge, there is an urgent need for adequate housing to accommodate the expanding population.

"The magnitude of the housing demand is staggering, with an estimated shortage of 3 million units, growing annually by 200,000 units according to Shelter Afrique. This statistic not only underscores the pressing need for housing but also highlights the dire situation faced by millions of Tanzanians," he noted.

Adding: "As the demand for housing continues to surge, the existing deficit becomes increasingly glaring, particularly when considering the substandard quality of many homes and the overcrowded conditions exacerbated by inadequate access to essential services like water and electricity."

According to him, delving deeper into the urban landscape of Tanzania, the housing deficit looms large, reaching an estimated 1.2 million units. Within this context, the bustling metropolis of Dar Es Salaam shoulders a significant burden, accounting for a staggering 36 percent of the total shortfall.

"These statistics paint a vivid picture of the housing crisis



An artistic rendering of the National Housing Corporation's groundbreaking project, the Iyumbu Satellite Centre, the first of its kind in Dodoma. The grand project involves the construction of 300 houses spread across 234 about 95 hectares. File Photo

gripping urban Tanzania, underscoring the urgent need for comprehensive interventions to address this pressing issue and ensure that every Tanzanian has access to safe, decent, and dignified housing," he maintained.

Therefore, Dr Shija is of the view that in order to address the matter, requires a multifaceted approach that considers factors such as urbanization, infrastructure development, affordability, and sustainability.

For him, effective urban planning is essential to accommodate the burgeoning population in Tanzanian cities.

"Planned expansion and zoning regulations can help prevent unplanned settlements and slum proliferation, ensuring that new housing developments are integrated into the existing urban fabric," he claimed.

Dr Shija believes that access to affordable housing is a critical issue for many Tanzanians, and that the government, in collaboration with private sector partners and international organizations, can implement initiatives to increase the supply of affordable housing units.

"This can include subsidies for low-income households,

microfinance programs, and public-private partnerships aimed at constructing affordable housing developments," the Tanzania-born expert expressed.

For Mariam Ibrahim, an independent land management specialist, Tanzania need to incorporate sustainable construction practices, for long-term environmental and economic viability.

According to her, by prioritizing sustainability, Tanzania can mitigate the environmental impact of rapid urbanization while reducing long-term operational costs for homeowners.

On the other hand, Mariam stressed the need for adopting an efficient land use management, saying it is crucial for optimizing available space and preventing sprawl.

"We can achieve this through comprehensive land use planning, land titling reforms to formalize informal settlements, and incentivizing mixed-use developments that combine residential, commercial, and recreational spaces," she maintained.

Adding: "By maximizing the utility of land resources, Tanzania can accommodate its growing population while preserving valuable natural areas."

According to her, elevating the country's infrastructure through investments in slum upgrading programs and urban renewal projects is imperative. This strategy not only enhances the quality of housing in informal settlements but also amplifies access to fundamental services like water, sanitation, and electricity.

She envisions a Tanzania where revitalized neighborhoods and upgraded infrastructure form the bedrock of inclusive and resilient urban environments.

For her, embracing technology and innovation stands as a crucial pillar in optimizing the housing construction process and making it more affordable.

On a different note, a moth-

er of three advocates for the integration of digital tools such as geographic information systems (GIS) to inform decision-making processes and bolster the effectiveness of urban planning endeavors.

Jemimah John, a student at the University of Coventry in England, underscores the significance of involving local communities in the housing development journey, saying Tanzania can cultivate neighborhoods that are not only inclusive but also socially cohesive.

"Involving locals in the housing development journey is essential for fostering a sense of ownership and ensuring that the needs of residents are met. When communities are engaged in the planning and decision-making processes, they can offer valuable insights, preferences, and concerns that might otherwise be overlooked," she said.

Adding: "This inclusive approach also builds trust and collaboration between stakeholders, leading to more sustainable and successful housing initiatives."

Additionally, Jemimah further explained that by empowering locals to actively participate in shaping their built environment, communities can develop a stronger sense of pride and attachment to their neighborhoods, contributing to social cohesion and overall well-being.

Ayala land's AREIT to proliferate asset base to \$3 billion by 2030

Manila

AREIT, the real estate investment trust controlled by billionaire Jaime Zobel de Ayala and his family, plans to increase the assets it manages by 50 percent to \$3 billion in the next six years as it acquires more properties from parent Ayala Land Inc. (ALI).

Following a series of acquisitions in the past four years, AREIT has quadrupled its assets under management to 117 billion pesos (\$2 billion) from 27 billion pesos in 2020, when it listed on the Philippine Stock Exchange. "Size is important because it gives us visibility to not only domestic investors but foreign investors," Carol T. Mills, president and CEO of AREIT, said in a recent interview at the company headquarters in the Makati business district of Manila.

Buoyed by recent asset injections from Ayala Land, AREIT's net income, excluding exceptional gains, surged 43 percent to 4.9 billion pesos in 2023. "This is a testament that AREIT, led by its sponsor Ayala Land, is an integral vehicle for capital recycling and growth," Mills said. "We remain steadfast in our vision of being the leading and most diversified Philippine REIT."

Last November, AREIT announced it was acquiring some 30 billion pesos of



prime office, retail, hotel and industrial properties from ALI and its affiliates, which could add some 2 billion pesos in annual operating income to AREIT, Mills said. AREIT will have to continue acquiring more assets from Ayala Land to sustain its double-digit growth momentum, she added.

The latest acquisition includes the 40-story Ayala Triangle Gardens Tower 2, home to the headquarters of ALI's parent company, Ayala Corp, along with the nearby 348-room Holiday Inn and Suites Makati and the Greenbelt 3 and 5 shopping malls.

In Cebu, 800 kilometers south of Manila, AREIT is buying the 301-room Seda Ayala Center Cebu. In El Nido, a luxury holiday destination in the northern shores of Palawan, it is buying the Seda Lio, a 153-room beach resort.

The Seda Lio luxury resort in the northern shores of Palawan, the Philippines' last frontier.

"The assets being infused are a mix of offices, malls,

hotels and industrial—diversifying our asset base, reducing concentration risks on all fronts," Mills said. "By diversifying, we reduce geographic risk and lower tenant concentration risk." Shares of AREIT have climbed 30 percent since its market debut thanks to steady increases in earnings and dividend payouts.

Once the acquisitions are completed by the end of this year, Mills said, offices will account for 76 percent of AREIT's portfolio compared to 87 percent before. Although companies have adopted remote and hybrid work arrangements since the pandemic, demand for office space remains robust, Mills said, with the company signing more than 100,000 new tenancy agreements and re-letting leases for more than 80 percent of existing tenants in the past year.

"At the end of day, we can't work totally in isolation," said Mills, who also heads Ayala Land's office division. "As humans, we are social beings."

Occupancy across ALI and AREIT's portfolio of over 1.4

million square meters of gross floor area in Metro Manila and Cebu currently stands at 97 percent. Some properties like One Ayala—a newly-built mixed-use office, retail and hotel complex along Metro Manila's perennially grid-locked main highway—are fully occupied.

With the acquisition of Greenbelt 3 and 5 shopping malls in Makati, retail space will account for 11 percent of AREIT's portfolio compared to 8 percent before. Despite the increasing popularity of e-commerce and online shopping, Mills said, brick-and-mortar shopping is robust and retail tenants are benefiting. "Sales of many of our merchants are back to pre-pandemic levels or even higher," she said. "There's been revenue spending. There's an eagerness to go back to the malls. The malls are more than shopping. It's experiential."

To tap into a nascent tourism boom in the Philippines, AREIT is doubling its exposure in the hospitality sector to 6 percent of total assets

once the acquisitions of the Holiday Inn in Makati and Seda hotels in Palawan and Cebu are completed. "This is a very promising sector," Mills said. Domestic tourism has rebounded above pre-pandemic levels, while international arrivals have also increased.

With the acquisition of 276 hectares of land in Zamboanga, north of Manila, from a subsidiary of ACEN Corp, the renewable energy unit of Ayala Corp., AREIT's industrial properties will account for 7 percent of its portfolio, up from 2 percent. The land will be leased back to ACEN's Giga Ace 8, which is operating a solar farm on the site, for 25 years, providing AREIT guaranteed rental income.

With a net worth of \$2.8 billion, Jaime Zobel de Ayala, 89, was ranked the country's ninth-richest person when the list of the Philippines' 50 Richest was published last August. The family patriarch retired in 2006, and his eldest son Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, who had been the CEO of Ayala Corp. since 1994, succeeded him as chairman. Ayala Corp is among the archipelago's oldest conglomerates, which traces its roots to the Spanish colonial era. Besides real estate and power, it has interests in banking and telecommunications.

Forbes



Property of the week

Situated on Sam Nujoma Road in Dar es Salaam, the PSSF Tower stands tall as Tanzania's premier architectural marvel. Erected in 2019 by Estim, a renowned Tanzanian company, this towering complex boasts the distinction of being the tallest structure in the nation.

Rising majestically, the tower encompasses 35 floors dedicated to office and commercial use, complemented by a secondary 9-floor tower.

With ample parking facilities, the structure offers both convenience and functionality to its occupants.

At a soaring height of 160 meters, the PSSF Tower symbolizes the epitome of modernity and progress in Tanzania's skyline.

MAKING MONEY THROUGH REAL ESTATE BUSINESS

By Sunday Ndamugoba

Don't think I have ever told you about my "bathroom" story? To a limited number of people, yes I have, but maybe not you. Well let's just say it involves a washout one-bedroom house with a leaking bathtub, three university-aged tenants, three weeks of continuous use of that leaking bathtub, and my bad mistake of not employing the services of a plumber.

It was a low point in my investing career but a turning point as well. I realized the type of investor I wanted to be and the type of investor I did not want to be. I no longer work on bathrooms. I am glad to say the its been ages since then, but I still think of it when I hear people say, "I would never want to invest in real estate because I don't want to fix things like bathrooms, they cost a lot!" well it's a valid concern.

However, the truth is there are many, many ways to make money in real estate without needing to "play plumber." Today I want to talk about them.

In Tanzania alone, I know a number of wealthy people that have become rich through real estate. Well some it was more of a family thing but to others it was a hustle from the very beginning.

The problem for many is that investing in real estate demands a huge sum of money of which most don't have. Well the secret to making money in real estate as I have gathered from my research, talking with the key players and experience is finding the project you want and throw your body mind and soul into it.

There are simple ways well not that simple but doable ways to turn real estate into a money-making business.

