



### National Pg 3

Activists seek supportive laws for girls' development



### National Pg 5

Summit to showcase Tanzania's energy investment opportunities

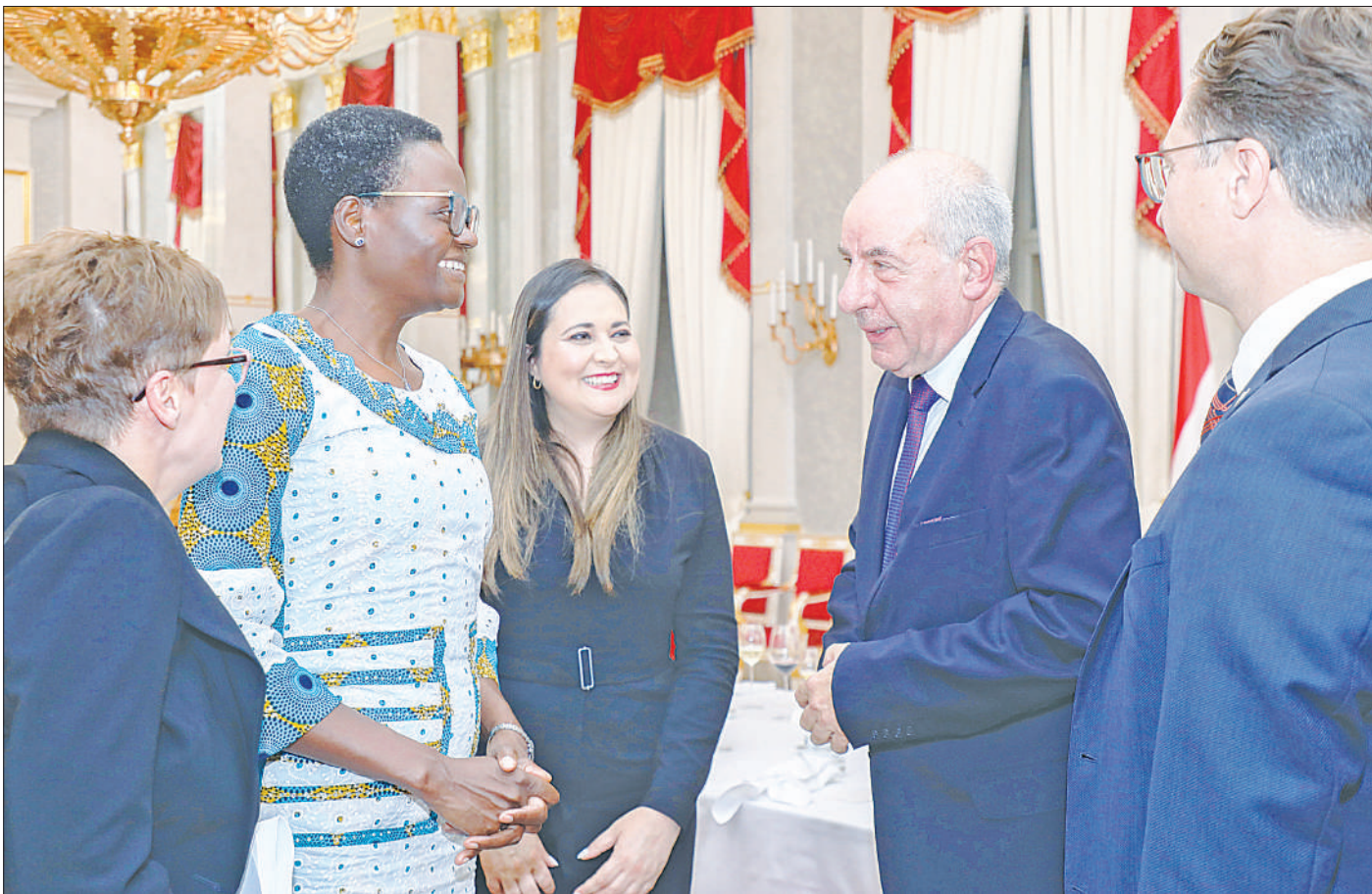


### National Pg 6

Govt allots 600m/- for sisal incubation centre in Tanga



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National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (2nd-L), who is also current President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, exchanges greetings with Hungarian President Tamas Sulyok (2nd-R) at the Presidential Palace in the Hungarian capital, Budapest, yesterday. Photo courtesy of National Assembly

## Treasury holds talks with two companies for power outlays

*Despite having a power surplus some parts of the country still lack access to electricity, while being unable to export excess power to neighbouring countries due to inadequate transmission networks*

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

A director with the Treasury has said that the government is in talks with two foreign investors expressing interest to build power transmission projects valued at \$1.2bn altogether.

David Kafulila, the treasury director for the public-private partnership (PPP) centre, made this affirmation at a press conference

on current PPP initiatives in the power sector. If successful, these will be the first PPP power transmission projects, at present handled by the Tanzania Electric Supply Co. Ltd (TANESCO), with involvement of the private sector in constructing high-voltage power lines marking a new approach in the sector, he explained.

The government is drawing on best practice

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### SGR: TPA expresses high business hopes

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) has high hopes on the standard gauge railway (SGR) as it will greatly contribute to achieving port expansion and efficiency goal, the management has stated.

Plasduce Mbossa, the TPA director general, made this observation in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the launch of the corporate customer service week, explaining that this situation will foster development in the transport sector, benefiting the neighbouring countries as well.

Considerable investments at the port are meant to enhance competitiveness and optimize the use of the SGR for cargo transportation, pointing at SGR electric train project as poised to accelerate economic growth.

"The construction of the SGR will enable faster cargo transport and boost port productivity particularly for Dar es Salaam, which handles large shipments from various countries," he stated.

As the government actively seeks markets for crops such as cashews and peas, the SGR will strengthen the economy and increase incomes in various sectors, he said.

TPA plans to build ten piers to expand the Dar es Salaam port and enhance its regional competitiveness, he elaborated, affirming that the goal is to capture the port market for East Africa, first.

It is also looking at gaining market parts for Central Africa and other coun-

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By Henry Mwangonde, Maswa

LOCAL government authorities should not issue tenders to companies and individuals without an established budget as this leads to complaints, the ruling party has advised.

Dr Emmanuel Nchimbi, the CCM secretary general, issued this appeal at a meeting with Meatu residents in Simiyu Region, where concerns were raised about unpaid funds owed to individuals contracted by the district council.

One resident said he had not received more than 30m/-since 2012o for work taking much larger sums to be completed, to which the party secretariat executive said if there is no budget, council officials should not award contracts as this creates unnecessary challenges

He then requested Ambakishe Mwanagalaba, the acting executive director, to address the matter, who confirmed that the district council owes contractors a total of

## 'Avoid tenders not fully budgeted for'

“Upwards of 15bn/- was allocated for a water project in the constituency...”

800m/-.

The sums have remained unpaid for an extended period, he stated, while the party leader noted that the challenge was part of a broader effort to push development projects in most areas.

He said that during his visits to 18 regions, he has observed significant levels of transformation, citing Katavi, Rukwa, Mbeya, Songwe, Njombe, Ruvuma, Geita, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Singida, Manyara, Arusha, Mwanza, Kagera, Lindi, Mtwara, Kigoma, and Simiyu regions.

"Major projects are underway in every region, and the people have expressed their support for President Samia Suluhu Hassan"

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## Envoy presides in handing 800 gas cylinders to users

*"When teachers discuss clean cooking energy with students and in meetings with parents, this will significantly contribute to spreading clean cooking energy readiness in the wider population"*

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

CHINA has declared its support to government efforts to promote the use of clean cooking energy.

Ambassador Chen Mingjian made this affirmation here yesterday, at a ceremony to distribute 800 gas cylinders and stoves to teachers, drivers, various public employees and journalists.

The use of gas in cooking would not only improve the lives of teachers but also plant the seeds of environmental protection in the hearts of both teachers and pupils, she said, asserting that Chinese President Xi Jinping often em-

phasizes the protection of the sea and mountains.

China recognizes the strong diplomatic relationship between the two countries as well as efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to encourage Tanzanians to use clean cooking energy to protect the country's natural vegetation

Asserting that Tanzania is an environmentally friendly country, she said that it prioritises the conservation of Mount Kilimanjaro and the Serengeti National Park, among other captivating landscapes.

"During my three years of work here, I have witnessed incredible efforts Tanzania has made in environmental conserva-

tion," she stated, underlining that China and Tanzania have both refused to follow the old path of environmental degradation.

"We have chosen to prioritize ecological sustainability and green development," she said, emphasizing that promoting environmental conservation will also support the country's economic growth and improve people's lives.

Back in May this year when President Samia launched the clean cooking energy initiative, it was clear it fully reflected Tanzania's philosophy of putting its people first and living harmoniously with nature, she remarked.

"China and Tanzania are like brother and sister; we always support each other. Last month, the China-Africa Cooperation Forum held in Beijing brought together leaders from 53 countries, including President Samia, whereas they also deliberated to promote the use of clean energy," the envoy recalled.

During the China-Africa forum, a number of areas of cooperation were announced including a proposal for China to implement 30 clean energy projects in Africa to help the continent achieve green development, she

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## SPORTS

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Hemed 'Morocco' confident ahead of crucial AFCON qualifiers against DR Congo

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Man City v Premier League legal case verdict - what it all means

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Coach Gamondi eyes derby glory in Yanga-Simba rivalry





## Envoy presides in handing 800 gas cylinders to users

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further noted.

"This year marks the 60th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between our two countries. The relationship between China and Tanzania has continued to grow," she stated.

Arusha Urban MP Mrisho Gambo noted that Oryx Gas (T) Ltd (OGTL) has become the first company in the northern city to show commitment to supporting President Samia's clean energy campaign.

The company was liaising with the Chinese Embassy in financing the provision of gas cylinders and stoves to various groups in the region, he said, while OGTL managing director Benoit Araman said the availability of clean cooking solutions was a priority at present.

"When teachers discuss clean cooking energy with students and in meetings with parents, this will significantly contribute to spreading clean cooking energy readiness in the wider population," he added.

## 'Avoid tenders not fully budgeted for'

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he declared.

He pointed at progress in Simiyu Region where over 400bn/- was allocated for a project to supply water from Lake Victoria to the region, while 48bn/- will be used to build a substation.

A total of 49bn/- will be allocated for establishing an electricity distribution network, he further noted.

Itilima MP Njalu Silanga told the gathering that the constituency has received 83bn/- for development projects, including a 4bn/- model road.

Upwards of 15bn/- was allocated for a water project in the constituency, he stated, appealing to the government to strengthen cooperatives to stimulate development and create jobs, particularly for the youth.

## SGR: TPA expresses high business hopes

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tries in the neighbourhood. The development of high-speed railways will help open up the country and boost revenues, he further noted.

Currently, SGR operates between Dar es Salaam and Dodoma, with ongoing construction extending to Mwanza along with extensions to Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The railway's construction stands to benefit farmers and crop traders by facilitating quicker delivery of ag-

ricultural products to lucrative foreign markets, with TPA liaising with major global shipping companies on the matter.

It seeks to ensure timely delivery of products in large quantities at competitive prices, positioning Dar port as a hub for wider shipping needs in the region.

On August 1, the government launched the first SGR passenger trip from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma, a milestone for the project, he added.

## Public officials trained on monitoring and evaluation

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

GOVERNMENT officials from various cities, municipalities and councils across the country have been drilled with essential skills on monitoring and evaluation to strengthen governance in development projects.

Provided by experts from the Open University of Tanzania (OUT), the initiative is designed to empower the officials in effectively executing their responsibilities, particularly as the departments are relatively new.

During the opening of the training on Monday here, Apolinary Seiya, Arusha City planning and coordination officer said the training follows an agreement between OUT and the Office of the Prime Minister aimed at strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems for government institutions, public organisations, and local governments in mainland Tanzania.

"The government is committed to delivering quality services to citizens, which is why we have engaged expert trainers from OUT for this monitoring and evaluation training."

Seiya who represented the Arusha Regional Administrative Secretary, Mussa Misaile said this was the first phase for local government officials, and it is essential for enhancing service delivery, especially since local governments are closely connected to the community.

Dr Emmanuel Mallya, director special advisory unit at OUT, emphasised that the training aims to bolster the capabilities of local government officials, improving the monitoring and evaluation of government projects, policies, and plans to enhance service delivery and optimise resource use.

Happiness Nchimbi, a planning officer from Dar es Salaam, expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister's office for partnering with OUT to facilitate the training for planning officers, Economists, and Statisticians.

She said the training will help them enhance their project management skills and inspire them to focus on quality service delivery to the community.

The first phase of training which is set to be concluded on October 11 will be followed by a second phase scheduled later this month in Dodoma.