Number one is the purchasing of land that does not yield any cash flow but if its improved can add value. Hence by doing that and subdividing it can bring profit upon sale. Also, the same land can be used for farming so as to get produce from the land of which can generate profit hence adding money for further investments.

The easiest of most used investment for first time investors is building "Single Family Homes" They are easy to rent, easy to sell, and easy to finance. They may be more difficult to cash flow, and can take a significant amount of time and effort to purchase just one unit.

In Tanzania we are not accustomed to the use of Mobile Homes, Mobile Toilets yes, but not homes. However, if one was to invest in these or have a yard of them or buy and sell them off it could serve a lot of housing problems and add profit.

you can buy land and have mobile homes on them that are full furnished and cheaper than building a house. A used one is far decent than a "used" house.

The other way is to buy a cheap house, fix it up, re-sell it. You are guaranteed to get a profit on this one as long as you can keep your renovation expenses at a low, value for money and DO IT YOURSELF if you can. Or you could buy a house hold it for a year or 5 or ten and sold it at a market value that is higher than it was before for it is bound to rise up unless there is a



crisis. But with the demand with housing in Tanzania, a profit is 80 percent guaranteed.

Well to make is more interesting you could in another alternative especially for beginners do a wholesale purchase. Wholesaling involves scouting your local area, finding great deals, putting those deals under contract to buy, and then "assigning" (selling) those deals to an investor for a fee.

One of my personal favorites, this incorporates finding the good deal and remodeling the home. Simply, a single-family home is purchased for a low price during a low market, remodeled to force appreciation, and held until the market improves and sold. This method seeks to maximize the rate of profit while limiting the risk.

There is also what is known as a car-

ry on mortgage where what happens is, if you have the cash, you can buy properties and then immediately re-sell them to buyers who may not be able to conventionally qualify for a mortgage. You can carry the mortgage for as long as you'd like, or sell the note for cash in the future. Make sure to collect a large down payment when using this method.

There is another Fun way of real estate purchase where without actually owning the property, lease-options allow a person to gain control of a property by leasing it with a legal "option" to purchase the property at a specified price within a specified time period. Often times these properties can be "re-sold" using another lease option and the investor simply makes money being the "middle man."

A rather interesting move which often works is if a seller owns a property free-and-clear (no mortgage), they often times will be willing to finance the sale themselves. This enables you to buy a property without the hassle and costs of going through a bank or other lending institution. This is often an excellent way to acquire larger apartment complexes or commercial buildings, as the owners may want to continue receiving an income but not want the hassle of dealing with tenants.

While there are many different strategies that you can employ to make money out of property, there are really only two real ways to make a profit: the first is from rental income, the second from capital growth. The first puts money directly in your pocket. If the rental income from a

property exceeds its costs, the remaining rent is the profit - these properties are known as cash flow positive. Cash flow positive properties usually have a gross rental yield of 9 percent or above.

The second way of making money relies on properties increasing in value. Property has historically increased in value, typically faster than inflation: you'll have already noticed this if you've bought your own home and sold it for a better price, making a profit. Most people fear of losing their money if they invest in the property industry, if you look at the experiences of the US and UK during the Global Financial Crisis.

However, the Tanzanian market is seen to be quite different from other markets, which is underpinning strong long-term growth. To keep up with the movements of the property market, you should aim to find time to log onto online property forums, sign up for electronic market updates and read magazines such as the Dar property magazine which feature in-depth reports about real estate developments, real estate deals and comprehensive suburb listings. The most current of property data is vital in your ability to pick a good bargain in a range of property markets.

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Why green real estate is the way forward

Singapore

Going green has gone from being a luxury option to a necessity for the global built environment sector today.

For cities around the world it has a key role to play in helping to cut their long-term carbon footprint. In Singapore, for example, the built environment is responsible for almost a quarter of our carbon emissions.

To reduce this, we need to change not just the way buildings are constructed and run but also the perception of sustainability.

In the early stages of Singapore's green building movement, green building practices were not perceived to offer any competitive advantage.

However, today, we are seeing a shift in mindset with green buildings now regarded as a form of value creation for developers.

Adding green building certifications such as Singapore's Building and Construction Authority's (BCA) Green Mark to a development's list of credentials can help boost the developer's corporate image and the prestige of such developments.

A green work in progress
Such moves are driving rapid change. Over the past decade, Singapore has greened almost one-third of its building stock including improving energy and water efficiency, using eco-friendly construction material and creating healthier indoor space.

It is well on track to achieving

the target of greening 80 percent of all the buildings by 2030 to meet the standards set by the BCA Green Mark certification process.

Other cities can learn from the initiatives used to make progress. The Singapore government, for example, offers incentives for higher green building ratings. One of the most popular for developers is to obtain up to 2 percent additional Gross Floor Area when they achieve higher Green Mark ratings for new developments.

For older buildings, BCA also provides support to building owners to co-fund up to 50 percent of the energy efficiency retrofit cost. We've seen that retrofitted commercial buildings can benefit from an increase in their capital value of about 2 percent.

This is proof that profit and eco-consciousness can go hand-in-hand for green real estate.

It's not just developers embracing sustainability; increasingly, green real estate is driven by tenants. Businesses which strongly advocate corporate social responsibility are increasingly expecting a better indoor environment, lower operating costs and enhanced market value for their spaces.

Once again, governments can help boost demand for sustainable buildings by extending green building certifications to tenants. In Singapore, the public sector champions this by leasing office spaces only from buildings which are at least certified Green Mark GoldPLUS. Public sector events are also required to be held in



Parkroyal, Pickering, Singapore. File Photo

Green Mark-certified venues.

Real estate intermediaries are also stepping up to meet such demands. Through green leases and green facilities management, they now offer prospective building tenants a way to differentiate themselves by making a positive commitment to the environment, without undermining the viability of their business.

However, there's a flipside to this as more buildings meet green standards, the additional value these currently provide is likely to decrease. To truly reflect the advantages offered by green buildings, more efforts by real estate appraisers will be required on

how best to capture the value of green attributes.

All of this is just the start of a long-term sustainability commitment. The next challenge for cities is to ensure that green building practices are self-sustaining. A critical factor is to have a business environment that values green spaces and the people who created them.

Regulation will have huge impact on the future of green real estate around the world. Following the Paris agreement which came into force on 4 November 2016, sustainability regulations will become even more relevant to global real estate investors. For example, in

the European Union, cities will be going beyond just greening buildings, to having net-zero buildings as a regulatory requirement.

Jurisdictions will also be created to mandate public disclosure of building energy use data, further intertwining energy use into decision-making on leasing and investment.

Stepping out of the "business as usual" approach may appear daunting, but with strong industry leadership and greater collaboration among all stakeholders, coupled with a forward-looking mandatory framework, the road to having "future-ready" green buildings and cities is a promising one.

Equans Regeneration quits new-build work over £136million loss

London

EQUANS Regeneration, a significant player in the construction industry, has made a strategic decision to exit the new-build housing market following a substantial financial setback. With a reported loss of £135.6 million for the year 2022, the company has undertaken a comprehensive reassessment of its operations and future direction.

This decision reflects the challenging economic landscape and underscores the importance of adaptability and prudent decision-making in navigating volatile markets.

The move by Equans Regeneration to withdraw from the new-build housing sector marks a significant shift in its business strategy. By reallocating resources and refocusing efforts on more profitable ventures, the company aims to mitigate further financial risks and position itself for sustainable growth in the long term.

While this decision may signal a shift in priorities, it also presents an opportunity for Equans Regeneration to streamline its operations and enhance its competitiveness in other areas of the construction industry.

In its first published accounts since being acquired by Bouygues in October 2022, the group admitted that higher turnover failed to prevent a plunge into the red in 2022 amid "particular pressure in the new-build sector".

The firm - ranked 23rd in the CNIOO 2023 list of top contractors based on its 2021 figures - saw revenue rise from £869.8m that year to £926m in the 12 months ending 31 December 2022.

But the cost of sales also soared from £811.2m to £981.2m, which played a major role in turning its £62.6m pre-tax profit in 2021 into a loss of £135.6m in 2022.

In his strategic report accompanying the latest accounts, Equans director Colin Macpherson revealed that the company decided to stop building new homes, apart from student homes, in October 2023.

Macpherson noted that 2022 saw "particular pressure in the new-build sector due to a combination of cost increases, supply-chain insolvency, legislative changes (particularly the impact of the Building Safety Act 2022) and unsustainably low levels of return across the industry".

He said the decision to quit new-build housing work was "in order to reposition our business and focus our construction activities exclusively within the student-accommodation market."

US multifamily construction seen declining in 2024

Las Vegas

ACCORDING to the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), Multifamily starts in the US are predicted to decline in 2024. Meanwhile, the remodeling sector remains on solid ground and will hold steady this year.

Multifamily starts totaled 472,000 units in 2023, down 14 percent compared to the previous year. NAHB is projecting that multifamily starts will fall 20 percent this year to a 379,000 total.

"Multifamily construction is forecasted to post a large decline in 2024 as the number of units currently under construc-



tion approximately 1 million is near the highest level since 1973," said Danushka Nanayakkara-Skillington, NAHB's assistant vice president for forecasting and analysis.

Nanayakkara-Skillington said this at a press conference held during the NAHB International Builders' Show in Las Vegas, adding: "Tight lending condi-

tions and the high cost of development loans continue to hinder additional multifamily housing production."

As these new apartment units come online, rent growth will slow, helping to ease inflation, noted Nanayakkara-Skillington. However, this new supply will chill the market before stabilizing in 2025. NAHB is forecasting

for 388,000 units in 2025.

In addition to tight lending conditions and the high cost of development loans, a shortage of skilled labor is another headwind facing the multifamily market, as well as the overall housing market. The industry is short more than 400,000 workers, and this challenge will grow worse as building rebounds.

"Attracting skilled labor will remain a key objective for construction firms in the coming years," said Nanayakkara-Skillington. "Efforts by the Home Builders Institute and state and local home builders' associations to promote workforce development are critically important to help address the

shortage of workers."

Meanwhile, residential remodeling activity is estimated to hold steady and remain flat in 2024 compared to 2023. Remodeling growth is expected to post a nominal 2 percent gain in 2025.

"While we may not see growth in the remodeling market this year, it still remains on solid ground," said Eric Lynch, an economist with NAHB.

"Many demand-side factors, including the low inventory of homes on the market, aging housing stock and growing equity owners have in their homes, continue to support remodeling demand," he added.