China's Ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian (C) applauds in Arusha on Monday during the Chinese Embassy's presentation of 800 Oryx gas stoves to school teachers, journalists and government drivers based in the city. She is with Oryx Gas Tanzania managing director Benoit Araman (L) and Arusha Urban constituency legislator Mrisho Gambo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Treasury holds talks with two companies for power outlays

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from countries executing PPP power transmission projects, he said, citing examples in South America and South Asia, noting success stories in countries like India, Philippines, Peru, Chile and Brazil.

With two foreign companies expressing interest in investing in power transmission lines through the PPP Centre, the centre's mandate is to scrutinize investment the relevant proposals, he stated.

Noting that the country faces significant challenges in implementing PPPs for the power sector, he listed

the challenges as including regulatory, legal and institutional barriers.

There is also limited expertise in key government entities, along with a pressing need for technical assistance and capacity-building support to enable the government to adopt PPPs in the energy sector effectively, the director underlined.

He pointed at a number of development partners advocating for the PPP agenda in power transmission across East Africa, currently collaborating in Kenyan and Ugandan projects.

He referred to views by energy

economists suggesting the sector could become self-financing if tariffs are set at commercially viable rates, pointing at local power rates as the lowest electricity tariffs in East Africa.

This has made the country gain recognition for fostering an inclusive economy, he stated, recalling that in 2022, the government announced plans to invest \$1.9bn to upgrade the country's electricity transmission infrastructure.

Despite having a power surplus some parts of the country still lack access to electricity, while being

unable to export excess power to neighbouring countries due to inadequate transmission networks, he remarked.

Private sector involvement in power transmission is expected to bring significant economic benefits, including improved access, better quality and reliability of electricity across the country, as well as the development of the regional power trade. Additionally, the PPPs could help reduce power transmission losses and potentially lower electricity costs for consumers by absorbing the capital costs of trans-



Deloitte Health Forum panellists highlight the contribution of USAID-supported 'Afyu Yangu' and 'Kizazi Hodari' projects to engagement in HIV response initiatives at primary health care level. It was at the 11th Tanzania Health Summit held in Zanzibar at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## GST allocates 73bn/- for airborne geophysical survey countrywide

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Geita

THE Geological Survey of Tanzania (GST) has set aside 73bn/- for a major high-resolution airborne geophysical survey across various areas mapped within the country's western zone.

Priscus Benard, GST's planning and marketing manager unveiled this here yesterday when speaking during the ongoing mining technology exhibitions.

He said that in its nearly 100-year history, the GST has conducted high-resolution surveys for only 16 percent of Tanzania using specialized jets, stressing that the government provided the budget to acquire a tailor-made geophysical survey plane, which is project-

ed to cost around 4bn/-.

"For the first time in our history, we will have our jet dedicated to conducting high-resolution airborne geophysical surveys of rock deposits, a development that is expected to elevate the sector," he stated.

With the new jet, GST aims to survey western Tanzania, potentially increasing the surveyed area by 18 percent.

Currently, GST has completed low-resolution surveys for approximately 97 percent of the country, geochemical surveys for 24 percent, and has conducted over 99 percent of geophysical surveys.

"These surveys have been instrumental in supporting the mining sector, and we anticipate that the upcoming high-resolution air-

borne survey will further advance the industry," he said.

GST also plans to invest 20bn/- in constructing three state-of-the-art laboratories to enhance mineral sampling across the country.

"These labs, located in Mbeya, Geita, and Dodoma, will be equipped with cutting-edge technology to provide artisanal miners with professional testing of their mineral samples," he said.

The facility in Dodoma will serve as the country's mineral sampling headquarters, with the capacity to test all types of mineral samples. Construction processes for this facility are currently in the preliminary stages.

Benard also highlighted the government's commitment to equity and professional transformation in the mining sector, which will

include the adoption of advanced technologies like high-resolution airborne geophysical and geo-technical surveys.

"The establishment of modern mineral testing labs will play a crucial role in attracting more investors to the sector and enhancing overall performance," he said.

GST actively promotes mineral exploration and mining in Tanzania, engaging in geological mapping, mineral evaluation, and research on geological processes and geohazards.

With a vision to become a centre of excellence, GST aims to provide essential geoscientific data for the sustainable utilization of natural resources while balancing its responsibilities in geological mapping, data management, and research.



### Broadcasting for Change (B4C): Engaging Young Women through Media Project.

BBC Media Action has signed a 24-month grant agreement with AJWS for USD 448,605. This funding seeks to support research and learning activities around the social and gender norms that create barriers and opportunities for gender equality and women and girls' participation, and feeds into media production and capacity strengthening activities.

### A National Conversation Phase 5

BBC Media Action has signed a 12-month grant agreement with the Embassy of Ireland for Euro 500,000. The project objective is to support women and men (including various marginalized groups) in Tanzania to participate in meaningful and inclusive discussions and decision making in relation to issues that matter to them, with a particular focus on the provision of public services, livelihoods, gender equality and adaptation to the impacts of climate change.





Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister Deogratius Ndejemi has a word with vendors and other small traders at Ushetu in Shinyanga Region while on an inspection tour of projects in the education and health sectors. He urged them to utilise soft-term loans to uplift their economic status through gainful businesses. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Geita

## President Samia wins accolades for empowering people with disabilities

THE Foundation for Disability Hope (FDH) has applauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan for stepping up interventions to improve living standards through economic empowerment of people with albinism (PWA) in Tanzania.

Maiko Salali, Foundation's director and founder, made the remarks here yesterday when speaking at the ongoing Geita International Mining Technology Expo.

He expressed that Samia has planted a humanitarian seed which will always remain within the hearts of majority of the Tanzanians with disabilities.

Salali acknowledged her work in making healthcare, especially the provision of sunscreen lotion, more accessible to people with albinism (PWA). Under her leadership, economic opportunities have

also expanded, allowing people with albinism to participate more actively, such as through the Rafiki Briquettes project, which has enabled many to become self-employed.

Previously, PWAs faced severe challenges, including limited access to crucial medical services like sunscreen, which is essential to protect them from harmful UV rays. The government's efforts have contributed to improving their quality of life and reducing the risk of skin cancer, which significantly affects the albinism community in Tanzania. Statistics show that only 2 percent of persons with albinism in Tanzania survive skin cancer to

the age of 40.

Salali emphasized the importance of increasing sunscreen production, highlighting concerns over reduced output from the Kilimanjaro Sunscreen Production Unit (KSPU), the only local producer of sunscreens specifically designed for PWAs. President Samia's initiatives, including plans for specialized clinics to serve the albinism community in all regions, have been praised as transformative steps toward better healthcare and inclusion.

This recognition comes as part of the broader progress toward supporting the rights and well-being of persons with albinism in Tanzania.

## Campaigners seek supportive laws, robust plans for girls development

By Getrude Mbagu

GIRLS across mainland Tanzania continue to experience violation of various rights with many facing psychological violence, child marriage and limited access to quality education, a new report has stated.

The report, titled "Situation of Girls' Rights and Wellbeing Analysis," conducted by the Msichana Initiative has identified that despite efforts conducted by the government and stakeholders to heighten girls' development, many do not achieve their potential due to various challenges they face.

Key issues identified by community stakeholders include sexual violence and the suppression of girls' voices, alongside psychological violence and inadequate parental guidance. The report notes that girls living in rural areas and those with disabilities are disproportionately affected by the challenges, which are exacerbated by deep-rooted patriarchal customs and traditions.

During a presentation of the findings in Dar es Salaam yesterday, report author Fundikila Wazambi emphasized that mental health is a significant concern for girls.

He pointed out that unfriendly laws, poverty, sexual corruption, and neglect further hinder their rights and wellbeing. Wazambi highlighted harmful cultural norms that deny girls fundamental rights and freedoms, as well as gaps in legal protections that have led to an increase in gender-based violence, including child marriage and denial of inheritance rights.

The report identified poverty, child marriage, parental attitudes, illiteracy, and poor sanitation in schools as the top five issues threatening girls' access to education.

Wazambi noted that the quality of education is declining, particularly as girls reach upper secondary levels, due to inadequate funding, shortages of educational resources, and difficult working conditions for teachers.

Additionally, a lack of parental support and guidance has been identified as a barrier to girls accessing quality education. Some parents reportedly encourage their daughters to fail exams, further limiting

their opportunities.

The report underscores the importance of school attendance for girls' empowerment, suggesting that school clubs can provide vital education and help girls claim their rights. Evidence from NGOs indicates a positive correlation between club membership and improved academic performance.

To address the challenges, the report calls for the Parliament to amend the Marriage Act of 1971 to establish 18 years as the minimum legal age for marriage, thereby outlawing child marriage.

Recommendations also include classifying sanitary pads as essential needs and implementing a free sanitary pad program for school-going students. Key informants, including girls' rights experts, have urged the removal of taxes on sanitary pads, emphasizing that access to these products is a basic necessity for girls.

The Ministry of Education is encouraged to reinforce the re-entry policy for pregnant and married girls, ensuring their right to education is upheld in accordance with international human rights standards.

Rebeca Gyumi, executive director of the Msichana Initiative, noted that the assessment aimed to evaluate the state of girls' rights and wellbeing in Tanzania, focusing on education, health, and agency.

She noted that analysis of police reports from 2018 to 2023 shows that 8 out of 10 victims of violence against children are girls, with rape being the most reported form of sexual abuse.

As the world prepares to commemorate the International Day of the Girl Child in the coming days, under the theme "Girls' Vision for the Future," Gyumi emphasized the urgent need for action to amplify girls' voices and visions for their future.

Kijo Bisimba, a veteran activist, echoed the sentiments, noting that today's generation of girls, faces numerous challenges, including climate crises, conflict, and poverty, which threaten their rights and limits their potential.

She urged the government to amend the Marriage Act of 1971 as it thwarts various efforts aimed at promoting girl's dignity and development.

"The court has already instructed for the amendment, what are you researching again in this law," she said.



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

The Malagarasi Basin is one of Tanzania's critical watersheds, supporting diverse ecosystems and communities reliant on agriculture for their livelihoods. The Malagarasi River System is both an important Ramsar site (Malagarasi-Muyovozi Wetlands) and a Key Biodiversity Area in the Eastern Afromontane hotspot. The site is extremely important for large mammals, migratory and resident water birds, fish, and plants. Apart from agriculture, it also provides a range of services to local communities – water, fish, meat, honey, grazing lands, etc. However, as in many such areas, the natural integrity of the Malagarasi River basin is increasingly threatened by unsustainable anthropogenic activities such as unsustainable agriculture encroaching wetland areas, overfishing, deforestation, and settlement expansion. The unsustainable farming practices causes severe soil erosion which leads to land degradation and sedimentation of rivers and Lake Tanganyika.

Given the importance of the Malagarasi watershed, which constitutes 30% of the Lake Tanganyika's total watershed area, addressing the most pervasive threats to the watershed is needed to secure its integrity for the long-term.

As the impacts of climate change intensify, there is an increasing need to adopt sustainable agricultural practices that can enhance resilience, restore degraded lands, and improve livelihoods. Regenerative agriculture, which focuses on restoring soil health, increasing biodiversity, and enhancing water retention, presents a viable approach to achieving these objectives.

The Nature Conservancy has been successfully working in the Greater Mahale Ecosystem (GME) for 12 years through its Tuungane Program. The Mahale Mountains National Park is part of the GME which borders Lake Tanganyika in its South. Tuungane Program would like to scale up its successes into the Malagarasi-Moyowosi-Ugalla complex, a much larger ecosystem than GME that extends for more than 3.5 million hectares East of Uvinza. GME and the Malagarasi-Muyovozi-Ugalla complex share important ecosystem similarities that make lessons learned in one potentially transferrable to the other. Tuungane program envisages to bring to this new geography its experiences in addressing common conservation challenges existing in both systems.

TNC is seeking a consultant to gather comprehensive information which will facilitate the development of strategies and programs to promote sustainable agricultural practices in the region.

This consultancy aims to gather comprehensive information and provide actionable insights on the potential for scaling regenerative agriculture practices within the Malagarasi Basin. The findings will support the development of strategies and programs to promote sustainable agricultural practices in the region.

Interested consultants with relevant technical skills and experience are encouraged to reach out to TNC to get the full request for proposal at e-mail: [africa.tenders@tnc.org](mailto:africa.tenders@tnc.org)

The deadline to submit proposals is set on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024 at 10:00 am EAT.

## PROVISION OF INFORMATION FOR SUPPLY OF GOODS/SERVICES

TO M&P EXPLORATION PRODUCTION TANZANIA LIMITED



(Ref. No. MPEP/2024/TM/019)

1. M&P Exploration Production Tanzania Ltd. (MPEP), an upstream producer of natural gas from the Mnazi Bay gas field in Mtwara region hereby invites potential suppliers to express their interest and provide information for the supply of the following services.

2. Vendors and suppliers situated physically in Mtwara are encouraged to apply as well as vendors who can provide multiple services.