CONSTRUCTION

IN TANZANIA: WHERE DOES THE LINE LIE? EXPLORING THE DEPTHS OF CRIMINAL TRESPASS

By Guardian Reporter

Respect for private property rights is a fundamental aspect of law and order in any society, including Tanzania, whereby entering someone's property without permission not only violates the law but also undermines the sense of security and autonomy that property owners deserve.

In a recent publication by ABC Attorneys, criminal trespassing is defined as the act of being on someone else's property without lawful permission. However, the legal nuances of this offense extend beyond mere presence on restricted premises.

According to Tanzanian law, criminal trespassing encompasses entering or remaining on property belonging to another individual with the intent to commit an offense, or to intimidate, insult, or annoy the lawful occupant of the property.

This broader interpretation underscores the gravity of the offense and emphasizes the importance of respecting property rights and personal boundaries in Tanzanian society.

Section 299 of the penal code, [CAP. 16 R.E. 2022] provides for the criminal trespass in Tanzania and defines the same to mean unlawfully entrance into or upon property in the possession of another with intent to commit an offense or to intimidate, insult or annoy any person in possession of the property.

Criminal trespass goes further to the having lawfully entered into or upon the property and unlawfully remains with intent thereby to intimidate, insult or annoy the person in possession of the property or with intent to commit an offence.



A person who commits this type of offence is guilty of "criminal trespass" as an offence and becomes liable to imprisonment for three months, and where the property upon which the offence is committed is any building, tent or vessel used as a human dwelling or any building used as a place of worship or as a place for the custody of property, the offender is liable to imprisonment for one year.

The article portrays typical elements of the criminal trespass are as follows:

Intent, which means intentionally entering or remaining on someone else's property without authorization.

To be deemed guilty of criminal trespass, an individual must knowingly enter or remain on property without lawful permission.

Accidental trespassing, such as inadvertently wandering onto someone's land while hiking, typically does not meet the criteria for criminal trespass.

Additionally, establishing criminal trespass often requires evidence of prior warning indicating that entry onto the property is prohibited before a conviction can be secured.

While property owners can directly instruct trespassers to vacate the premises, various methods can serve as alternative forms of notice that the property is off-limits, especially in states where specific warnings are legally required.

These methods may include prominently displayed signs stating "No Trespassing," the installation of fencing around the property, or securing entry points with locks. Such measures help reinforce property boundaries and inform individuals of the consequences of unauthorized entry.

Furthermore, the ABC Attorney elucidated in the article that the legal principle extends to public places, wherein individuals may still be found guilty of trespassing even if initially permitted

entry to an area accessible to the public, such as a store or park.

However, remaining on the premises after closing hours or disregarding orders to depart can lead to charges of criminal trespass, emphasizing the importance of respecting property regulations and lawful directives to maintain order and safety in public spaces.

Offense amounting to criminal trespass

According to ABC Attorney, in Tanzania, specific acts amount to criminal trespass though many states have a general description of trespassing and outline specific acts that count as the crime.

House breaking

In Tanzania, Criminal trespass is related to house breaking and burglary but is generally considered to be a less serious crime. It's often a misdemeanor or an infraction.

Section 294 of the penal code provides that, a person who breaks and enters any building, tent or vessel used as a human dwelling with intent to commit an offence therein; or having entered any building, tent or vessel used as a human dwelling with intent to commit an offence is guilty of housebreaking and is liable to imprisonment for fourteen years.

When the same offence is committed in the night it amounts to burglary and the offender is liable to imprisonment for twenty years.

The penal code delineates additional offenses constituting criminal trespass in Tanzania. Section 295 of the penal code addresses the act of entering or occupying any building, tent, or vessel used as a human dwelling with the intent to commit an offense therein. This offense car-

ries a penalty of imprisonment for ten years, with an extended term of fourteen years if committed during the night.

Similarly, Section 296 of the penal code encompasses offenses akin to house-breaking and burglary, such as breaking and entering various premises including schoolhouses, shops, warehouses, and places of worship, with the intent to commit an offense therein. Individuals found guilty under this provision face a sentence of ten years' imprisonment.

Moreover, Section 297 of the penal code details another offense akin to criminal trespass, wherein individuals unlawfully break and enter various premises listed under Section 296 with the intent to commit an offense. This offense carries a more severe penalty of imprisonment for fourteen years. These legal provisions underscore the seriousness with which Tanzanian law addresses violations of property rights and the safety and security of dwellings and commercial establishments.

Conclusively, in addition to criminal charges amounting to the criminal trespass in Tanzania, a trespasser can also face civil liabilities as governed by the civil procedure code, CAP 33 R.E.2022. This is because that "trespass" is a violation of someone's property rights, thus a property owner can sue a trespasser for money, even if the trespasser didn't cause any harm.

(If the trespasser's presence didn't hurt anyone or damage property, though, the plaintiff will likely only be able to recover nominal damages.) Property owners can sometimes sue not only for money, but also for an order putting a stop to a continuing trespass.

British investor creates \$46 million penthouse paradise in Zanzibar, bringing Manhattan-style luxury to East Africa

RICHARD Ashby is building Shivo Towers the island's first portered luxury apartments with room service from a high-end restaurant, huge communal pool, spa, gym, co-working space and vast manicured tropical gardens on a beachside plot in Paje.

Ashby left London for the Indian Ocean holiday hotspot to escape Covid restrictions four years ago - and this is his second real estate project.

Investors can make a 66 percent return in the booming winter sun destination which is a third of the price of Dubai or the Caribbean and has been dubbed 'the new Maldives'.

Ashby, founder and CEO of Shivo Tanzania, said: "This is a new landmark for Zanzibar - world class penthouse living coming to the island for the first time. This is Manhattan-style luxury in East Africa.

"The development embodies Italian contemporary design while taking inspiration from the natural world and the surrounding landscape of Zanzibar."



Shivo Towers side-by-side being created by investor and resident Richard Ashby in Paje, Zanzibar

The two towers will have four penthouses, each with an asking price of \$2 million, but there will also be more affordable entry-level studio suites starting at \$120,000.

Shivo Towers has been designed by the renowned Italian architectural firm Much More,

based in Dubai, London and Milan and led by director Christian Bonu.

Holiday real estate in Zanzibar is booming and land prices have exploded since foreigners were allowed to register deeds in their own name in 2018. The Daily Telegraph in London has reported that investors can

make a 66% return on holiday property investments.

Thousands of tourists flocked to the island during the Covid pandemic to escape restrictions and fell in love with its low-crime, carefree lifestyle. Tanzania was one of the few places on the planet not to go into full lockdown or force visitors to wear a mask.

Its late president John Magufuli, who had a PhD in chemistry, chose to follow established pandemic protocols and keep the economy open. It was this freedom that brought Ashby, an off plan estate agent dealing in luxury apartments next to the Thames in London, to the island in 2020.

Rather than return to Europe when lockdown ended, he helped to create a \$24 million private estate of villas in Nungwi and Paje which have largely been sold.

For the second project of his company, Shivo SMC Private Limited, he decided to go even more upmarket - bringing the very finest European design quality to East Africa.

The two 49-metre towers provide soaring eight-metre high apartment levels ceilings, giving every owner the feeling of living in their own vast, airy penthouse.

There will be 105 units for sale at a total cost of more than \$46 million. Ashby added: "We are taking luxury real estate to the next level in Zanzibar - nothing like this has been tried on the island before.

"With investment coming into the island at record levels, tourists and investors are looking for a new gold standard in off-plan luxury living.

"For the first time I can deliver the primary flagship standard of luxury build quality in Tanzania - similar to the riverside apartments that I grew up selling in Westminster in central London.

"Investors will get vast vaulted open mezzanine floors, creating the luxurious penthouse feel you get in the best penthouses overlooking Central Park in Manhattan but right next to the turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean."



Frank Mwit, board member at Kenya Green Building Society, addresses a conference on financing green affordable housing at a Nairobi hotel. File Photo: The Star

Kenya hosts conference meant to unlock green affordable housing

Nairobi

NAIROBI has played host to an inaugural conference seeking to unlock financing for green affordable housing in the East Africa region.

The conference dubbed "A Call to Action: Unlocking financing opportunities for green affordable housing for the Kenyan Market", attracted stakeholders from across the continent.

The Kenya Green Building Society - a membership-based society formed to advocate for green building - in partnership with Reall - an investor and innovator in affordable housing in Africa and Asia organised the event.

Participants included the International Finance Corporation, Centre for Affordable Housing, Reall, the Architectural Association of Kenya, Kenya Property Developers Association, and Kenya Bankers Association among others.

The green affordable housing market globally, is beginning to attract and gain attention for its critical role in addressing climate change.

A green home is a type of house designed to be environmentally sustainable. Green homes focus on the efficient use of "energy, water, and building materials."

A green home may use sustainably sourced, environmentally friendly, and/or recycled building materials.

Agencies

Smart buildings market to soar to \$176.9 bln by 2030, driven by a surge in services and solutions

Dublin

AMID the rapid advancements in technology and ever-increasing demand for efficiency, the global market for Smart Buildings is on an unprecedented growth trajectory.

According to a strategic business report recently added to a leading market research archive, by the year 2030, the market is

expected to reach a staggering US\$176.9 billion.

This comprehensive report analyzes the market's trajectory over the analysis period of 2022 to 2030 and provides valuable insights into the key segments propelling this growth.

Notably, the Solutions segment is poised to achieve a CAGR of 10.7 percent, amassing a projected US\$98 billion by the

conclusion of the analysis timeframe.

Parallely, the report estimates the Services segment to expand at an impressive 12.7 percent CAGR over the next eight years.

In a geographical context, the US Smart Buildings market is currently valued at US\$22.2 billion while China, with its robust economic rise, is anticipated to witness a 13.6

percent CAGR, culminating in a US\$28.8 billion market size by 2030.

Other regions, including Japan and Canada, are also set to experience healthy growth rates, alongside Germany which is projected to grow at an 11.1 percent CAGR within Europe.

The report delves deep into the global economic forecast, highlighting signs of recovery and growth.

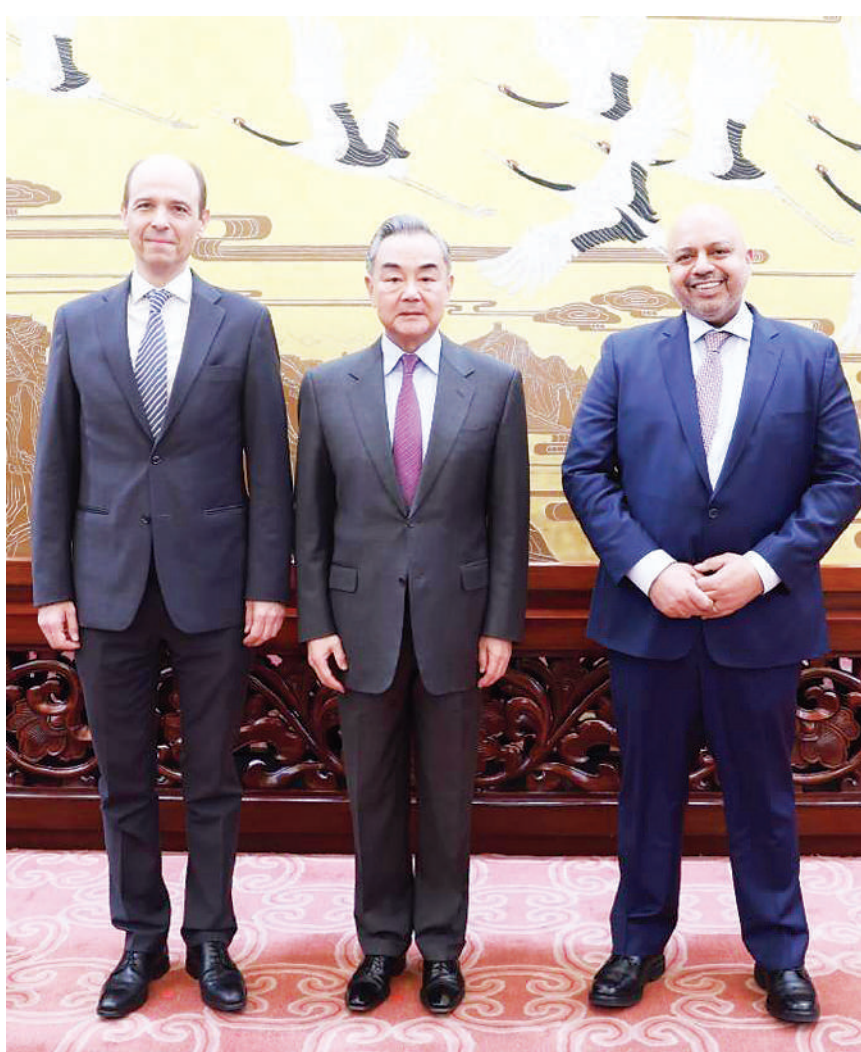


Smart Buildings Market

Despite challenges such as geopolitical tensions, fluctuating inflation, and heightened regulatory pressures, the economic landscape is showing resilience.

Significant growth in technologies such as AI, machine learning, cloud computing, and renewable energy is expected to drive substantial growth and contribute to the global GDP, presenting a mixed bag of opportunities and challenges for consumers and investors alike.

WORLD



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi (C) meets with Tareq M. A. M. Albanai (right) and Alexander Marschik, co-chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Reform of the 78th Session of the UN General Assembly, in Beijing on Wednesday. XINHUA

Wang meets co-chairs of negotiations on UNSC reform

BEIJING

CHINESE Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with Tareq M. A. M. Albanai and Alexander Marschik, co-chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Reform of the 78th Session of the UN General Assembly, in Beijing on Wednesday.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, said that as the first founding member to have signed the UN Charter and a permanent member of the UNSC, China has always firmly upheld the authority of the UN and supported the central role of the UN in international affairs.

In a world that is undergoing both transformation and upheaval, countries expect the UN to effectively play a leading role in addressing global challenges and the Security Council to shoulder the

important responsibility of maintaining international peace and security entrusted to it by the UN Charter, said Wang.

Wang added that China supports the steady progress of Security Council reform in the right direction, increasing the representation and voice of developing countries, giving more small and medium-sized countries the opportunity to participate in decision-making, and enabling all member states to benefit from the reform.

It is necessary to put the solidarity and cooperation of the international community in an important position and seek the broadest consensus of the international community, Wang said.

Albanai and Marschik, who are permanent representatives to the UN of Kuwait and Austria, expressed their appreciation for China in strengthening the role of the UN and upholding multilateralism and safeguarding the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, adding that they are willing to maintain communication and consultation with China and other member states regarding the reform of the Security Council. Xinhua

'Mob rule' replacing democracy in Britain, warns UK PM Sunak

LONDON

BRITAIN is descending into "mob rule" and police will do more to protect the country's democracy, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said on Wednesday, after the government announced extra funding to keep lawmakers safe.

Many British lawmakers have said the abuse directed at them has become more intense since the Oct 7 Hamas attack on Israel that sparked the war in Gaza, with some fearing for their safety if they air their views on the conflict.

Last week parliament descended into chaos as tensions flared over a vote on Gaza, with the House of Commons speaker citing "frightening" threats against lawmakers for a decision to break with usual parliamentary procedure.

"There is a growing consensus that mob rule is replacing democratic rule. And we've got



to collectively, all of us, change that urgently," Sunak said at a meeting with police chiefs on Wednesday, according to remarks released by his office.

"We simply cannot allow this pattern of increasingly violent and intimidatory behavior which is, as far as anyone can see, intended to shout down free debate and stop elected representatives from doing their job. That is simply undemocratic."

Earlier, the interior ministry announced funding worth 31 million pounds (\$39 million) to provide additional security for lawmakers and other officials.

Sunak said a new Democratic Policing Protocol would commit to extra patrols and make clear that protests at the homes of elected representatives should be treated as intimidatory.

It also makes clear that from now on police should take a "consistent and robust approach ... to protect our democratic processes from intimidation, disruption, from subversion", he said. Agencies



Putin sets Russia's priorities in science and technologies for 10 years - decree

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has set the priorities of the country's scientific and technological development for the next ten years.

These include "areas that make it possible to obtain significant scientific and scientific-technical results, to create domestic high-tech technologies," according to the decree of the head of state. There are nine reference points in the document.

- Creation of high-tech products, new materials and chemical compounds, development of machine learning and artificial intelligence technologies.

- Environmentally friendly and resource-saving energy, growing efficiency of hydrocarbon production and processing, the formation of new energy sources, as well as technologies of its transmission and storage.

- Transition to personalized, predictive and preventive, high-tech medicine, including through the rational use of medicaments (primarily antibacterial) and the use of genetic data and technologies.

- Highly productive and environmentally friendly agricultural and aquatic farming, creation of safe and high-quality food products.

- Counteracting man-made, biogenic, sociocultural threats, terrorism and extremism, destructive foreign information and psychological influence, as well as cyber threats and other sources of danger to society, the economy and the state, strengthening the country's defense capability and national security in the face of growing hybrid threats.

- Increasing the connectivity of the Russian territory through the creation of intelligent transport, energy and telecommunication systems. Leadership in the formation of international transport and logistics routes, the development and use of outer and air space, the World Ocean, the Arctic and Antarctic.

- An effective response of Russian society to great challenges, taking into account the growing relevance of synthetic scientific disciplines created at the intersection of psychology, sociology, political science, history and scientific research related to the ethical aspects of scientific and technological development, changes in social, political and economic relations.

- Objective assessment of emissions and absorption of climate-active substances, reducing their negative impact on the environment, increasing the possibility of high-quality adaptation of ecosystems, populations and economic sectors to climate change.

- Development of nature-like technologies that reproduce systems and processes of living nature in the form of technical systems and processes integrated into the natural environment and natural resource circulation.

The abovementioned priorities are part of the Strategy for Scientific and Technological Development of the Russian Federation, approved by the President.

Trump is disqualified from Illinois ballot, judge rules

AN Illinois state judge on Wednesday barred Donald Trump from appearing on the Illinois' Republican presidential primary ballot because of his role in the insurrection at the US Capitol on Jan 6, 2021, but she delayed her ruling from taking effect in light of an expected appeal by the former US president.

Cook County Circuit Judge Tracie Porter sided with Illinois voters who argued that the former president should be disqualified from the state's March 19 primary ballot and its Nov 5 general election ballot for violating the anti-insurrection clause of the US Constitution's 14th Amendment.

The final outcome of the Illinois case and similar challenges will likely be decided by the US Supreme Court, which heard arguments related to Trump's ballot eligibility on Feb 8.

Porter said she was staying her decision because she expected his appeal to Illinois' appellate courts, and a potential ruling from the US Supreme Court.

The advocacy group Free Speech For People, which spearheaded the Illinois disqualification effort, praised the ruling as a "historic victory" in a statement.

A campaign spokesperson for Trump, the national



Republican presidential candidate former President Donald Trump pumps his fist as he departs after speaking during the Conservative Political Action Conference, CPAC 2024, in Oxon Hill, Maryland, Feb 24, 2024. AP

frontrunner for the 2024 Republican nomination, said in a statement this "is an unconstitutional ruling that we will quickly appeal."

Colorado and Maine earlier removed Trump from their state ballots after determining he is disqualified under Section 3 of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. Both decisions are on hold while Trump appeals.

Section 3 bars from public office anyone who took an oath to support the US Constitution and then has "engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof."

Trump supporters on Jan 6, 2021, attacked police and swarmed the

Capitol in a bid to prevent Congress from certifying Democrat Joe Biden's 2020 election victory. Trump gave an incendiary speech to supporters beforehand, telling them to go to the Capitol and "fight like hell". He then for hours did not act on requests that he urge the mob to stop.

The Supreme Court is currently weighing Trump's challenge to his Colorado disqualification. The justices in Washington appeared skeptical of the decision during oral arguments in the case, expressing concerns about states taking sweeping actions that could affect the national election. Agencies

Xi calls for solid actions on Chinese modernization

BEIJING

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping has called on officials at all levels to foster a Marxist style of learning to integrate theory with practice, thereby contributing to advancing Chinese modernization with solid actions.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks in the preface he wrote to the reading materials for the sixth group of trainee officials.

Noting that Chinese modernization opens

a new path for humanity toward modernization and creates a new form of human advancement, Xi said it is both a glorious historical mission and a severe realistic test for the Party.

Xi underlined efforts to truly master the key skills of Marxism and to ensure political unity and unity in action with a high-level unity in thinking.



He also urged comprehensively enhancing the officials' political competence as well as their leadership caliber and working ability in line with the advancement of Chinese modernization.

The purpose of learning the Party's theoretical innovations is to apply them to practice, Xi noted. Xi further emphasized the necessity for officials at all levels to maintain their focus on addressing obstacles hindering high-quality development, addressing issues drawing public grievances, and resolving prominent problems in the process of Party building.