### Drilling Rig Mobilization and Rig Move

#### A. Drilling Rig Mobilization

- Task involves shipping of the Drilling Rig to Tanzania, services required
  - a) Movement from the supplier facility (origin to be identified, provider should have experience working in Asia, Europe or Middle East), lifting (cranes, forklifts, personnel), transportation (trucks).
  - b) Ocean Freight (dedicated vessel or commercial option).
  - c) Handling, Securing, Offloading and Transport CIF Mtwara.

#### B. Drilling Rig Move

- Task involves moving the Rig to another well site after completion of drilling activities on that well.
  - a) Supplier should have sufficient Cranes, Heavy Duty Transport Trucks and Forklifts properly certified for rig move.
  - b) The Company should be the Sole Owner of the machinery, not rentals.

### Portable Sleeping Cabins

- Supply of at least 50 x Portable Cabins at the Drilling Camp in Mnazi-Bay, Mtwara.
- Bunk-Beds for housing at least 2 x Personnel.
- Should Include Toilet, Shower, Plumbing, AC Module and Wiring for Lighting.
- For only temporary use for a period of 9 months to 1 year.
- Cost effective and Durable Materials.
- Air Tight.
- Access of Lifting Points which are certified for ease of installation at the Drilling Camp.

### Courier Services

- Supplier should ensure that packages are tracked, traced and delivered promptly to their destinations.
- Reliable, affordable, real-time tracking, security and insurance

3. This call for Request for Information (RFI) marks an open, transparent, and competitive tender process. Detailed scope of work will be issued to qualified bidders upon demand.

4. Potential suppliers must submit information to demonstrate their capability and competency. This must include but not limited to the following:

- a) Experience with Service Provision to Oil and Gas Operations or similar scope.
- b) Summary of service provision of similar type of service in the last 2 years.
- c) Audited Financial Statement for the past 3 years.
- d) Proof of experience and technical capability in providing said services preferably in Oil & Gas industry.
- e) Proof of financial capability (with latest approved audited financial statements for the past 3 years) and current annual return.
- f) International companies with ability to team up with local entity in any form as per the Local Content Regulations, 2017.
- g) Proof of registration with the local authorities in Tanzania or Country of Origin. This shall include but not limited to a Company profile, Certificate of Registration with BRELA, Tax Authority certificates for Tax Identification Number and VRN certificate, valid Tax Clearance certificate, valid Business License, EWURA and PURA registration references, etc.
- h) International companies with ability to team up with local entity in any form as per the Local Content Regulations, 2017.

5. All correspondence regarding this enquiry shall be made in writing and communicated by e-mail to

[contractmanager@tanzaniamp.co.tz](mailto:contractmanager@tanzaniamp.co.tz) and [costcontrol@tanzaniamp.co.tz](mailto:costcontrol@tanzaniamp.co.tz) not later than **22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024**.



# Yet another Customer Service Week season is here...



NBC Bank managing director Theobald Sabi (2nd-L) leads NBC chief operating officer Alelio Lowassa (R) along with long-serving customers of the bank, including Zuhura Maganga (L) and Asaa Simba, in cutting a special cake. This was at a ceremony held at the bank's headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday in marking the start of Customer Service Week activities. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority director general Dr James Andlile (C) pictured with customers at a Customer Service Week reception he hosted for them in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Tanzania Revenue Authority commissioner general Yusuph Mwenda (3rd-R) and deputy commissioner general Mcha Hassan (2nd-R) and a TRA customer celebrate Customer Service Week celebrations by cutting a cake at a reception TRA hosted at its office in Mbeya city. The authority expressed gratitude to taxpayers for their continued voluntary tax payments and promised to continue providing quality services. TRA also committed to improving and simplifying digital tax payment infrastructure to increase the number of taxpayers and promote national development. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Education, Science and Technology deputy minister Omari Kipanga (3rd-L) graces the presentation of gas stoves to teachers in Arusha city at the weekend marking World Teachers' Day, the event organised by Exim Bank in collaboration with stakeholders. The bank issued 1,000 gas stoves as a gesture of recognition of the contribution of teachers in strengthening education in the country. Second right is Arusha Urban constituency legislator Mrisho Gambo and third right is the bank's Head of Marketing and Communications, Stanley Kafu. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Exim Bank Tanzania's Head of Global Treasury and Markets, Nelson Kishanda, has a word with some of the bank's employees during the 2024 Customer Service Week celebrations held at the bank's Samora Avenue branch in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Left is the bank's Head of Customer Service, Frank Matoro. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



NMB CEO Ruth Zaipuna (L) views AI chatbox 'Jirani' as it was being unveiled in Dar es Salaam to mark the start of Customer Service Week activities. She is with the bank's Chief of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi (2nd-L), and Chief of Technology and Digital Transformation, Kwame Makundi. The chatbox is part of the bank's drive meant to revolutionise and enhance the bank's customer experience. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Azania Bank Limited's Geita branch manager, Rhoda Baluhya (R), briefs Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko (L) on the lender's activities relating to mining. Second left is Minerals minister Anthony Mavunde. It was at the ongoing 7th Geita Mining Technology Exhibition, which got under way in Geita town yesterday. The bank has invested heavily in supporting the mining sector. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Ben Kalile (R), a Geita Gold Mining Ltd underground mining representative, briefs a visitor to the 7th Mining Technology Expo now under way in Geita town on underground mining operations. Photo: Guardian Correspondent





Dr Jim Yonazi (3rd-R), Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), cuts the ribbon yesterday to launch Hanang District Council disaster management documents. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

## Statisticians trained on database system

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TANZANIA has started the process to adopt the National Accounts Compilation Software by all East African Community (EAC) member states by training the National Accounts Compilers in the country.

Officials from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and those from the Office of the Chief Government Statistician Zanzibar (OCGS) convened in Dodoma for training on the National Accounts Database System (NADABAS), a free, Excel-based software for compiling national accounts.

NADABAS was developed through a joint Scandinavian project in Mozambique in 2004.

Since then, the system has been adopted in several countries, including Lesotho, Kenya, Eswatini, Namibia and Botswana.

The training which kicked off on Monday seeks to equip participants from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and those from the Office of the Chief Government Statistician Zanzibar (OCGS) with skills that will help them in the compilation of the NADABAS.

Participants in the training included Tanzanians from the National Accounts Statistics Department, representatives from EAC Secretariat, the African Union Institute for Statistics (STATAFRIC), Statistics Norway and the Kenya

Bureau of Statistics.

The training seeks to ensure that Tanzania also adopts the system. According to the National Accounts Expert from the EAC Secretariat, Gervais Nduwimana, STATAFRIC in collaboration with EAC developed software which if adopted by member states can help to facilitate an exercise towards having the EAC Monetary Union Protocol.

"As EAC member states move into the monetary union venture, it is important to harmonise our statistics so that they are comparable, therefore national accounts are critical," he noted.

Speaking when opening the training session, Commissar of the 2022 Population Census,

Anne Makinda, paid tribute to the EAC Secretariat for organizing the training which she said demonstrates its commitment to see the governments of member states to continuously improve their national accounts statistics.

"This training will equip you with the skills to efficiently utilize NADABAS, thus appropriately helping you in preparation and organisation of all statistics related to the economic activities conducted in our country."

At the occasion, NBS Chief Statistician, Dr Albina Chuwa said that Tanzania values the contribution of statistics to the national economy and is committed to ensuring that data meets international standards.

## Farmers issue policy proposals to lower land-related challenges

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

FARMERS have issued policy proposals aimed to address the main land-related challenges faced by small scale farmers across the nation.

The recommendations were reached after a two days National Land Rights Dialogue for Sustainable Production, held in Dodoma and brought together farmers from different parts of the country and government officials to discuss the challenges.

They argued that land-related issues continue to be a major challenge, especially for small farmers who depend on it for crop production, livestock and other economic activities.

The meeting was organized by the Tanzania Federation of Small Farmers Associations (SHIWAKUTA), a member organization of smallholder farmers in the country.

Reading the statement at the end of the meeting, SHIWAKUTA's Policy and Advocacy Officer, Thomas Laizer, said the proposals aim to address the main land-related challenges faced by smallholder farmers and the need for improvement.

He argued that small farmers often lack security of land ownership, making them vulnerable to eviction, land confiscation, and acquisition and response to land disputes. "Without formal title or legal recognition, farmers have little incentive to invest in land improvement or establish sustainable land use practices" he said, calling on the government to ensure they get documents.

On land damage, he noted that unsustainable farming practices, deforestation, and arbitrary farming have led to widespread land degradation in many areas, leading to a decline in soil fertility and a decline in agricultural and livestock production.

Degraded land also exacerbates the effects of climate change, such as soil erosion, flooding, and drought, which reduces the size of productive lands and affects smallholder farmers in the country.

Laizer explained that despite their important contribution to agriculture, women often face significant barriers to land acquisition and land ownership.

The participants pointed at practices of gender-biased land ownership, a law that does not discriminate against women's land ownership rights, and traditional practices prevent women from acquiring and owning land, limiting agricultural production and denying women the opportunity to participate in decision-making and land use.

They noted that in many rural areas, there are land disputes between different stakeholders such as farmers, ranchers, and investors, leading to a significant increase in land use disputes.

"These conflicts not only endanger agricultural activities, but also threaten peace, social cohesion and social stability", reads their statement.

In their recommendations, the association noted that to promote sustainable agricultural production, governments and policymakers should focus on strengthening land tenure security for smallholder farmers.

They said the land is part of the constitution and should be made in chapter one of the constitution as proposed in the Land Policy 1995, formalizing customary land rights through registration and title issuing programmes and establishing community land management systems to manage shared resources and resolve disputes.

The meeting also called on the government and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, to oversee the implementation of the Act No. 5 of 2009, not to divide the land of villages into wildlife reserves.

There should be national land rights debates regularly to identify challenges and to strategize land dispute resolution and the government in collaboration with development stakeholders should increase the power to provide education to the community on land laws and policies.

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

### Invitation for BID BID No: GIZ/IHCP/91182891/2024

As an international cooperation enterprise for sustainable development with worldwide operations, the federally owned Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supports the Tanzania Government in achieving its development-policy objectives.

The Improvement of Health Care Programme II (IHCP II) is implemented by GIZ, commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and development. GIZ implements this programme with close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government.

#### Requirement

GIZ invites bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply of Medical equipment as shown below:

ITEM NO.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QTY
<b>Lot 1 TRAINING MATERIALS (MANIKINS)</b>			
1	Manikin, birthing simulator	Each	4
2	Manikin, gynaecology simulator	Each	4
3	Pelvis model for IUCD insertion	Each	9
4	Arm model for implant insertion	Each	11
5	Manikin, postpartum uterus trainer	Each	4
6	Manikin, premature baby	Each	4
7	Manikin, resuscitation newborn	Each	5
<b>LOT 2 CPAP WITH INBUILT OXYGEN SOURCE</b>			
8	Baby bubble CPAP 20 litres	Each	7
9	CPAP Cannula Kits	Each	7
<b>LOT 3 PORTABLE CPAP SYSTEM</b>			
10	Portable air Oxygen blender with Bubble CPAP system	Each	6
<b>LOT 4 OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR &amp; BLOOD REFRIGERATOR</b>			
11	Oxygen Concentrator	Each	6
12	Blood refrigerator	Each	2
<b>LOT 5 HOSPITAL FURNITURE</b>			
13	Instruments trolley (medium)	Each	5
14	Instruments trolley (small)	Each	11
15	Crash cart trolley	Each	7
16	Ward round table/Overbed table	Each	16
17	Gynaecological examination bed	Each	16

Note: The above items constitute of five (5) lots, bidders shall quote with respective quantities for one or more lots.

Interested candidates should request for detailed tender documents from: [tz\\_procurement@giz.de](mailto:tz_procurement@giz.de) no later than 15.10.2024.

We will answer your request during office hours from 08:00 to 15:00 hours local time, Monday to Friday, except public holidays.

Late Bids, Partial Bids, Bids not received, shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

GIZ is not obliged to follow any condition in nominating the supplier and has the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

This tender is intended solely for Tanzanian registered companies.



The United Republic of Tanzania  
Ministry of Transport  
Tanzania Ports Authority



### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED DESIGN AND BUILD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF KISIWA/MGAO PORT LOCATED IN MTWARA DISTRICT, MTWARA REGION

The Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) oversees a network of ports that serve both Tanzania's hinterland and neighboring land-linked countries. Acting as both landlord and operator, TPA promotes the use, development, and management of these ports and their surrounding areas. The Authority is responsible for entering contracts that delegate powers through licensing and concessions for port services. TPA manages a range of sea and inland waterways on the mainland, including the major seaports of Dar es Salaam, Tanga, and Mtwara.

The Government of Tanzania (GoT) through TPA in the Financial Year 2023/24, intends to commence with the implementation of the proposed development of a dedicated Dirty Cargo (Cement, Iron pellets and Coal) Terminal at Kisiwa/Mgao to facilitate the improvement of efficiency along the Mtwara Development Corridor.

TPA, through its appointed design and build contractor, has commissioned Eco Services (T) Limited to conduct an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the proposed project, as required by the Environmental Management Act (EMA, 2004). The ESIA will assess both the positive and negative impacts of the project and provide recommendations for appropriate mitigation measures.

This notice is intended to solicit views, concerns, and comments from all interested parties who may be affected by the project. Your feedback is important for ensuring responsible development. The deadline for submitting comments is 31st October 2024.

For any inquiries, concerns, or comments, please contact:

<b>Project Proponent</b>	Director General Tanzania Ports Authority P.O. Box 9184, Dar es salaam, Tanzania Phone: 0800-1100 32 Fax: +255 22 2130390 Email: <a href="mailto:dg@ports.go.tz">dg@ports.go.tz</a> Website: <a href="http://www.ports.go.tz">www.ports.go.tz</a>
<b>ESIA Consultants</b>	Managing Director Eco Services (T) Limited, Regent Estate, Plot No. 132/2, Migombani Street P.O. Box 36086, Dar es salaam, Tanzania Tel: +255 787 696 932 Email: <a href="mailto:info@ecoservices.co.tz">info@ecoservices.co.tz</a> Website: <a href="http://www.ecoservices.co.tz">www.ecoservices.co.tz</a>
<b>National Environment Management Council (NEMC)</b>	Director General National Environment Management Council (NEMC) Kambarage Tower, 6th Floor P.O. Box 2724 Dodoma, Tanzania Tel: +255 26 2960098, 0713608930 Email: <a href="mailto:dg@nemc.or.tz">dg@nemc.or.tz</a> Website: <a href="http://www.nemc.or.tz">www.nemc.or.tz</a>



## Financial sector urged to support needs of retirees

By Guardian Reporter

STAKEHOLDERS in the financial industry including local businesses and workers have advocated for enhanced lending conditions that recognize the needs of retirees and individuals working in the informal sector, particularly farmers.

They made the call on Monday when speaking during a brief ceremony to launch the Customer Service Month, organized by NBC Bank in Dar es Salaam.

Asaa Simba, one of the businessmen, appreciated the recent advancements in service delivery by the financial institutions in the country, but emphasized the urgent need for the lenders to adapt their loan policies to accommodate a wider range of citizens including retirees.

"It is crucial to understand that retirement does not signify the end of one's economic contributions to the nation. This understanding is why we express our heartfelt gratitude to NBC Bank for increasing the borrower age limit from 70 to 80 years and extending loan durations from six to nine years," said Simba.

Another businessman Francis Mfundo underscored that the changes are not merely administrative but serve as a vital lifeline for many who still possess the vigour and responsibility to engage in economic activities post-retirement.

The presentations expanded to the pressing issue of bureaucratic delays in loan processing. Long-time clients of NBC, some of whom have been with the bank for over three decades, collectively urged financial institutions in the country to expedite loan approvals.

"We kindly request financial institutions to streamline their processes. Lengthy delays often lead to missed opportunities, preventing clients from effectively taking advantage of available loans," added Mfundo.

Zuhura Maganga, also stressed the importance of inclusive financial services.

Theobald Sabi, bank's managing director outlined a range of

impressive achievements aimed at enhancing customer satisfaction.

"At the bank, our core mission remains to meet our clients' needs. Therefore, we are committed to investing in the expansion of our branch and agent network, upgrading our digital systems, and refining our service delivery processes, particularly in loan processing," said Sabi.

Highlighting the bank's growth trajectory, he revealed that this year alone saw the establishment of nine new branches, bringing their total to a remarkable 60 nationwide. The bank's agent network, NBC Wakala, has also expanded substantially, now boasting over 16,950 agents across the country.

Improvements in mobile banking, including services like NBC Kiganjani and NBC Connect, were also emphasized as part of their commitment to modernizing customer interactions.

In a further effort to facilitate financial transactions, Sabi announced significant upgrades to the Government Payment System through the GEPG platform, enabling customers to make government payments and settle bills with greater ease.

AstheMDdiscussedimprovements in loan offerings, he detailed the considerable enhancements made in criteria for various types of loans, including Retiree Loans, Loans Secured by Bonds, Mortgage Loans, and Agricultural and Livestock Loans. The aim is to ensure that a broader segment of the population can access these essential financial services.

"For example, the maximum amount for retiree loans has increased significantly from 50m/- to 300m/-. Additionally, we have revised the criteria for Mortgage Loans, allowing clients to borrow up to 1bn/- for a duration of 25 years."

"Our commitment to the agricultural sector is particularly noteworthy, as it employs over 75 percent of all Tanzanians. We provide loans for tractors, insurance for farmers, and specialized accounts for livestock keepers," Sabi said.



Mkalama district commissioner Moses Machali pictured on Monday addressing residents of Nduguti ward on later this year's countrywide local government elections. Photo: Correspondent Thobias Mwanakatwe

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

AGRICULTURE Minister Hussein Bashe has announced that a total of 600m/- has been allocated for the Sisal Incubation Centre in Tanga Region.

The funding aims to establish the centre as a vital hub for adding value to sisal and various small crops, including spices.

Bashe unveiled this at the weekend here during the launch of the sisal incubation centre, highlighting the government's commitment to supporting the Tanzania Sisal Board (SBT) and addressing the needs of the Tanga region and Zanzibar islands.

"This centre, along with the Tanga Region, will become a focal point equipped with tools to enhance the value of sisal and other agricultural products," he said.

## Govt allots 600m/- for sisal incubation centre in Tanga

The allocated funds will be used to purchase essential equipment and raw materials, enabling entrepreneurs to produce high-quality goods.

Bashe emphasized that once women and youth secure loans, they will be able to access all necessary raw materials at the centre.

"They will use this facility as a production site to create goods and sell them in their businesses," he said.

The establishment of the Sisal Incubation Centre is expected to create job opportunities and stimulate economic growth in the

region.

By focusing on value addition, the government aims to enhance the profitability of the sisal industry, which has long been a significant contributor to Tanzania's agricultural sector.

In addition to providing production facilities, the centre will offer training programs for local entrepreneurs on best practices in sisal processing and product development.

This will empower the community, particularly women and youth, by equipping them with the skills needed to thrive in the competitive market.

The incubation centre is part of the government's broader strategy to promote agricultural diversification and sustainable practices in Tanzania.

He noted that with the growing global demand for natural fibers and organic products, the centre is positioned to play a crucial role in enhancing the marketability of Tanzanian sisal and other crops.

Minister Bashe reaffirmed the government's dedication to supporting the agricultural sector and ensuring that local farmers and entrepreneurs benefit from the resources and opportunities available to them.

## Serengeti a 'shining' African conservancy

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame,

Arusha

A DETAILED analysis of 2,384 reviews written by safari-goers and international safari experts has just determined the top 50 best safari parks on the African continent.

And the winner is Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, which takes the first position as Africa's top safari park for 2024, according to an official statement from Anita Kovalevska of SafariBookings.com.

Ruaha National Park which celebrates its 60th Birthday has also entered into the list for the first time, taking the 4th Position.

Also in the top ten listing is Katavi, another Tanzanian National Park at number 10.

Tanzania has essentially four entries in the 2024 winners; Serengeti at Number One, Ruaha at Number Four, the Ngorongoro Crater at Number 9 and Katavi closing the Top Ten.

SafariBookings.com, the largest online marketplace for African safaris, conducted its annual study to determine the 50 best African safari parks for 2024.

For the fifth consecutive time, Serengeti National Park in Tanzania has emerged the clear winner, which according to Safari Bookings this should not come as a surprise to global travel and tourism enthusiasts.

The Serengeti received an overall rating of 4.85 out of 5, which was significantly higher than every other park.

A total of 1,239 reviews were contributed to the study by safari tourists from 74 countries.

The winners are Serengeti National Park of Tanzania in first position; Sabi Sanda Private Game Reserve of South Africa, coming second; South Luangwa National Park (Zambia); Ruaha National Park (Tanzania) and Okavango Delta (Botswana).

Others are Chobe National Park

of Botswana; Moremi Game Reserve (Botswana); Maasai Mara Game Reserve (Kenya); Ngorongoro Crater (Tanzania) and Katavi National Park in Tanzania.

The remaining 1,145 park reviews were written by renowned international safari industry experts, including guidebook authors working with Lonely Planet, Rough Guides, Frommer's, Bradt Travel Guides and Footprint.

It was agreed that Serengeti National Park is the poster child for the East African safari.

This vast park, one of Africa's largest, has an astonishing array of wildlife that ranges across landscapes and habitats of singular beauty.

The annual migration of 2.5 million wildebeest and zebras through the park captures much attention, and rightly so, as one of nature's greatest spectacles.

But the Serengeti is a remarkable destination year-round, even when the herds move on.

The Serengeti's fifth successive victory as Africa's best safari park is a remarkable and thoroughly deserved achievement.

This is especially the case given the high standard of competition in Tanzania and farther afield - across East and southern Africa.

In total 196 parks in 15 African countries were included in the study.

Countries covered include Botswana, Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Only parks known for classic wildlife-viewing safaris were considered.

Parks mostly known for scenery or gorilla, or chimpanzee tracking (and not other wildlife) were not included.

Also, parks with less than 9 reviews were excluded from the Top 50 ranking.



Kishapu constituency legislator Boniphace Butondo addresses a meeting at Mhunze village yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

## Plan to attend cabin crew training, ATCL boss urges Tanzanian youth

By Correspondent Joseph

Mwendapole

AIR Tanzania Company limited (ATCL) managing director Engineer Ladislaus Matindi has urged the country's youth to consider taking cabin crew training, citing ample job opportunities in both local and international organisations.

Eng Matindi made the remarks in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during a graduation ceremony for 56 students who successfully completed the cabin crew course at the ATCL Training Centre (ATTC). The graduates received certificates in recognition of their achievement.

He said the selection process

for the course was competitive, beginning with 180 applicants. After rigorous screenings, only 56 students were selected for graduation.

He said cabin crew courses place a number of opportunities due to the rapid growth of the aviation industry.

"These students have demonstrated exceptional capability and commitment. Their primary responsibility as flight crew is to ensure the safety of passengers, their belongings, and the aircraft. Providing excellent customer service is a top priority in fulfilling these duties."

He also noted that graduates from the programme have been

quick to find employment, with many securing positions in major international airlines and local organisations.

"Our graduates meet the demands of both local and foreign labour markets, which has greatly contributed to their success," Matindi added.

The director highlighted the growing aviation industry, which has led to a surge in applications for the cabin crew course.

He attributed this increase to the expansion of ATCL's modern aircraft fleet, as well as the availability of professional trainers and training equipment.

Matindi said the investment to expand the training centre

demonstrates confidence in the future of the business and the company's commitment to providing the most up-to-date training to enhance safety and competence across the industry.

He further announced plans for ATCL to establish additional training branches outside Dar es Salaam to better serve its stakeholders' needs.

Elly Ndekile, ATTC Principal noted that since its inception, the institution has produced over 700 qualified graduates.

The graduation ceremony took place at the Tanzania Airline Academy, located at Julius Nyerere International Airport, Terminal I, in Dar es Salaam.





Construction of Nsaga-Songwe Airport road in Mbalizi near Mbeya city in progress along the Mwakapangala stretch on Monday. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

## Private sector engagement crucial for sustainable healthcare services

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

MUTUAL trust, collaboration and transparency between the government and private health stakeholders are crucial in ensuring sustainability of health care services in the country.

Speaking during the 11th Tanzania Health Summit (THS) which was held in Zanzibar, Director of Health, Social Welfare and Nutrition Services at the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government Authority), Dr Rashid Mfaume said that currently about 85 percent of health care services in Dar es Salaam are provided by private health care facilities.

"The government has shown political will and implemented policies that create a conducive environment for private sector stakeholders to work towards achieving their goals while collaborating with the government" said Dr Mfaume while speaking at a Health Forum organized by Deloitte with the support of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Deputy Chief of Party for USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone Kenneth Chima said despite these achievements, the project still faces challenges due to limited funding and competing from the government priorities.

USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone is a five-year project which is being funded by PEPFAR through USAID, and was highlighted as a good example of such private sector engagement.

The project, which kicked off in 2022, works with 14 civil society organizations in Southern Tanzania and aims at improving health, well-being and protection of orphans, vulnerable children and youth in communities with high HIV burden.

To address these challenges, the project has initiated a strategy to mobilize resources from private

sector stakeholders to support beneficiaries.

In a pilot initiative in Njombe, USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone raised 142m/- to support agricultural projects, vocational training for youth and soft loans for women in Ruvuma.

USAID Tanzania Head of System Strengthening, Godfrey Nyombi said that USAID works in supporting government health projects that touches lives of Tanzanians from grassroots level with an aim of improving lives.

"We are proud of this health forum which highlights the achievements of projects that we have been funding. We will continue working and collaborating with the Tanzania government for the purpose of making lives of Tanzanians and especially those living in rural areas better," said Nyombi.