"Efforts should be made to effectively pre-

vent and diffuse major risks and work in innovative ways, thus transforming the blueprint mapped out at the 20th CPC National Congress into reality," Xi said.

The reading materials for the sixth group of trainee officials, currently awaiting publication, consist of nine publications. Among them, four books are intended for theoretical study, while five focus on selected cases concerning the promotion and expansion of Chinese modernization. These cases span a range of topics, including the economy, education, rule of law, culture, and national security. Xinhua

Under leadership of PM Modi, India showed world - EAM Jaishankar

HUBLI

COMING out in wholesome praise of Prime Minister Modi's leadership and is outreach towards India's global partners in times of distress, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday said New Delhi demonstrated to the world that it could not only look after itself but could also 'save the world' in times of need.

Speaking at an event at Hubli in Congress-ruled Karnata

taka on Wednesday, Jaishankar (pictured) said at a time when the world was worried about India's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the country stood up as a provider for the globe and shipped vaccines and other life-saving drugs to 100 countries.

"India, which the world was worried about, gave vaccines to 100 other countries," the EAM said at the event.

As he got up to speak, the EAM highlighted how the en-

tire world feared that India might bear the brunt of the pandemic but that did not happen.

"When the Covid pandemic arrived, the world assumed that the country that would suffer the most would be India. The reason for this is that we have a huge population. People thought that we were not capable enough. We had fewer doctors. Leave alone the vaccines, even the masks were not manufactured here. There was



a shortage of ventilators."

"But under the leadership

of PM Modi, India showed the world that it could not only look after itself, but it could also save the world," he added.

Also speaking highly of India's growth story, the External Affairs Minister said, "Today, India is confident. It does not leave its citizens alone when they are stuck in a crisis in another country."

"I was in South Africa with PM Modi in September. Everyone was worried about the landing of the Chandrayaan 3...

The BRICS conference was ongoing, but everyone was worried about the landing. When the landing was successful, all the 50-60 presidents and prime ministers felt that India's achievement belonged to them too... Today, India is confident. It does not leave its citizens alone when they are stuck in a crisis in another country..." Jaishankar added.

Calling India the "most digital society in the world", the EAM said, "Earlier, we brought

2G, 3G, and 4G from China. But now, the 5G has been made in our country. We have become the most digital society in the world."

"The world wants India to be successful..." he added.

Recently, Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said at event the government's goal is to make India a developed nation by 2047 and that all efforts were being made in that direction.

ANI

Crops wither in Zimbabwe as dry spell bites

BEATRICE

HOLDING hands behind her back, Jane Chari looked at her wilting maize crop in a parched field in Beatrice, about 40 km to the southwest of Harare, Zimbabwe's capital.

The 64-year-old grandmother's hope for a harvest is now all but evaporated in the arid air. "It's so painful that I cannot sleep, worrying how I will feed my grandchildren," Chari said.

A dry spell has persisted in Zimbabwe for close to a month, hurting the maize crop, her only source of livelihood. "I have never seen this level of wilting. I cannot even think of how we are going to survive," Chari said. "We are totally clueless." Erina Mazwi, another farmer from the same area, said groundwater is drying up, and it is now very difficult to get water from wells.

"I was expecting a bumper harvest, but the dry spell changed all that," she said. "It is just painful. Sometimes I wonder how I am going to feed the family." Maize, Zimbabwe's main staple crop, does not take droughts kindly.

Due to a lack of access to irrigation facilities, small-scale farmers like Chari and Mazwi are at the mercy of the increasingly unpredictable weather.

The meteorological services have warned of below-normal rainfall due to the impact of El Nino, a phenomenon that warms parts of the Pacific,



Farmer Farai Mawarire holds a wilting maize plant at his farm in Beatrice, about 40 km to the southwest of Harare, Zimbabwe, on Tuesday. Xinhua

affecting weather patterns.

Zimbabwe's main rainfall season normally runs from October to March, but due to El Nino, it was delayed by about five weeks, subjecting early planted crops to moisture stress.

The situation was further exacerbated by the ongoing dry spell. The World Food Program (WFP) warned last Tuesday that more people in Zimbabwe will likely require emergency food aid during the lean season when rural households face grain shortages while waiting for the harvest.

The government, in its latest livelihood

assessment, said about 2.7 million people in rural areas, out of the country's total population of 16 million, face food insecurity in the current lean season, which typically starts in October and reaches its peak between January and March.

Farai Mawarire, another farmer from Beatrice, said the dry spell caught many farmers unprepared, adding that farmers need to consider drought-resistant crops such as traditional small grains. "In the previous years, we would harvest with no challenges, so we never considered drought-resistant crops such as millet or sorghum. We

have learned a lesson, and in the following seasons we will adopt drought-resistant crops," he told Xinhua.

While Mawarire's maize crop is now a write-off, his fallback is on groundnuts. "Of all the crops that we cultivated, only groundnuts are promising," he said. "If we receive rains, even once, they will mature. That's our only hope for a harvest."

Meanwhile, Gilbert Mukatyei, another farmer, confronted the drought with climate-smart agricultural practices such as deep plowing, mulching and adopting early maturing crop varieties.

"Besides the deep plowing, we are also applying manure. We are also irrigating, and we are going to increase the number of boreholes this year. We also want to go solar (as a power source for irrigation)," he told Xinhua.

"We have plenty of sunshine here. We need to make use of it." The effects of the drought are being felt in other sectors of Zimbabwe's economy as well. Tobacco, one of the highest foreign currency earners for the country, has also been affected by the dry spell, and slightly reduced yields are expected.

The tourism sector has not been spared either. At least 100 elephants died in Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe's largest game reserve, due to the drought late last year, according to the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube has projected that Zimbabwe's 2024 economic growth rate will slow to 3.5 percent, down from 5.3 percent in 2023, partly due to the expected impact of El Nino.

Xinhua

'Claims about Russian calls for coup d'etat in Armenia baseless'

MOSCOW

REMARKS by Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan about Russia purportedly calling for a coup d'etat in the republic are absolutely unfounded, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said at a briefing.

"The grievances by Armenian prime minister that you mentioned are absolutely baseless," the diplomat said addressing a reporter. "Russian officials have never allowed for even a hint of calling for overthrowing legitimately elected authorities anywhere at all," she added.

The diplomat said that the Russian side is using the same approach "both with regard to the current authorities in Yerevan and the previous authorities in Yerevan and in general, with regard to any sovereign country."

"A logical question emerges - those who are in power in Yerevan now, do they follow the same logic with regard to other countries or their own domestic political process? It seems to me that it's a good idea to discuss the subject, we all remember recent history, something that happened a couple of years ago," the diplomat concluded.

Earlier, Pashinyan in an interview with France 24, claimed that in the fall of last year, Russian officials called to overthrow government authorities in Armenia.

Agencies



Prince Harry loses court battle over loss of security protection, plans to challenge decision

LONDON

PRINCE Harry faced a legal setback as he lost a court challenge against the UK government's decision to withdraw taxpayer-funded protection after stepping back from royal duties, CNN reported.

The legal action against the Home Office commenced in February 2020, when it was

determined that Prince Harry would no longer receive the "same degree" of protection while in the country.

In December, during the court hearing, Harry's lawyers argued that the decision singled him out and treated him less favourably, CNN reported, citing British news agency PA Media.

According to the news agency, the lawyers

also emphasised the failure to consider the potential impact on the UK's reputation in case of a successful attack on Harry, who has been residing in California with his wife Meghan since July 2020. However, the court ruled that the decision



was justified and devoid of procedural unfairness. Despite the setback, Prince Harry's legal spokesperson confirmed his intention to appeal.

"The Duke is not asking for preferential treatment, but for a fair and lawful application of RAVEC's own rules, ensuring that he receives the same consideration as others in accordance with RAVEC's own written poli-

cy," the spokesperson told CNN, referring to the body that arranges security for the royals.

Following the ruling, a Home Office spokesperson told CNN: "We are pleased that the Court has found in favour of the Government's position in this case, and we are carefully considering our next steps. It would be inappropriate to comment further. **ANI**

India, US review counter-terrorism cooperation, reaffirm commitment to boost people-to-people ties

NEW DELHI

INDIA and the United States on Wednesday reviewed ongoing cooperation in counter-terrorism and security domains in a day-long Homeland Security Dialogue (HSD), discussing steps to bolster bilateral efforts to combat terrorism and reaffirming their commitment to strengthen the vibrant people-to-people ties between the two countries, by taking steps to enable safe and legal migration.

The India-US Senior Officials' Homeland Security Dialogue (HSD) was held here in New Delhi.

Ajay Bhalla, Home Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and Kristie Cane-gallo, Acting Deputy Secretary, US Department of Homeland Security, led the respective delegations.

"During the dialogue, both sides reviewed ongoing cooperation in counter-terrorism and security domains, which has been a key pillar of the India-US strategic partnership," the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said in a statement.

In this context, the MHA statement mentioned, "They (the officials) discussed steps that can be taken to bolster bilateral efforts to combat terrorism and violent extremism, drug trafficking, organised crime and ensure transportation security."

"They also reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the vibrant people-to-people ties between the two countries, by taking steps to enable safe and legal migration, counter illegal migration, human trafficking, money laundering, cybercrimes, and misuse of the cyber domain for illegal activities, including terror financing," it stated.

The co-chairs reiterated their keen interest in consolidating the mutually beneficial collaboration between the respective law enforcement agencies through the exchange of information, capacity building, technical assistance and regular meetings of sub-groups set up under the framework of the Homeland Security Dialogue.

ANI

Palestinian president urges Arab League's push for obtaining UN full membership

CAIRO

PALESTINIAN President Mahmoud Abbas on Wednesday called on the Arab League (AL) to support Palestine in obtaining full membership in the United Nations (UN), the AL statement said.

The Palestinians currently have non-member observer state status at the UN. AL's Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit received a written message from Abbas, calling for an international conference to adopt a comprehensive peace plan with international guarantees and a timeline for the implementation of ending the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories.

The Palestinian president voiced "categorical Palestinian rejection" of the Israeli prime minister's post-war plan for Gaza.

On Feb. 23, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu presented his first official "day after" plan for the Gaza Strip once the war ends, saying Israel will keep security control over Palestinian areas and make reconstruction based on de-



Children sit among the rubble in Gaza City, on Tuesday. The Palestinian death toll in the Gaza Strip has risen to 29,954 as the Israeli military killed 76 in the past 24 hours, the Hamas-run Health Ministry said Wednesday. Xinhua

militarization.