The summit, which focused on private sector engagement in the HIV response at the primary health care level with one of the key discussed topics being the importance of engaging local donors and funders to support the sustainability of health projects, especially given the challenge of shrinking of international funds.

USAID Afya Yangu (My Health) southern project works on serving the less privileged in the community and was launched in 2022.

"USAID Afya Yangu is providing support to 752 Health Facilities (HFs) in 6 regions. Of the supported HFs, 145 (19.3 percent) are from private with 80,329 (27 percent) clients on ART which is more than any of the supported regions (Iringa is the largest with 65,468 clients)," said Dr Denis Mzaga, Director of Strategic Information for the project.

Currently, Deloitte is managing implementation of two health projects for PEPFAR and USAID/Tanzania. These are USAID Afya Yangu (My Health) southern project and USAID Kizazi Hodari (Brave Generation) southern project both funded by PEPFAR and USAID.

By Guardian Reporter

## New initiative to boost client value proposition with exclusive benefits

A NEW initiative has been unveiled in Dar es Salaam to elevate banking experience for high-net-worth individuals by offering exclusive financial and lifestyle benefits.

The initiative unveiled by Stanbic Bank Tanzania, reaffirms the bank's commitment to providing personalized solutions tailored to clients' ambitions and lifestyles.

During the launching event in Dar es Salaam recently, Shangwe Kisanji, head of private banking, emphasized that the new offering is grounded in the philosophy of "Ambition Never Stops," reflecting clients' drive to achieve greater success.

He said the enhanced proposition offers a comprehensive suite of services designed to support the creation, growth, and protection of clients' wealth while addressing

their personal and family financial objectives.

Key enhancements unveiled include visa platinum debit card where clients will enjoy a range of luxurious benefits, including complimentary international lounge access, bespoke travel privileges with select global brands like Qatar Airways and Jumeirah Hotels & Resorts, and a free global roaming e-SIM to ensure seamless connectivity while traveling.

Another is wealth management services which include comprehensive wealth advisory services that help clients create, grow, and protect their assets across generations.

Dedicated relationship managers will develop customized financial

strategies, aligning clients' goals with local and global market opportunities," he said.

On the family banking proposition, Stanbic Bank is committed to fostering generational wealth by extending the same privileges to spouses of existing clients. Tailored programs will support families in managing money, investments, and wealth protection.

"To enrich the client experience, Stanbic Private Banking will host select networking events and luxury lifestyle activities for visa platinum cardholders, providing opportunities for clients to connect, build relationships, and explore new business ventures," he noted.

Omari Mtiga, head of personal

sinking at Stanbic Bank Tanzania, stated: "We understand that our clients' lives extend beyond banking transactions. We are dedicated to offering lifestyle benefits that enhance their ambitions, whether through travel privileges, access to exclusive events, or tailored professional advice."

The value propositions position Stanbic Private Banking as Tanzania's leading private bank, dedicated to empowering clients to achieve their personal and financial goals.

Manzi Rwegasira, chief executive of Stanbic Bank Tanzania said: "This offering transcends financial products; it's about partnering with clients to create lasting legacies for their families and communities."

## Lender celebrates customer week in style

By Guardian Reporter

IN an effort to enhance customer experience in line with its 'customer-first' service approach, NMB Bank has launched a national customer-centric campaign.

The move is part of the bank to introduce an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered chatbot, which allows both customers and non-customers to access accurate information about the bank's products and services in real-time.

Ruth Zaipuna, bank's chief executive officer described the campaign as a "game changer," emphasizing the bank's commitment to investing in technology and human resources to deliver exceptional customer service.

"This campaign builds on the success of our recent internal initiative, 'Sisi ni Huduma. I am the Change,' which trained our team to actively listen to customers, anticipate their needs, and deliver outstanding service," she said.

Zaipuna thanked customers for their loyalty and assured them that the bank would continue to exceed their expectations with innovative product offerings and excellent service.

"NMB Bank is dedicated to

providing an exceptional experience, which is why we constantly invest in technology and equip our staff with the necessary skills to offer cutting-edge solutions," she emphasized.

She encouraged customers to provide feedback on the bank's products and services, noting that NMB is committed to evolving and innovating to meet customer aspirations.

Zaipuna highlighted the bank's significant growth, reporting an increase in its loan book from 3.6trn/- in 2019 to approximately 8trn/-.

She also noted that shareholders have benefited from increased dividends,

rising from 33bn/- in 2019 to 180bn/- this year.

The bank's strong performance has garnered several accolades, including recognition as the 'Most Tax Compliant' company by the Tanzania Revenue Authority for the second consecutive year.

Customer Service Week, celebrated annually during the first full week of October, highlights the importance of customer service and those who support customers daily. This year's celebration, themed 'Above and Beyond,' runs from October 7 to 11, this year.



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### Advertisement

## BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

**Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below services at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

**BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.**

No.	Reference no.	Description of work/goods to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-24-09-05	<b>The provision of employees' transportation.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractor specialised in commercial/public transportation(buses) preferably within the United Republic of Tanzania.</li> <li>• Experience in provision of similar service within the last 3 years preferably in either corporate setup or mining operations.</li> <li>• Competence in commercial/public transportation(buses) and fully conversant with the risks and control measures of providing this service in the mining industry environment.</li> <li>• List of equipment - Resource list - specifying quantities - Equipment maintenance capability (with detailed specifications of all expected equipment to be deployed).</li> <li>• Team with multi discipline members (Mainly - Project Manager/ Maintenance Manager/ Supervisors / Safety officer / Certified PSV Drivers/ Multi skilled) should have sound Knowledge of Mine Health &amp; Safety standards.</li> </ul>

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead referencing the work package reference number should your company qualify as per the pre-qualification criteria together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile.
- Company registration documents i.e., Certificate of incorporation, Tax Clearance Certificate, etc.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, and affiliated registration
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgment of submission from the Mining Commissioner
- BRELA detailed search certificate indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.

Kindly send your response by email to [bulytender@barrick.com](mailto:bulytender@barrick.com) by latest 1800hrs on the **16<sup>th</sup> October 2024**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered.

Please quote the above Reference number and description on your Expression of Interest submission.

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

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of **BGML**.

**For and on behalf of BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED.**



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## Researchers unavoidably select themes tied to global consensus

A recent seminar in Johannesburg devoted to the contribution of African researchers to conflict resolution in the continent has reopened a can of worms many will have thought had long been disposed of.

A top cabinet official objected to prioritising research themes arising from the interests of foreign organisations funding such studies, demanding that patriotism come before any other consideration.

When this is the stated position of senior public officers, both retired and serving, it is hard to see how they would resolve issues confronting the continent.

The issue isn't that everyone should accept that democracy be seen as legitimate, but rather how far African states are nearing an ideal democratic environment or have simply failed.

It is noteworthy that this was the first Africa Peace and Security Dialogue (APSD), organised by the Thabo Mbeki Foundation in the South African commercial capital.

Scholars, civil society organisations and research institutions working on African matters brainstormed on the issues. The idea that they should place patriotism and the continent's interests first presumed that there is a clear dichotomy between the two, such that each of us, first as citizens and then as researchers for those marked out in that category, has to take sides.

Yet the issue is less the pursuit of the national interests of those funding research but their ideological interests in the conflict sphere.

Tanzania's founding president Mwalimu JK Nyerere said in a landmark formulation in early 1962 that 'socialism, like democracy, is an attitude of mind'.

This kind of formulation, which made the rounds locally, regionally and far beyond, provides one hearing it with an optimistic view either about socialism or about democracy.

By the late 1980s we had generally finished learning the lessons of whether or not we had a socialist attitude of mind, and since 1992 we have been grappling with how far we really have a democratic attitude.

There are reasonable grounds to worry if the public has sufficiently endorsed the 4Rs espoused by President Samia Suluhu Hassan or grasped how the R of reconciliation is tied up with the R of reform, so that people reconcile as they have new hope in life.

Low inflation on its own isn't the condition of reconciliation as it represents suppressed demand rather than cheap commodities - and this suppression is expressed as wishing for change at all costs. It skips policy debate, wants rulers out; when left at that point, patriotism is to stand with the status quo, hoping for the best.

There is an expression of 'rendering unto Caesar what belongs to Caesar' which in this case lays the onus on those holding office or those checking well-founded initiatives like the 4Rs campaign.

The point is that it is up to those holding office to find ways to open up the economy and legislate on issues genuinely bringing new hope across the population, limiting the extent to which political opportunists and leveraging artists can carry a large portion of the youth with them.

Failing this, the researchers may well understand, and realign their themes with official liking, but it will be victory inflicting such a devastating toll on the victor as to be tantamount to defeat.

## A year on, October 7 is sharp reminder of how horror can serve as the key to change

LOCAL and international airwaves have devoted a portion of their broadcasting time to mark October 7 as an anniversary relating to an attack in southern Israel on a religious festival.

Wars between Israel and its neighbours are habitual in the region, but the year-long skirmishes are different as they are dragging the region into an unbridled regional conflict.

The global powers will not be far behind, but they are tied down to worries of their own.

Trying to grapple with what happened on October 7, 2023 is to try and fathom what is impossible to swallow as a proposition.

It comes down to the proposition that if a guerrilla force attacks one's neighbouring country massively enough to push it to frontal war, demands of the attacking party will have to be met at the world stage to avoid physical extermination of a certain people. It is unclear if this strategy is still viable, and whether any such eventuality is on the horizon.

In a speech midway in the year-long conflict, the now deceased leader of a kindred political and military organisation in Lebanon took stock of the issues in vital strategic or vision clarification remarks.

He said that one thing October 7 attained was that many in Israel were now busy re-examining whether they should be there or move back to Europe and

America.

A sharp contrast was that, in the wake of the war extending to Lebanon and arguably drawing Iran into a military showdown with Israel, the top echelon of the political/military leadership in Tel Aviv thought that things must change.

For those who have time or ability to sit back and reflect on matters, the big issue in the conflict is whether it had to arrive at October 7 as an explosive expression of the potential for dialogue.

The background to this colossal collapse of civilised dialogue on the Middle East conflict were the Abraham Accords drawn up and signed between the United States and several countries in the Gulf zone.

At the time October 7 was being rolled out, it is understood that Saudi Arabia had mended relations with Iran and looked forward to joining the pivotal accords.

A most regrettable facet of the conflict is that having kindred and arguably great historical track of roles in history had all but failed to bring the two sides together in a stabilising entente.

They say that history repeats itself, and indeed the Yom Kippur War of October 1973 was repeated half a century later - in 2023 - but that is as far as it goes. Gaza and Israel will hopefully not be able to live a year-long horror again in the future.



## Celebrating 20 years of gorilla conservation in Rwanda

By Patrick Nyamvumba

CONSERVATION has long been a global endeavour, but its success hinges on small, meaningful actions within communities. These efforts are not always grand but are often rooted in cultural traditions that have been passed down through generations. A prime example is Rwanda's Kwita Izina, a gorilla naming ceremony that effectively demonstrates how local customs can evolve into significant conservation practices.

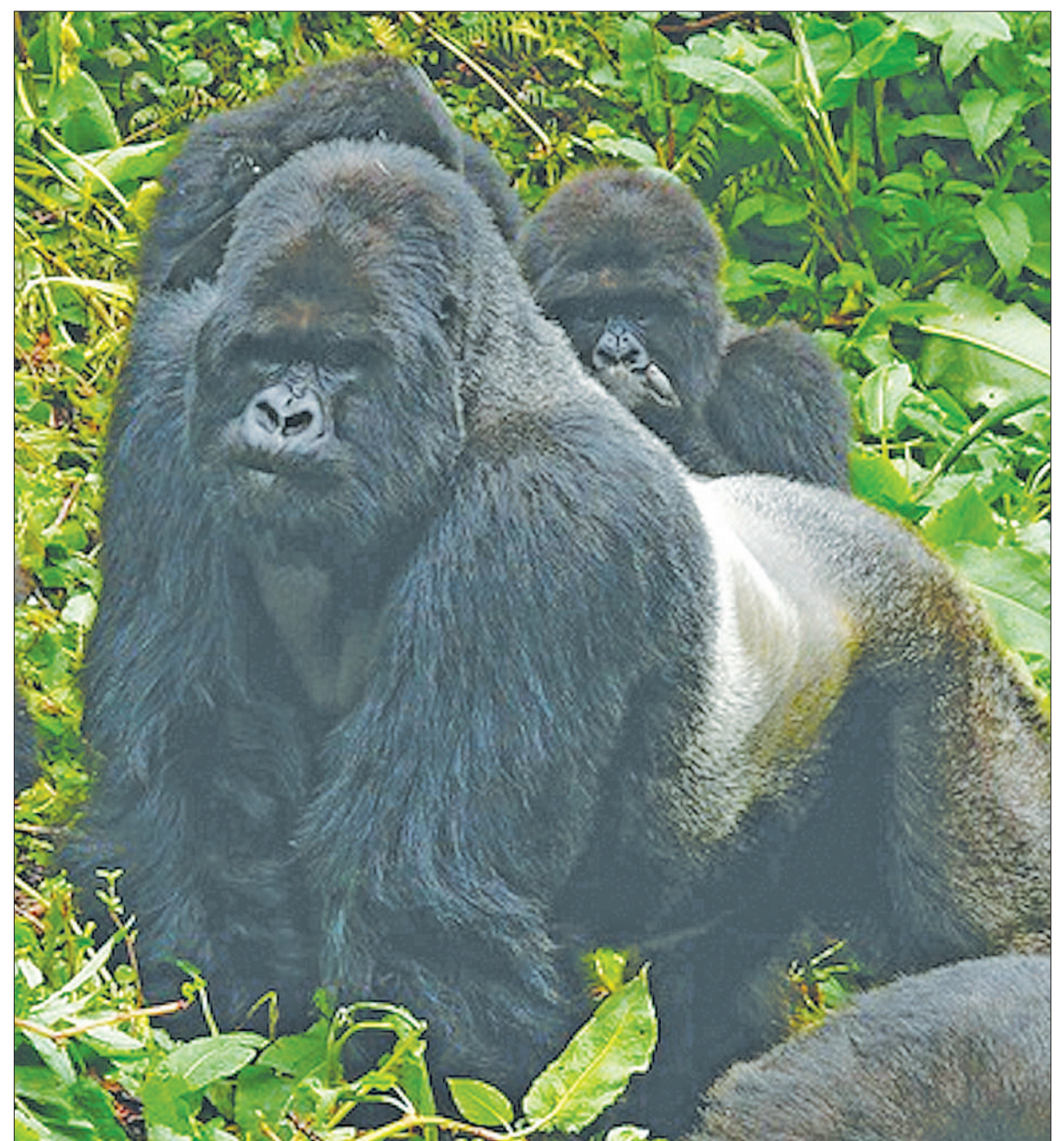
As the Rwanda's High Commissioner to Tanzania, I have come to learn specific lessons or observations about conservation in Tanzania that resonate deeply with Rwanda's own experiences. Tanzania and Rwanda have specific conservation practices or principles in common, underscoring our mutual commitment to preserving our natural heritage.

In the aftermath of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, Rwanda faced monumental challenges. The tragedy impacted not only the people of Rwanda but also its natural habitats and wildlife. Among the severely affected species were the country's mountain gorillas, then teetering on the brink of extinction. As Rwanda embarked on a path to rebuild its nation, its government, formed in the wake of unimaginable human loss, recognized the critical need to include the protection of its natural heritage in its recovery efforts.

This led to the inception of 'Kwita Izina' (loosely translated as 'naming') in 2005. Inspired by a centuries-old tradition where Rwandan families gathered to name newborn children eight days post-birth, Rwanda decided to extend the ceremony to its beloved residents - the mountain gorillas - to promote their conservation and protection. This event was not just a naming ceremony but a societal celebration to integrate the child into the community.

When the Rwandan government began officially naming mountain gorillas, it formally declared the value of each gorilla to the Rwandan nation, and the importance of protecting both the gorillas and their habitat. Now, Kwita Izina has evolved into a global event that draws conservationists, celebrities, and policymakers from around the world to celebrate Rwanda's dedication to preserving its biodiversity.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Kwita Izina, and its motto remains, "Conservation is



Life". The ceremony also highlights the role of local communities, conservationists and park rangers who are at the forefront of the conservation battle. These individuals put their lives on the line to protect Rwanda's mountain gorillas, and Kwita Izina celebrates their vital work.

Kwita Izina is an opportunity to educate the public and generate support for the resources these guardians need to continue their work effectively. Conservation researchers provide essential data to guide policy to protect wildlife, park rangers ensure the safety of both the gorillas and visiting tourists, and local communities have a key role in preserving the biodiversity that characterizes their homeland. Many of these efforts are powered by global investors and donors, and Kwita Izina also celebrates their commitment to conservation.

Kwita Izina has had a transformative impact on gorilla conservation. The mountain

gorilla population, marked as an endangered species in the 1980s with fewer than 250 individuals, has experienced a remarkable resurgence. By 2010, the population grew to 480, reaching 604 by 2016, thanks to dedicated conservation efforts. This significant recovery has led to the mountain gorilla being removed from the critically endangered species list.

Rwanda has ambitious plans to double down on the country's commitment to conservation. The government has embarked on an exciting project to restore and expand Volcanoes National Park, which will continue to protect the gorillas living there while providing more space for other species to thrive. The project's success hinges on global participation, and Rwanda is seeking support from around the world to make this project a reality.

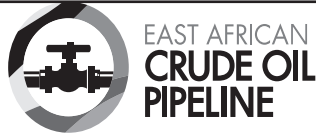
As we celebrate two decades of successful conservation through Kwita Izina on October 18th, our call to action is clear: the global

community must support African wildlife conservation. Rwanda has demonstrated through this humble, yet powerful ceremony, that our wildlife is our family. By supporting such initiatives, we contribute to a global movement that values biodiversity as a cornerstone of our environmental, social, and economic well-being.

We invite the world to draw inspiration from Kwita Izina. To adopt and adapt Rwanda's blueprint for local contexts. Whether through supporting global conservation efforts, engaging in community-based activities, or simply educating others about the importance of biodiversity, each of us has a role to play. The future of our planet depends on these collective actions. Let's embrace the spirit of Kwita Izina and commit to a world where both nature and humanity can prosper together.

Gen. Patrick Nyamvumba is the Rwanda's High Commissioner to Tanzania





## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NO 00000619: LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAMME: LIVESTOCK SUPPORT PROGRAM

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable companies or organizations to express their interest in additional detailed design and Implementation of a Livestock Support Program for eligible Project-Affected Households (PAHs).

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from Lake Albert area in Uganda to eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula in Tanga, Tanzania crossing eight regions – Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Manyara and Tanga, 27 administrative district councils and 231 villages.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

EACOP, as part of its international financing standards commitments, is delivering livelihood restoration programs to eligible Project Affected Households. EACOP is about to start implementation of a Livestock Support Program for households spread across four regions. The program design is being finalized and is likely to include but not be limited to:

- Engagement with households to confirm capacity to be part of the program.
- Classification of households according to different program designs.
- Training and capacity building of households on all relevant aspects of improved production and management of livestock and small ruminants.
- Training of Community Animal Health and Production Workers.
- Develop and train on livestock management calendars.
- Facilitate the establishment of livestock farmer centres.
- Support existing livestock farmer associations and cooperatives.
- Renovation of dip tanks.
- Linking PAHs to private sector for leasing of beef and dairy cattle for breeding or milk production.
- Review and support opportunities for value addition.
- Extension support to households for 18-24 months.

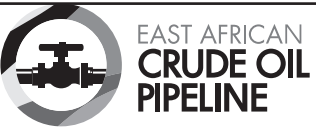
### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

**Organizations expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:**

- Details of design and implementation of similar projects preferably within EACOP regions including key elements of the projects, number of beneficiaries and overall value.
- Proof of registration with relevant Tanzanian Registration Bodies (current BRELA search, NGO Registration, OSHA)
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Proof of Registration with EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database, or a proof of approved application for registration at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for year.
- Evidence of a QHSE Management system, organization, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.

Companies which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending an Expression of Interest (EOI) via email, together with the above listed documents through an email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com) (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **30/10/2024** Email subject shall be: **EOI NO 00000619: LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAMME: LIVESTOCK SUPPORT PROGRAM**. Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. **All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.**

**Note:** EACOP LTD will review and assess the documents provided by companies that have expressed interest in accordance with this EOI and conduct evaluations based on internal criteria to determine which companies will be included in the list of pre-qualified companies. Only the pre-qualified companies will receive, by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to bid as a continuation of the call for tender process. EACOP LTD reserves the right at its sole discretion to make the decision to select or reject a company and maintain its decision without having to give reasons to the company concerned.



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NO 00000620: LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAMME: IMPROVED BEE KEEPING PRACTICES PROGRAM

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable companies or organizations to express their interest in additional detailed design and Implementation of an Improved Bee Keeping Practices Program for eligible EACOP Project-affected households.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from Lake Albert area in Uganda to eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula in Tanga, Tanzania crossing eight regions – Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Manyara and Tanga, 27 administrative district councils and 231 villages.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

EACOP, as part of its international financing standards commitments, is delivering livelihood restoration programs to eligible Project Affected Households (PAHs). EACOP is about to start implementation of an Improved Bee Keeping program for households spread across these regions in approximately 10 Project affected districts where beekeeping is viable. The program design is being finalized and is likely to include but not be limited to:

- Engagement with households to confirm capacity to be part of the program.
- Classification of households according to program designs.
- Training on production of improved, modern bee hives.
- Sourcing and distribution of bee keeping equipment and protective gear appropriate for Tanzania bee species
- Training and capacity building of households on all relevant aspects of bee keeping including basic and advanced beekeeping, recommended hive type, structure, and maintenance, required equipment, handling bees and hives, optimal placing of hives, and improved honey collection, processing and harvesting techniques.
- Support in development of seasonal calendars for honey production.
- Establish linkages with private sector for improved market access potential investment into honey production in Project-affected districts.
- Review and support opportunities for value addition.
- Extension support to households for 18-24 months.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

**Organizations expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:**

- Details of design and implementation of similar projects preferably within EACOP regions including key elements of the projects, number of beneficiaries and overall value.
- Proof of registration with relevant Tanzanian Registration Bodies (current BRELA search, NGO Registration, OSHA)
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Proof of Registration with EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database, or a proof of approved application for registration at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for year.
- Evidence of a QHSE Management system, organization, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.

Companies which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending an Expression of Interest (EOI) via email, together with the above listed documents through an email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com) (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **28/10/2024** Email subject shall be: **EOI 00000620: LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAMME: IMPROVED BEE KEEPING PRACTICES PROGRAM**. Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. **All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.**

**Note:** EACOP LTD will review and assess the documents provided by companies that have expressed interest in accordance with this EOI and conduct evaluations based on internal criteria to determine which companies will be included in the list of pre-qualified companies. Only the pre-qualified companies will receive, by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to bid as a continuation of the call for tender process. EACOP LTD reserves the right at its sole discretion to make the decision to select or reject a company and maintain its decision without having to give reasons to the company concerned.



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES  
REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
(EWURA)



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### (Issued under Section 19 of the EWURA Act, Cap. 414)

**NOTICE** is hereby issued to the public that the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has received an application for an Electricity Generation License from Mtibwa Sugar Estate Ltd. EWURA invites the public to provide comments or objections to the application. Details of the Applicant, plant and the type of the license applied are given hereunder: -

S/NO	DESCRIPTION
<b>Name and Address of the Applicant</b>	Mtibwa Sugar Estate Ltd. P. O. Box 42, Mvomero, Morogoro.
<b>Location</b>	Plot No. 194/1, Turiani – Mtibwa, Morogoro.
<b>Details of Shareholders</b>	1. Nassoro Ally Seif P.O Box 16541, Dar es Salaam, <b>50%</b>  2. Seif Ally Seif P O Box 16541, Dar es Salaam, <b>50%</b>
<b>Description of the Facility</b>	Steam turbine power plant with an installed capacity of fifteen (15) MW fueled by biomass. The generated electricity shall be for own-use
<b>Type and Duration of the Licence</b>	Electricity Generation License Own Use for a duration of Five (5) Years

Any person who has any comment or objection should submit the same in writing to EWURA within twenty-one (21) days from the date of this notice. The application documents can be viewed upon written request.

Issued by: -

Director General

Jengo la EWURA, 3 Mtaa wa EWURA, 41104 Tambukareli, S.L.P. 2857, Dodoma, Tanzania  
Simu: +255 26 2329002 – 4 • Nukushi: +255 26 2329005 • Barua Pepe: [info@ewura.go.tz](mailto:info@ewura.go.tz)



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NO 00000618: LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAMME: POULTRY PRODUCTION PROGRAM

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable companies or organizations to express their interest in additional detailed design and Implementation of a Poultry Production Program for eligible EACOP affected households.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from Lake Albert area in Uganda to eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula in Tanga, Tanzania crossing eight regions – Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Manyara and Tanga, 27 administrative district councils and 231 villages.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

EACOP, as part of its international financing standards commitment, is delivering livelihood restoration programs to eligible Project Affected Households. EACOP is about to start implementation of a Poultry Production Program for a significant number of households spread across all eight crossed regions. The program design is being finalized and is likely to include but not be limited to:

- Engagement with households to confirm capacity to be part of the program.
- Classification of households according to different program designs.
- Training and capacity building of households on all aspects of poultry production and management.
- Training and capacity-building on small poultry business development.
- Training of Community Animal Health Workers.
- Procurement of chickens (local and context-appropriate improved breeds)
- Provision of feed for limited period only, followed by training and capacity building on feed production.
- Identification and facilitation of agrovet to supply and deliver essential agrivet supplies, including vaccination, medicines and improved feed ingredients.
- Support for households to construct sustainable poultry housing.
- Extension support to households over 18 months to 24 month period.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

**Organizations expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:**

- Details of design and implementation of similar projects preferably within EACOP regions including key elements of the projects, number of beneficiaries and overall value.
- Proof of registration with relevant Tanzanian Registration Bodies (current BRELA search, NGO Registration, OSHA)
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Proof of Registration with EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database, or a proof of approved application for registration at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for year.
- Evidence of a QHSE Management system, organization, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.