Abbas warned about the danger of the plan's principles, especially in terms of denying the existence of the Palestinian people and insisting on imposing Israeli sover-

eignty over the entire land extending from the Mediterranean to the Jordan River.

The plan showed the intentions of the Israeli government to re-colonize the Gaza Strip and entrench

the occupation in the West Bank and East Jerusalem through building thousands of settlement units, Abbas said.

"The Palestinian Authority is ready to take necessary steps to assume governance responsibilities in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem," Abbas said in his message.

He urged the AL to continue working to achieve a ceasefire, the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip, the delivery of humanitarian aid, and the return of the displaced to their homes in the north of the territory.

Meanwhile, Aboul Gheit reaffirmed his commitment to working to achieve the objectives outlined in Abbas's letter, especially an immediate cessation of hostilities, the urgent and sustainable delivery of aid, and a firm rejection of the plan for displacement.

"Halting the brutal war remains a top priority for the AL and its member states," Aboul Gheit reiterated.

Xinhua

China makes breakthrough in brain-computer interface technology

YANG, wearing an air-filled glove on his right hand, firmly held a cup, lifted it, took a sip and put it back down. This simple action, which most people take for granted, is a miraculous feat for Yang, as he has been bedridden for 14 years due to a car accident that left him paralyzed.

The technology that enabled him to go from paralysis to being able to "drink water with his mind" is called brain-computer interface (BCI) technology.

On Jan. 29, Professor Zhao Guoguang's team from Xuanwu Hospital affiliated to Capital Medical University and Professor Hong Bo's team from the School of Medicine, Tsinghua University announced a groundbreaking advancement in the treatment of quadriplegia caused by cervical spinal cord injury using an implanted BCI with epi-

dural electrode. The patient in this case was exactly Yang, who underwent the BCI surgery in October last year.

BCI typically refers to the use of devices to capture electrical activity inside the brain and create a direct communication pathway, allowing signals to connect the brain with a computer and thus enabling "mind control of computers."

Technically, to make Yang's right hand move again despite his quadriplegia, it takes a three-step process.

The first step was to find a suitable "landing point" for the BCI processor.

On Oct. 24, 2023, the two teams successfully completed the first clinical implantation trial of a wireless BCI processor called Neural Electronic Opportunity (NEO).

Specifically, two coin-sized BCI processors were implanted into Yang's skull by a neuro-

surgeon, enabling the successful collection of neural signals from the motor cortex.

"These two processors each have four contact points, totaling eight, placed on the motor cortex of Yang's brain that controls his right hand," said Zhao.

"How did we locate this area? Before the surgery, we used functional magnetic resonance imaging to determine the activation area of the brain, which allowed us to find it," he explained.

This was not easy at all. Zhao gave an analogy, saying, "It's like walking into a soccer stadium with 30,000 to 40,000 spectators all cheering at the same time, and we have to detect what two people in the 80th row of the south stand are saying. Moreover, the brain has not just thousands, but millions of cells, so you can imagine the difficulty."

In the second step, after the area was determined, the appropriate technique was chosen to implant the device into the brain.

How was the BCI processor implanted? The Chinese teams achieved two major breakthroughs in wireless minimally invasive procedures.

On one hand, they implanted the NEO within the skull, with the electrodes covering the outer layer of the dura mater, ensuring the quality of intracranial signals without damaging the neural tissues. On the other hand, they utilized near-field wireless power supply and signal transmission, eliminating the need for batteries in the implanted intracranial device.

The third step was to "decode" the brain signals into computer language.

Ten days after a successful

surgery, Yang was discharged from the hospital and returned home. When using the system at home, the external device needed to be placed over the scalp to provide power to the implanted device and receive the neural signals from the brain. These signals were then transmitted to a computer or smart phone, ultimately enabling communication through the BCI.

"We encountered countless millisecond-level electrical signals, and without analyzing them, we would have no idea what they represented. Therefore, decoding is crucial," said Zhao.

"What do we decode them into? We decode them into a code that computers understand, which is 0 and 1. Once decoded, they could be transformed into various real-life scenarios, such as controlling an air-filled glove to grasp

objects, operating an electric wheelchair, or even turning on and off a television. All these actions can be controlled through the power of thought," Zhao explained.

After three months of rehabilitation at home, Yang is now able to use his brain activity to control the air-filled glove, which enables him to independently drink water and make other movements. Moreover, his accuracy in grasping objects has exceeded 90 percent.

"We are especially grateful to Yang, who was the first to try this groundbreaking technology. It demonstrated his strong vitality and desire for recovery," said Zhao.

"Thanks to the BCI technology, Yang has shown significant improvement within three months. This is not only inspiring for patients and their families, but also for medical

staff, engineering technicians, and equipment manufacturers, motivating us to explore more unknown territories," Zhao told People's Daily.

The concept of BCI has been around for 50 years. In recent years, research in this field has become a hot pursuit for countries worldwide.

The future applications of BCI technology are incredibly diverse. By recording and interpreting brain signals, it enables direct communication between the brain and computers. This technology not only holds the potential to aid in the rehabilitation of patients with brain disorders such as ALS, spinal cord injuries, and epilepsy, but also has the possibility to achieve brain-computer fusion intelligence and expand the capabilities of human brain in information processing.

People's Daily



The 7 Elite Academy's players (in red jerseys) face Las Vegas Center in a junior soccer competition, termed 'Busti Kipaji', at Mabibo venue in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

AFCON referees to officiate CAF CL deciders for Simba SC, Yanga

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE Confederation of African Football (CAF) has appointed West African referees to officiate the decisive fixtures involving Tanzania envoys in the ongoing CAF Champions League- Simba SC and Yanga.

The squads are set to take part in their respective final group games slated for Friday and Saturday.

The Group D match between Al Ahly and Yanga will be officiated by referee Djindo Hounngandande from Benin, while the Group B game between Simba SC and Jwaneng Galaxy will be under the supervision of referee Daniel Nii Laryea from Ghana.

Hounngandande is remembered by Yanga for officiating the outfit's away match in the 2022-23 CAF Confederation Cup against US Monastir in December 2022, which climaxed with the hosts cruising to a 2-0 victory.

He also refereed in the 2023 African Cup of Nations game between Zambia and Tanzania in Ivory Coast, which ended in a 1-1 draw.

As for Laryea, he is familiar with officiating Simba SC games as he refereed Simba SC's away match against RS Berkane in the CAF Confederation Cup, in which Simba SC lost 2-0.

The referee moreover officiated in the 2023 AFCON tie between Tunisia and Mali.

The two referees have also had a habit of not tolerating risky fouls and acts of misconduct.

When such fouls happen, the referees hardly hesitate to show cards to the players who committed them.

Laryea, aged 36, has in the 21 Africa inter-club tournaments matches he officiated- issued 79 cards, of which three are red and 76 are yellow.

As for Hounngandande, also aged 36, he has officiated a total of 14 matches in African inter-club competitions whereby he has shown 59 cards, two of which are red and 57 are yellow.

Yanga, which has already qualified for the quarterfinals, needs to win to clinch Group D's top spot so it can lock horns with any of the other groups' second-placed teams in the quarterfinals.

Simba SC will have a score to settle in a tie against Jwaneng Galaxy in the last fixture in Group B.

A win of any margin for Simba SC will see the squad sail through to the CAF inter-club showdowns' knockout phase for the fifth time in a row.

In 2021/2022 Jwaneng Galaxy knocked Simba SC out of the CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round.

Simba SC was as a result relegated to the CAF Confederation Cup, which saw the side make it to the last eight and was knocked out by Orlando Pirates of South Africa via penalties.

Lina PG Tour Golf tourney gets underway in Moshi

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Lina PG Tour Golf Tournament has begun at TPC course in Moshi where more than 80 players, including 16 professional golfers, have come out to take part in it.

The showdown has been organized by Said Nkya's family in collaboration with the Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) to honour former national women's golf team player, Lina Nkya, who passed on a few years ago.

Lina was a talented golf player and one of the female players who successfully represented Tanzania and had it winning the 2011 East African tournament held in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking during the registration of the players, TLGU's vice president Ayne Magombe said the participation has been great, proving people are appreciative of the late Lina, therefore, she expects the competition will be great.

"Many players have already arrived and are ready to participate, we expect the competition will be great

and there will be many talented golfers, we encourage golf fans to come out to witness the stars competing," Ayne pointed out.

Enock Magire, Tanzania Golf Union Secretary-General, said the union values its involvement in the tournament, especially in helping to find more winners slated to represent the country in various international tournaments.

Bryson Nyenza, one of the professional golfers competing in the tournament, said it is good for Tanzania to have a tour tournament as it will help to bring the players together and have them earning income once they emerge victorious. "The amount of money that has been set aside for the prize is large, so it is an opportunity for me to make more money and motivate me to continue playing this game," he said.

The competition is expected to end on March 3, 2024, and will, thereafter, take place in other regions namely Arusha and Dar es Salaam, as well as Zanzibar.

Ngoma: clinical finishing vital for Simba SC in match vs Jwaneng

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC's defensive midfielder Fabrice Ngoma is adamant that the side needs to be clinical to advance to the quarterfinals of the ongoing CAF Champions League.

The Tanzanian club will entertain Botswana's Jwaneng Galaxy in the continental showpiece's Group Stage's last-round clash at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday.

The two Group B envoys were locked to a barren draw when they last met in the first-round tie of the CAF Champions League in Francistown Stadium in Gaborone, Botswana.

The Msimbazi Street outfit still has bitter memories of crashing out of the Second Preliminary Round of the 2021/22 CAF Champions League following its defeat to Jwaneng Galaxy.

The showdown's first leg clash bringing together the two sides, which took place in Botswana, culminated in a 2-0 victory for Simba SC.

Jwaneng Galaxy avenged for its first leg loss with a comprehensive 3-1 victory over Simba SC in the rematch in Dar es Salaam to make it to the Group Stage.

Now under the tutelage of Algerian Abdelhak Benchikha, Simba SC has only one job-grabbing a victory of any margin and qualifying for the last-eight spot, given the side has a better head-to-head record against Group B's other challenger, Wydad Casablanca.

Ngoma- who termed his club's duel against Jwaneng Galaxy a final- said Simba SC



Simba SC midfielder Fabrice Ngoma. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBASC

players need to take their chances and defend well and ensure they march to the last eight of the tournament.

"We have gone for better preparations and we ought to be clinical in front of the opponents' goal so that we can

win this match, we are aware of the chances that we wasted against ASEC Mimosas and Jwaneng Galaxy," he disclosed.

"It will be a tough one as both teams are strong and have the hunger to win it, Jwaneng Galaxy also has the chance to qualify," the midfielder revealed.

The midfielder stressed: "The match is in our hands, it's up to us to decide to do something big to reach the next stage with a big victory that will restore strength to the team and the coach."

"It doesn't matter how the opponents will approach the game, we have to believe in our game plan as well as show them that we want the game, though we don't have a good record against them," Ngoma added.

Jwaneng Galaxy can qualify for the last eight if the club overcomes Simba SC, whilst ASEC Mimosas beats Wydad Casablanca in the final match.

Ngoma joined the Msimbazi Street squad this season from Al Hilal of Sudan. The Congolese midfielder has had experience in CAF inter-club competitions after featuring for Sudan's Al Hilal and his home country's outfit, AS Vita Club.

The experienced midfielder has played 13 out of his team's 15 matches in the Premier League and posted a total of 1131 minutes. Ngoma may help Simba SC set a new record.

ASEC Mimosas leads Group B with 11 points, Simba SC is positioned second with six points- level on points with Wydad Casablanca now sitting third- while Jwaneng Galaxy is sitting last with four points.



Junior soccer players forming Dar es Salaam's Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park's team participate in drills at the institution's venue recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Dar female golfers set for Lugalo tourney

By Guardian Correspondent

DAR ES SALAAM's Lugalo Golf Club has organized a one-day club tournament to be held at the outfit's course on March 9.

Lugalo Golf Club's Information Officer, Selemani Semuny said the tournament- sponsored by CRDB Bank- will involve the three clubs of Lugalo, Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club, and Morogoro Gymkhana.

The official noted: "Preparations for the competition are going on well, including setting up the course to make the competition unique."

"The response of the players to register and confirm participation is great and we believe the competition will be good as there are good prizes for the winners," Semuny disclosed.

The CRDB Bank's Private Customer Division's Head, Stephen Adili, said the institution decided to sponsor the tournament to support efforts to develop sports in the country.

Adili noted: "Sports are fundamental and they motivate friendship, they are moreover a source of employment."

"We have sponsored this com-

petition to not only build relationships between banks and stakeholders but also motivate a healthy lifestyle and have participants exchanging ideas," the CRDB Bank added.

"We will continue to cooperate with golf outfits, especially Lugalo Golf Club because they are our biggest stakeholders and ensure the sport makes progress," Adili revealed.

Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) president, Queen Siraki thanked CRDB Bank for turning out to be the main sponsor of the tournament while urging women to come out in large

numbers to participate in it.

Queen pointed out: "Any nation is built by healthy citizens, healthy living includes eating good food and participating in sports."

The TLGU leader revealed: "Female golf players are prepared to participate in large numbers and bring about stiff competition because we have always been at the forefront of participation in various competitions."

Lugalo Golf Club captain, Ja-phet Masai, said the tournament will bring together good players.

Mbappe no longer untouchable as PSG prepare Champions League return

PARIS

KYLIAN Mbappe will face former club Monaco for the final time as a Paris Saint-Germain player today, provided coach Luis Enrique selects his star player.

The France captain's relationship with the PSG boss has come under the spotlight with Mbappe discovering he is no longer assured of a place in the line-up since telling the Qatar-owned club he would leave at the end of this season.

Mbappe informed PSG in mid-February that he intended to depart when his contract expires in June, after seven years at the Parc des Princes, with Real Madrid his likely next destination.

Luis Enrique responded to that by leaving the 25-year-old on the bench for their next game at Nantes, although Mbappe came on to score a penalty in a 2-0 win.

More surprisingly, Mbappe started last week's home meeting with Rennes and wore the captain's armband in the absence of Marquinhos, but was substituted on 65 minutes.

Trailing 1-0 at the time, PSG came back to draw thanks to a penalty won and converted by his replacement, Goncalo Ramos.

PSG's all-time top scorer with 244 goals, Mbappe has rarely started on the bench in 292 appearances since signing from Monaco in 2017.

He has occasionally been substituted earlier than was the case last weekend, but always either due to injury or with PSG already winning.

"It's very simple. Sooner or later, when it happens, we are going to have to get used to playing without Kylian," Luis Enrique said when asked to explain why he had taken Mbappe off. "When I want to play him I will do so, and if I don't want to, the same thing."

PSG have to prepare for the future, and their position of strength in Ligue 1 allows them to do so -- despite drawing against Rennes, Luis Enrique's team are 11 points clear of second-placed Brest with 11 games remaining.

Perhaps there could even be a temptation to rest Mbappe in Monaco, given that Paris go to Spain defending a 2-0 lead into the second leg of their Champions League last-16 tie against Real Sociedad next Tuesday.

They have been knocked out in the last 16 in five of the last seven seasons and reaching the quarter-finals this year is the minimum objective in Europe for the French champions.

Yet Mbappe will want to play in Monaco, who are themselves chasing Champions League qualification and are third in the table.

It was in the principality where he emerged as such a thrilling talent and starred as Monaco won the title in 2016/17. His impending move abroad means he may not get a chance to return to the Stade Louis II again any time soon.

AFP

Inzaghi revelling in 'unplayable' Inter's Scudetto march

MILAN

SIMONE Inzaghi could barely contain his glee on Wednesday night as his Inter Milan put four goals past Atalanta and took another step towards a 20th Serie A title.

Usually happy to trot out the usual post-match clichés with a stern expression, Inzaghi had to try his very hardest not to let a huge grin spread across his face as TV pundits on DAZN praise on a team they classed as "unplayable" for the rest of Italy's top flight.

Wednesday's emphatic 4-0 win at the San Siro moved Inter 12 points clear of closest rivals Juventus, who are now trailing in the distance after leading the pack little over a month ago.

On Monday night Inter face Genoa on a run of 11 straight wins in all competitions since the turn of the year, their last four in the league coming with four goals.

Inzaghi is closing in on the first league title of his managerial career after narrowly losing last season's Champions League final to Manchester City.

"The team is playing really well but I've been enjoying watching them for two-and-a-half years because we've won five trophies and got to a Champions League final" said Inzaghi.

"I have a team which sticks to its principles regardless of who plays. That had to be the most satisfying thing... whoever comes on it's a pleasure to watch them play. Sometimes I find it hard to pick the team."

Inter have the league's top scorer in Lautaro Martinez and have scored 67 times -- more than any team in Europe's top five leagues.

Fans spent the last few minutes of Wednesday's match belting out 'Ole' to their team's every touch as Inter netted four goals without reply for the third straight league match.

AFP

Man Utd and Liverpool to meet in FA Cup quarter-finals, Chelsea survive

LONDON

MANCHESTER United will host Liverpool in an FA Cup quarter-final blockbuster after the bitter rivals took contrasting routes to their fifth round victories on Wednesday.

United eased the pressure on beleaguered boss Erik ten Hag as they scraped through with a 1-0 win at Nottingham Forest thanks to Casemiro's late goal.

Fresh from their League Cup final triumph against Chelsea on Sunday, Liverpool relied on their youngsters again in a 3-0 win against second tier Southampton at Anfield.

Chelsea bounced back from their painful 1-0 defeat to Liverpool at Wembley, snatching a 3-2 win against Championship promotion chasers Leeds to book a last eight date with Leicester.

After Liverpool's ball boys paraded the League Cup around Anfield prior to kick-off, Jurgen Klopp's kids gave another glimpse into a bright future as two of their young guns inspired the win.

With Liverpool ravaged by injuries to Mohamed Salah, Darwin Nunez, Diogo Jota and Alisson Becker among others, Lewis Koumas, the son of former Wales and West Brom midfielder Jason Koumas, marked his debut with the opening goal in the 44th minute.

The 18-year-old forward drilled a fierce low drive that deflected in off Southampton's Jack Stephens.

Jayden Danns, another 18-year-old offspring of a former player -- his father Neil starred for Crystal Palace -- netted Liverpool's second in the 73rd minute with a composed finish that belied his tender age.

James McConnell, 19, and Bobby Clark, 19, also impressed for Liverpool, who introduced 16-year-old Trey Nyoni to become their youngest ever FA Cup player in the second half.



Manchester United's Casemiro celebrates scoring the opening goal during the English FA Cup fifth round football match against Nottingham Forest. Agencies

Danns capped the victory in the 88th minute when he lashed home in front of The Kop.

"We don't take these things for granted," Klopp said of facing United.

"The situation is horribly difficult. We have too many games and not enough players. They (the youngsters) have got to learn and improve, but it was a top performance."

At the City Ground, United reached the FA Cup quarter-finals for a record 48th time.

Ten Hag insisted this week that he doesn't need a public vote of confidence from Jim Ratcliffe after the British billionaire took charge of United's football operations.

But United are languishing in sixth place in the Premier League, eight points adrift of the top four, after Saturday's shock 2-1 home defeat against Fulham.

A loss to Forest would have been a major blow for Ten Hag after Rat-

cliffe was linked with a move for former Real Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane.

The FA Cup represents United's last silverware chance this term and, after missing a host of chances, they finally hit the target in the 89th minute when Bruno Fernandes' free-kick was headed in by Casemiro.

Ten Hag will hope a 1-0 FA Cup win at Forest proves a launchpad for sustained success at United in the same way it did for former boss Alex Ferguson in 1990.

"It's the best time to score at the end. On Saturday we felt the defeat in stoppage-time. What they showed today is great," Ten Hag said.

At Stamford Bridge, Mauricio Pochettino will have felt similar relief to Ten Hag.

With the pressure mounting in his troubled first season in charge, the Argentine was indebted to Conor Gallagher for a late winner.

It was the first FA Cup tie between

Chelsea and Leeds since the Blues won the 1970 FA Cup final replay, a book-filled clash regarded as one of the most vicious matches in English football history.

Mateo Joseph put Leeds ahead before Nicolas Jackson and Mykhailo Mudryk netted to give Chelsea the lead.

Joseph scored again but Gallagher won it in the 90th minute.

"In the context of the week, I'm happy. The performance wasn't great but of course it's about building our confidence again," Pochettino said.

Elsewhere, Wolves beat Brighton 1-0 at Molineux, with Mario Lemina's goal after just 77 seconds securing a home tie against second tier Coventry.

Holders Manchester City, who beat Luton 6-2 on Tuesday, will host Newcastle in the other quarter-final.

AFP

Ten Hag brands Fernandes critics 'pathetic' in defence of under-fire Man Utd captain

Mike McGrath

ERIK ten Hag branded Bruno Fernandes's critics "pathetic" and revealed the Manchester United captain played through injury at the weekend and during the FA Cup win at Nottingham Forest on Wednesday night.