Companies which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending an Expression of Interest (EOI) via email, together with the above listed documents through an email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com) (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **3/11/2024** Email subject shall be: **EOI00000618: LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PROGRAMME: POULTRY PRODUCTION PROGRAM**. Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. **All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language**

**Note:** EACOP LTD will review and assess the documents provided by companies that have expressed interest in accordance with this EOI and conduct evaluations based on internal criteria to determine which companies will be included in the list of pre-qualified companies. Only the pre-qualified companies will receive, by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to bid as a continuation of the call for tender process. EACOP LTD reserves the right at its sole discretion to make the decision to select or reject a company and maintain its decision without having to give reasons to the company concerned.





**Jane Goodall Institute**  
TANZANIA  
For Wildlife Research, Education & Conservation

## JOB VACANCIES

### About Us

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) is a global community conservation organization that advances the vision and work of Dr. Jane Goodall by conserving chimpanzees and inspiring communities to conserve the natural world we all share, we improve the lives of people, animals, and the environment. We strongly believe everything is connected and everyone can make a difference.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) is a reputable and rapidly expanding non-governmental organization committed to wildlife research, conservation, socio-economic development, and environmental education. The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) was founded in 2001 by Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE. The JGI Tanzania with its partners makes a difference through community centered conservation, chimpanzees research projects, youths' environmental education, the innovative use of science and technology, we work closely with local communities in Tanzania, inspiring hope through a collective power of individual action.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania with funding from its donors is currently seeking to recruit a suitably qualified and competent Tanzanians to fill the following vacant positions:

<b>Job Position:</b>	<b>Communications Manager</b>
<b>Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Duty Station:</b>	Dar es salaam
<b>Reporting Line:</b>	Executive Director

### Job Summary:

The Communications Manager at the Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI Tanzania) will play a leading role in executing comprehensive communications strategies across all the Institute's projects and programs. Reporting to the Executive Director, the Communications Manager will be responsible for enhancing the visibility of and engagement with JGI Tanzania's mission, work, and impact locally and internationally.

This role will involve managing all external communication channels, relationships with media, influencers, and other communications stakeholders, ensuring ongoing monitoring and continuous improvement of communications activities across the organization.

### Key Job Responsibilities & Duties:

The key responsibilities will include, but not limited to:

#### 1. Communication Strategy Development

- Lead implementation of the communications strategy that aligns communications priorities across JGI Tanzania's mission, goals, and programmatic objectives.
- Manage the development and delivery of consistent messaging across all projects, programs, and campaigns to ensure target audiences accurately and comprehensively understand JGI Tanzania's mission, work, and impact.
- Ensure the creation of strategic communication plans for key events, initiatives, and campaigns, including broad engagement with target audiences, including donors, partners, government, and the general public.

#### 2. Content Creation and Management

- Oversee the creation of high-quality, compelling content, including stories, newsletters, blog posts, videos, and reports that effectively communicate the Institute's impact and values.
- Work closely with project teams to collect stories, photos, and videos from the field to showcase project success.
- Develop content for digital platforms that communicates program impact and progress, while engaging with online audiences effectively.
- Ensure all communications materials adhere to brand guidelines and reinforce the identity of JGI Tanzania.

#### 3. Donor and Partner Communications

- Collaborate with development and fundraising teams to support the creation of donor communication materials, including proposals, reports, and impact stories.
- Maintain strong communication with partners and stakeholders, providing regular updates on JGI Tanzania's work and achievements.
- Identify and potentially establishing new scholarship funds and sponsorships.
- Research potential partnerships with academic institutions, working knowledge in gender issues.
- Ability to work under pressure, meet deadlines, and work independently with little supervision.
- Computer literate and ability to use data analysis programs as well as MS-Word, MS-Excel, MS-PowerPoint, MS-Outlook etc.
- Self-disciplined, mature, open minded and flexible.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, fluent in written and spoken English and Swahili.
- Management and budgeting skills and ability to work under minimal supervision
- Excellent inter-personal skills with a proven ability to develop and maintain effective relationships
- Excellent analytical, administrative, computer and problem-solving skills
- Demonstrated ability to maintain a high degree of professionalism and integrity, both within and outside the work environment.
- Good report-writing skills

#### 5. Digital Communications

- Oversee the management and growth of JGI Tanzania's digital presence, including its website, social media channels, and email newsletters.
- Ensure that comments, messages, and other forms of audience-generated content are engaged with and have received a response from the Institute.
- Monitor and analyze website traffic and social media engagement using analytics tools to optimize digital strategy.

#### 6. Internal Communications & Creative Services

- Collaborate with internal stakeholders to ensure smooth internal communication processes, ensuring alignment on key initiatives and updates across the organization.
- Provide communications support for internal events, meetings, and workshops.
- Collaborate with program teams to create advocacy materials and campaigns that support conservation, education, and community development objectives.

#### 7. Crisis Communication Management

- Develop and implement crisis communication strategies, providing leadership in response to any public relations challenges or crises.
- Ensure timely and effective communication in the event of emergencies or other high-stakes situations.

#### 8. Monitoring and Reporting

- Regularly assess the effectiveness of communication efforts through data collection, surveys, and audience feedback.
- Provide regular reports to the Executive Director on communication activities and outcomes.

#### Minimum Job Qualifications & Other Requirements:

The minimum job requirements and qualifications will include, but not be limited to:

- Bachelor's degree in Communications, Public Relations, Journalism, Marketing, or a related field is preferred. Master's degree will be an added advantage.
- At least five to seven years of experience in communications, public relations, or a similar role, preferably within the conservation and sustainable development industries. Previous NGO or public sector experience preferred.
- Proven experience in developing and executing communication strategies for diverse audiences, including media, donors, and stakeholders.

- Fluency in written and spoken English and Swahili.
- Strong writing, editing, and content development skills with the ability to convey complex information in a clear, engaging way.
- Excellent media relations and public speaking skills, with the ability to serve as a spokesperson for the organization.
- Digital marketing and social media management experience, including proficiency with tools like Google Analytics, WordPress, and social media platforms.
- Ability to work with design tools (e.g., Adobe Creative Suite) and video editing software is a plus.
- Exceptional organizational and time management skills, with the ability to manage multiple projects and meet deadlines.
- Self-motivated, proactive, and able to work both independently and as part of a team.
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to build relationships with a wide range of stakeholders.
- Commitment to the values and mission of the Jane Goodall Institute, with a passion for conservation and community development.

<b>Job Position:</b>	<b>Scholarship Coordinator</b>
<b>Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Duty Station:</b>	Kigoma
<b>Reporting Line:</b>	Senior Director – Programs & Policy

### Job Summary:

The Scholarship Coordinator (SC) ensures the smooth operation of the scholarship and sponsorship programs at the Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania. The SC is responsible for broadly advertising scholarship opportunities, organizing and supporting scholarship selection committees, coordinating scholarship awards, and monitoring, mentoring and supervising student's progress at their place of study. Duties also include facilitating student's scholarships and sponsorship with their school/colleges or universities (second schools to high learning institutions). The SC is also responsible for preparing and facilitating fund disbursements for school fees, accommodation and other costs, and maintaining the student's database up to date. Finally, the SC is also responsible for identifying, and potentially establishing, new scholarship funds, and working on proposal writing if needed. Follow-up on student attendance and performance at schools, organizing school visits and organizing annual meetings for students. Arrange for counseling sessions and provide advise on areas of study selection. The ideal candidate is highly organized, detail-oriented, and able to manage multiple tasks and deadlines simultaneously.

### Key Job Responsibilities & Duties:

The key responsibilities will include, but not limited to:

- Facilitate sensitization and awareness meetings to spotlight scholarship opportunities.
- Arrange for advertising scholarship opportunities when arise
- Serve as primary JGI Tanzania point of contact for all communication with students, parents, school and academic representatives.
- Organize and facilitate the scholarship selection committee meetings and panel to choose exceptional candidates using an established selection criterion.
- Ensure transparent and fair selection of students
- Ensure selected students are informed of scholarship or sponsorship awards.
- Ensure that funds are processed and disbursed in a timely manner.
- Monitor students in their academic settings to evaluate their progress and assist with any challenges they may face.
- Ensure students submit results statements for each semester or term.
- Coordinate scholarship awards and maintain contacts with schools, students, and parents for those under 18 years of age.
- Conduct an annual meeting of all scholarship recipients to share lessons learned, obtain training in life skills, and participate in a community service or conservation project.
- Keep close contact with parents or guardians
- Prepare and submit activity reports and an annual report in a timely manner.
- Ensure that expenditures are within the established program budget.
- Identifying and potentially establishing new scholarship funds and sponsorships.
- Research potential partnerships with academic institutions
- If needed, contribute to the writing of proposals to increase funding opportunities.
- Stay current with trends, best practices, and other regulations related to scholarship grant making.
- Evaluate JGI Tanzania scholarship and sponsorship program on an annual basis
- Perform any other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

#### Minimum Job Qualifications & Other Requirements:

The minimum job requirements and qualifications will include, but not be limited to:

- Bachelor's degree in Community Development, Sociology and/or Education.
- Work experience of 3 to 5 years in community development, working knowledge in gender issues.
- Ability to work under pressure, meet deadlines, and work independently with little supervision.
- Computer literate and ability to use data analysis programs as well as MS-Word, MS-Excel, MS-PowerPoint, MS-Outlook etc.
- Self-disciplined, mature, open minded and flexible.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, fluent in written and spoken English and Swahili.
- Management and budgeting skills and ability to work under minimal supervision
- Excellent inter-personal skills with a proven ability to develop and maintain effective relationships
- Excellent analytical, administrative, computer and problem-solving skills
- Demonstrated ability to maintain a high degree of professionalism and integrity, both within and outside the work environment.
- Good report-writing skills

#### Application Procedure:

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Only the final shortlisted candidates will be interviewed and provided with the interview feedback.

**Deadline:** Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 before 5pm in the evening.

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# AI has a stupid secret: We're still not sure how to test for human levels of intelligence

By Andrew Rogoyski

TWO of San Francisco's leading players in artificial intelligence have challenged the public to come up with questions capable of testing the capabilities of large language models (LLMs) like Google Gemini and OpenAI's o1. Scale AI, which specialises in preparing the vast tracts of data on which the LLMs are trained, teamed up with the Center for AI Safety (CAIS) to launch the initiative, Humanity's Last Exam.

Featuring prizes of US\$5,000 (£3,800) for those who come up with the top 50 questions selected for the test, Scale and CAIS say the goal is to test how close we are to achieving "expert-level AI systems" using the "largest, broadest coalition of experts in history".

Why do this? The leading LLMs are alreadyacing many established tests in intelligence, mathematics and law, but it's hard to be sure how meaningful this is. In many cases, they may have pre-learned the answers due to the gargantuan quantities of data on which they are trained, including a significant percentage of everything on the internet.

Data is fundamental to this whole area. It is behind the paradigm shift from conventional computing to AI, from "telling" to "showing" these machines what to do. This requires good training datasets, but also good tests. Developers typically do this using data that hasn't already been used for training, known in the jargon as "test datasets".

If LLMs are not already able to pre-learn the answer to established tests like bar exams, they probably will soon. The AI analytics site Epoch estimates that 2028 will mark the point at which the AIs will effectively have read everything ever written by humans. An equally important challenge is how to keep assessing AIs once that rubicon has been crossed.

Of course, the internet is expanding all the time, with millions of new items being added daily. Could that take care of these problems?

Perhaps, but this bleeds into another insidious difficulty, referred to as "model collapse". As the internet becomes increasingly flooded by AI-generated material which recirculates into future AI training sets, this may cause AIs to perform increasingly poorly. To overcome this problem, many developers are already collecting data from their AIs' human interactions, adding fresh data for training and testing.

Some specialists argue that AIs also need to become "embodied": moving around in the real world

and acquiring their own experiences, as humans do. This might sound far-fetched until you realise that Tesla has been doing it for years with its cars. Another opportunity is human wearables, such as Meta's popular smart glasses by Ray-Ban. These are equipped with cameras and microphones, and can be used to collect vast quantities of human-centric video and audio data.

Narrow tests

Yet even if such products guarantee enough training data in future, there is still the conundrum of how to define and measure intelligence - particularly artificial general intelligence (AGI), meaning an AI that equals or surpasses human intelligence.

Traditional human IQ tests have long been controversial for failing to capture the multifaceted nature of intelligence, encompassing everything from language to mathematics to empathy to sense of direction.

There's an analogous problem with the tests used on AIs. There are many well established tests covering such tasks as summarising text, understanding it, drawing correct inferences from information, recognising human poses and gestures, and machine vision.

Some tests are being retired, usually because the AIs are doing so well at them, but they're so task-specific as to be very narrow measures of intelligence. For instance, the chess-playing AI Stockfish is way ahead of Magnus Carlsen, the highest scoring human player of all time, on the Elo rating system. Yet Stockfish is incapable of doing other tasks such as understanding language. Clearly it would be wrong to conflate its chess capabilities with broader intelligence.

But with AIs now demonstrating broader intelligent behaviour, the challenge is to devise new benchmarks for comparing and measuring their progress. One notable approach has come from French Google engineer François Chollet. He argues that true intelligence lies in the ability to adapt and generalise learning to new, unseen situations. In 2019, he came up with the "abstraction and reasoning corpus" (ARC), a collection of puzzles in the form of simple visual grids designed to test an AI's ability to infer and apply abstract rules.

Unlike previous benchmarks that test visual object recognition by training an AI on millions of images, each with information about the objects contained, ARC gives it minimal examples in advance. The AI has to figure out the puzzle logic and can't just learn all the possible answers.



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## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is a Global Environmental Conservation organization, active in over 100 countries. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable, and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

WWF International leads GBF project, which focuses on Accelerating the Implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) through Community-Led Conservation in Tanzania alongside four other countries of Vietnam, Republic of Congo, Tunisia and Papua New Guinea selected based on their biodiversity potential. It aims to put Community-Led Conservation at the heart of GBF implementation by ensuring full and effective participation of Indigenous people and local communities (IP&LCs) in the development/review of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and the implementation and monitoring of conservation activities at site and landscape level. The project will also advocate for new and additional funding for biodiversity through National Biodiversity Finance Plans (NBFs) that facilitate greater access to finance for IP&LCs. Experiences and lessons learned in the five countries will be leveraged and amplified to galvanize action and advocacy for ambitious and inclusive NBSAPs and NBFs in the wider sub-regions and globally working closely with WWF's Regional and Global Policy and Advocacy Teams and the Public Sector Partnerships teams.

Therefore, The WWF Tanzania Country Office (TCO) is seeking to fill two (2) positions to be based in the Ruvuma Landscape Programme (Masasi Field Office) to support the implementation of the GBF project.

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**How to apply:** Interested applicants may get the detailed Job Description (JDs) through the following websites: [https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/jobs/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/) Applications must include a complete Cover Letter & CV with full contact details of three referees and should be addressed to the Head of People & Culture, via email to: [hresources@wwftz.org](mailto:hresources@wwftz.org) by **Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 12:00 AM**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Female applicants are encouraged to apply.

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## Do regular health check-ups, Ndugulile urges Tanzanians

By Guardian Reporter

**R**EGIONAL director for the World Health Organization (WHO) African region, Dr Faustine Ndugulile, has urged the public to establish regular health check-ups to better monitor and maintain their overall health.

Dr Ndugulile made these remarks over the weekend while launching a three-day eye health camp at Vijibweni Hospital in Kigamboni district, Dar es Salaam. The event was organized by the Lalji Foundation in collaboration with the Lions Club of Dar es Salaam host.

"It is now more important than ever to know your health status. Key information, such as your weight, height, and blood pressure, plays a critical role in maintaining good health. Equally important is knowing your blood sugar levels. Awareness of your health helps you take preventive measures and avoid serious complications. Ignorance of your health status can be extremely dangerous," Dr Ndugulile stated.

He further explained that many

people suffer from eye problems linked to conditions like high blood pressure or diabetes, often because they were unaware of their health issues in time. "Had they known earlier, they could have managed their blood pressure or sugar levels, preventing these problems. That's why it's so important to make routine health checks a habit," he emphasized.

Dr Ndugulile encouraged Kigamboni residents and those from nearby areas to take advantage of the free services offered at the medical camp. He stressed the importance of eye health for all age groups, not just the elderly, urging families to bring their children for check-ups as well.

"I want to thank the people of Kigamboni for turning out in large numbers. Eyesight is essential to our daily lives, and everyone, including children, should have regular eye exams. Let's be ambassadors of this camp and encourage our peers to come and benefit from these services. Together, we can build a healthier community, fully engaged in everyday activities," he said.

He also called on the Lalji Foundation and the Lions Club of Dar es Salaam to continue organizing such camps for the community, recognizing their significant impact.



Dr Faustine Ndugulile

ation and the Lions Club of Dar es Salaam to continue organizing such camps for the community, recognizing their significant impact.

"Medical camps like this are vital for our communities. I encourage us to sustain these efforts and include specialists in other areas, such as orthopaedics and paediatricians, to continue benefiting the people. Let's establish a system that provides ongoing quality healthcare services," Dr Ndugulile said.

atics, to continue benefiting the people. Let's establish a system that provides ongoing quality healthcare services," Dr Ndugulile said.

Imtiaz Lalji, chairman of the Lalji Foundation, stated that the camp aims to serve approximately 3,000 patients, urging residents to take advantage of the opportunity.

"We expect to serve at least 3,000 patients by the end of this camp. We appreciate the great response from the residents of Kigamboni," Lalji said. He highlighted the need for such medical services in Kigamboni and praised the significant turnout.

"On the first day, we saw 700 people, with 88 receiving eye surgeries. On the second day, we had already registered 800 people," he explained, adding that these camps will continue in different areas to reach more communities.

"These camps will be held periodically and in various locations because they are highly needed and beneficial to our communities," Lalji added.

Mrisho Bindo, a resident of Kigamboni and a beneficiary of the camp, expressed his gratitude to the organizers. "We thank all the institutions involved in making this camp possible. The services were excellent, and we appreciate the doctors' efforts. We hope to see improvements in our health. I encourage other organizations to continue organizing similar camps, as they greatly benefit our communities," Bindo said.

## Why Africa should embrace territorial markets to stand climate shocks and crises

HARARE

**A**FRICAN policymakers, local leaders and the private sector have been asked to create an enabling environment that will help African traders and farmer folks build reliable systems for food security and resilience through territorial markets.

During a week-long 2024 Africa Agroecological Entrepreneurship and Seed Festival in Harare, Zimbabwe, experts observed that persistent crises have shown the importance of resilient close-to-home 'territorial' markets that feed billions of people every day—from public markets and street vendors to cooperatives, from urban agriculture to online direct sales, and from food hubs to community kitchens.

"For instance, following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, global food prices spiked by 15 percent, forcing policymakers around the world to question how to reduce dependency on volatile global markets and strengthen food self-sufficiency," said Dr. Million Belay, the General Coordinator at the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA).

"Further, questions have been raised about how people are actually fed and by whom, prompting us to ask: in this century of crisis, what kinds of food supply chains and markets can build resilience and help fulfill the right to food—nourishing people around the world more sustainably and equitably?" asked Belay.

To answer the question, experts are calling for policies and a sound working environment that will empower territorial markets that promote dietary diversity and afford-

able nutritious foods for all, allow producers and food workers to retain control over their livelihoods, and produce food that is adaptable to climate change shocks and emerging crises.

These markets have been broadly defined as markets that are centered on small-scale agroecological food producers and business owners that produce and sell a variety of commodities, and often meet the preferences of the majority of farmers, traders and consumers.

Studies have shown that these markets play a crucial role in making food accessible and affordable, especially for low-income populations in the Global South, allowing for the purchase of small and flexible quantities of food, price bargaining, informal credit arrangements, and being located in or near low-income neighborhoods.

A new study launched on the sidelines of the Harare event that culminated into the fifth Biennial Africa Food Systems Conference, however, shows that profit-oriented corporate value chains are highly concentrated in Africa's market places.

The report, titled 'Food from Somewhere,' by the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES Food), finds that just seven grain traders control at least 50 percent of the global grain trade, six major corporations control 78 percent of the agrochemical market, the top eight carriers of freight account for more than 80 percent of the market for ocean freight capacity and globally, 1 percent of the world's largest farms control 70 percent of the world's farmland.

This, according to experts, amounts to a corporate capture of



Farmers, traders and consumers at the Mbare Musika Territorial Market in Harare, Zimbabwe. Credit: Isaiah Espisu/IPIS

Africa's food systems.

The report is therefore advocating for a paradigm shift, urging governments to reinvest in local and regional supply infrastructure, relocate public purchasing and develop food security strategies for a more resilient and equitable approach to food security.

"The problem for smallholders is not of being connected to markets (most are already involved in markets) but rather the conditions of their access and the rules and logics by which markets operate—who determines prices and on what criteria, who controls the costs of production, who holds market power, among other issues," said Mamadou Goïta, a member of IPES and the lead author.

A spot check at the Mbare Musika territorial market in Harare found a variety of foodstuffs sourced from all eight regions of Zimbabwe, among others from neighboring countries, such as apples and other fruits from South Africa, fish and ginger from Mozambique, groundnuts from Malawi, sorghum from Botswana, as well as grapes from Egypt and tamarind from Tanzania, among others.

"This is the central hub for smallholder farmers and traders, supporting over seven million people from all over Zimbabwe and other parts of the continent," said Charles Dhewa, Chief Executive Officer, Knowledge Transfer Africa (KTA), whose flagship known as eMkambo (eMarket) is to create

a physical and web-based market for agriculture and rural development, integrating the use of mobile phones and the internet to create, adapt and share knowledge.

Mbare Musika Market, which is in the outskirts of Harare, is located next to the main bus-park, through which food is brought in using informal means such as passenger buses and vans from different parts of the country, in small and big quantities, and of different varieties and qualities.

"The evidence is clear—localized food systems are vital for feeding an increasingly hungry planet and preventing food insecurity and famine," said Shalmali Guttal, the Executive Director of Focus on the Global South. "They provide nutri-

tious, affordable food and are far more adaptable to global shocks and disruptions than industrial supply chains," she added.

Jennifer Clapp, professor and Canada Research Chair in Global Food Security and Sustainability at the University of Waterloo, Canada, pointed out that during this time of rising hunger and ecological fragility, global industrial food chains will be catastrophically liable to break down under the strain of frequent crises.

"To have a chance of reaching the world's zero hunger goal by 2030, we need to re-imagine our food systems, and we need to bolster the food markets that serve the poor," she said.

IPS

## ACT unveils unsettled in 2020 election issues

By Guardian Correspondent, Chakechake

ACT Wazalendo has expressed concerns that the issues arising from the 2020 elections remain unresolved, and those responsible appear unwilling to engage in meaningful dialogue.

Party's national chairman, Othman Masoud Othman made the remarks here recently when speaking during a rally in Chambani, Pemba Island.

ACT Wazalendo had presented several demands prior to joining the Government of

National Unity. However, the party claims that, apart from one demand, the rest—including electoral reforms—remain unaddressed.

Othman (pictured) criticized the lack of goodwill among the current leaders, suggesting that their focus on personal interests is overshadowing the welfare of the nation.

He reiterated the party's call for full autonomy for Pemba and Zanzibar, viewing it as the solution to breaking the cycle of poverty that currently grips the islands.

"We are not focused on



trivial matters; we demand full autonomy for our nation,

a cause that our counterparts seem indifferent to. The pov-

erty we experience has been inflicted upon us by those in power," Othman stated.

He pointed out that smaller island nations with fewer resources have prospered due to their ability to manage their own affairs independently.

"These countries have thrived because they maintain full autonomy over their economies and resources," he added.

Othman also paid tribute to the late Mohammed Shante, a native of Chambani, recognizing his role in securing Zanzibar's membership in

the United Nations.

"Even after the 1964 revolution, President Karume exercised this right by nominating ambassadors," he noted.

During the same rally, Deputy Secretary General Omar Ali Shekhe alleged that local government leaders, known as Sheikhas, were collecting voter cards from residents to determine their political affiliations.

"Do not give your voter card or its number to these leaders, as their motives ahead of the elections—just 390 days away—are suspicious," he warned.

Shekhe reaffirmed the party's commitment to protecting the right to freely elect leaders at all levels, noting that Zanzibar has long been governed by leaders who were not chosen by the people.

"Beyond that, we advocate for the right to live, access social services, employment, and equitable enjoyment of our country's natural resources," he said.

He concluded by stating that the pursuit of an autonomous Zanzibar is the key factor that distinguishes ACT Wazalendo from other politi-



By Zipporah Musau

# Economic development: Global leaders unite to propel Africa's business and innovation potential

WORLD leaders from business, government, finance, sports, and the creative arts convened in New York for the third annual "Unstoppable Africa" event, on the margins of the UN General Assembly, and renewed commitments to spur business on the continent.

The two-day Global Africa Business