Footage of Fernandes in Saturday's defeat by Fulham went viral after the Portugal international went down clutching his ankle and seemed to quickly recover to ask for the ball, but his manager insists he suffered an injury that could have ruled him out against Forest.

Ten Hag also believes Forest players targeted Fernandes, 29, during the 1-0 win which was settled by Casemiro's header one minute from full-time. The United skipper was seen limping away from Old Trafford after Wednesday night's victory.

"You saw that Forest were targeting him," said Ten Hag. "It was a serious injury and then I see they criticise him, it is pathetic, it can't be. He has a serious injury and he continued to play on Saturday and fought to be part of this game."

"He has a very high pain threshold. He did something similar in the semi-final last year and that shows his character and that shows as a leader and flows into the team. There were many fouls on him. You



Forest defender Felipe gets to grips with Bruno Fernandes - Getty Images

see when he was getting the ball they were really tight on him."

Raphael Varane was also an injury doubt but declared himself available for the fifth-round tie, with Harry Maguire, Lisandro Martinez and Luke Shaw ruled out from Ten Hag's first-choice players. But Ten Hag believes he has stumbled on the right combination from his fit defenders.

"It was hard to line up, especially in the back four it was a puzzle and finally we have found the right formation," he said. "We created chances but also allowed them counters but after the first five minutes of the second half we took control and kept the ball longer and we got switches of play."

"So I was very pleased

in the second half and most of all very pleased with the spirit and the desire."

Marcus Rashford struggled as United's striker in the absence of Rasmus Hojlund, as he did against Fulham. Alan Shearer, as a pundit on the BBC, highlighted his body language.

"Come on Marcus, get up. Stop waving your arms around," Shearer said.

"You've got to do better."

"I don't like his body language at times. He's trying to send a message out to the fans, it's not my fault. You as an individual have to take responsibility now and again for your actions on the pitch. Get up and get on with it."

"Marcus Rashford still has to send out the correct message to the fans

with his body language and at times this season he hasn't done that. He is getting frustrated."

After reaching the final last season, Ten Hag is now two matches from another showpiece at Wembley but faces rivals Liverpool next.

"It's big, we want to win every competition so every team is big, the fans deserve a team that is fighting, that is acting as a team and showing passion and resilience and they showed it today," he said.

Forest manager Nuno Espirito Santo said: "It's frustrating to lose it at the end but the way we played was an improvement."

"We have to improve on details, which is still punishing us, but the improvement is clear. We have to work harder and be more clinical as the results are not coming."

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Man Utd and Liverpool to meet in FA Cup quarter-finals, Chelsea survive

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Battle for top spot as Al Ahly hosts Yanga in CAF CL Group D



Tanzania's Yanga midfielder Pacôme Zouzoua (L) races past Algeria's CR Belouizdad player Mouad Haded as the teams took on each other in a 2023/24 CAF Champions League Group D clash that took place in Dar es Salaam on Saturday and ended in 4-0 victory for Yanga. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

It is a relatively straightforward encounter for the home team as even a draw will ensure them the top spot in Group D.

Al Ahly is coming into the match having crushed Baladiyat Al-Mahalla 5-1 in a rescheduled Egyptian Premier League game at Cairo International Stadium on Tuesday.

Following this victory, Ahly climbed to the ninth position in the league standings with 17 points, trailing leaders ENPPI by nine points, although ENPPI has played seven more matches.

The win over Baladiyat Al-Mahalla means Al Ahly has won five of their six most recent matches in all competitions.

There have been wins over Japanese side, Urawa Red Devils, in the FIFA Club World Cup, Future FC, and Ceramica Cleopatra in the Egyptian Super Cup, and Medeama SC away in the CAF Champions League.

The only draw came away to CR Belouizdad in the CAF Champions League.

Trends show Al Ahly is undefeated in each of the squad's last 10 home

games in the ongoing CAF Champions League.

They have kept a clean sheet in eight of their last 10 CAF Champions League matches on home soil.

Yanga, on the other hand, has travelled to the Egyptian capital on the back of a comprehensive 4-0 victory over CR Belouizdad at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Miguel Gamondi's men know that to leapfrog Al Ahly to the top spot in Group D, they must beat the Egyptian side on their patch, something that Yanga has not yet achieved in the squad's previous four attempts.

Despite the poor away record against Al Ahly, Gamondi will be relieved with the goal-scoring form of his team.

They have scored nine goals in five games so far, more than any other side in the CAF Champions League Group Stage.

Meanwhile, a win will fire them to the top of the pack and provide them with the advantage of hosting their quarterfinal second leg at home against a team that finished second in other groups.

In their two away games against CR Belouizdad and Medeama SC, individual mistakes cost Yanga five points.

For that matter, against Al Ahly, the Tanzanian club's footballers need to remain on their toes for the entire 90 minutes as even a slight error might prove costly.

Once again midfielders Pacome Zouzoua and Stephane Aziz Ki will be the key players for Yanga with their ability to single-handedly change the complexion of a match.



Tabora United FC's head coach, Goran Kopunovic. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TABORA UNITED FC

Goran Kopunovic takes blame for Tabora United's struggles

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TABORA United head coach Goran Kopunovic reveals that he is responsible for the team's situation as the outfit has failed to find its best form and sits in the NBC Premier League relegation zone.

The Tabora-based side was condemned to a sixth loss of the season by hosts Tanzania Prisons on Wednesday. The results saw the side slide into the relegation zone on goal difference.

Their winless streak has now stretched to eight games with their last win coming three months back in a 2-1 home victory over Mtibwa Sugar.

Speaking to reporters after the game, Kopunovic highlighted the team management issues and other challenges that have slowed his side though he took responsibility for the general poor results on the pitch.

The gaffer said: "The problem is the coach. Maybe I don't understand football, maybe my tactics are not good for these guys. Maybe my personality, philosophy, education, experience, and tactics are not so good."

"Starting this year many things have happened that were not the best especially for me because I have another idea about the team, 23-22 players," he noted.

"You see, today we came with just 16 players. We came 26 hours before this game, without any rest, good travelling. It was very tough but I am not running away from the responsibility," the gaffer revealed.

"The responsibility is mine. I don't touch my players, or talk about my club, or committee. As a coach I take the responsibility," he said.

"In the last six months, I have sent my resignation letter to the committee eleven times but they say no, everything is okay."

The gaffer insisted: "My future is in the hands of the two presidents but in front of God my conscience is clear because I am working hard every second, every day. My experience, energy, emotions I give for this club, city, region."

He disclosed: "I am always ready to work. I give new ideas to the committee, what is good for us, what is important and good to improve a professional team."

He added: "Maybe nobody listens to me. Maybe somebody will say I am stupid because I know one guy said I am stupid 'mzungu'."

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S representatives in this season's CAF Champions League, Young Africans SC, will bring the Group Stage campaign to an end as the team takes on Egypt's Al Ahly in Cairo today.

Both Al Ahly and Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, have booked their place in the quarterfinal stage of the 2023/24 CAF Champions League but the top spot in the group is still up for grabs as they meet for a re-match of match day 2 tonight.

The game will be played at the Cairo International Stadium and the hosts begin the final round of fixtures on top of Group D with nine points while the visitors are sitting second having amassed eight points.

Gamondi pursues continued effort despite historic CAF CL last eight progression

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

YANGA's head coach Miguel Gamondi has adopted a balanced approach, celebrating the team's recent achievement while urging continued focus as the squad navigates the 2023/24 CAF Champions League quarterfinal phase.

The Tanzanian club's feat marks a historic moment for Tanzanian football. It is the first Tanzanian team to reach the quarterfinals with a game remaining in the Group Stage of this season's CAF Champions League, setting a new benchmark for national success.

Meanwhile, Yanga's long-time rival, Simba SC, is facing a critical match tomorrow, with the side's qualification for the next stage hanging in the balance.

Yanga has a reputation for making history in CAF inter-club competitions. On May 17, 2023, it made history when it became the first Tanzanian club to reach a CAF Confederation Cup final after defeating South African side, Marumo Gallants 4-1 on aggregate.

Algeria's USM Alger was Yanga's opponent in the continental competition's final, which was won by the former after it had seen them settle for a 2-2 aggregate outcome.

USM Alger clinched the top honour given it had garnered a 2-1 victory over Yanga in the first leg tie in Dar es Salaam. The rematch which took



Yanga's head coach, Miguel Ángel Gamondi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

place at Stade du 5 Juillet, Algiers witnessed Yanga edging USM Algiers 1-0.

This instance is no exception. Yanga's track record of remarkable achievements continues to grow, showcasing the side's prowess on the continental stage. Once again, it has left its mark on CAF history.

While acknowledging the significance of the achievement, Gamondi emphasized the need for continued vigilance.

The Argentine noted: "The job isn't done yet in these international matches. We will continue to make strong preparations for the next games, ensuring we're fully ready for the chal-

lenges ahead."

Yanga's final Group Stage encounter pits the squad against the formidable Egyptian side Al Ahly at the Cairo International Stadium, Cairo tonight.

Currently, Al Ahly leads Group D with nine points, while Yanga is hot on the group leader's heels, occupying second place with eight points after five matches.

If Yanga wins in this away match, the squad will clinch the top spot in the group, adding another remarkable chapter to the squad's legacy of leading in the CAF Champions League.

Such a feat would underscore the Jangwani Street side's prowess on the

continental stage and highlight the squad's ability to excel under pressure.

Securing victory away from home would demonstrate Yanga's resilience and determination, solidifying the squad's reputation as a formidable force in African football.

The coach highlighted the importance of winning in building team confidence and maintaining momentum.

The gaffer noted: "The act of winning itself is crucial in the matches we play. It boosts the confidence of every player, and they're eager to see us continue performing well."

Gamondi went on to commend his players' commitment and dedication, revealing: "Everyone enjoys seeing the players achieve positive results."

"The beauty lies in their commitment and fulfilling their responsibilities on the pitch. We still have work to do, and we'll approach it with the same dedication and focus."

Yanga's historic achievement and Gamondi's unwavering focus demonstrate the team's unwavering determination to excel in the CAF Champions League.

As Yanga gears up for its upcoming matches, the outfit's dedication and commitment will be crucial in its quest for further success.

The Tanzanian team's journey not only represents their desire for glory but also carries the hopes of an entire country yearning for continued success on the continental stage.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

THREE WORDS, EIGHT LETTERS

SAY IT, AND I'M YOURS

THREE WORDS, EIGHT LETTERS

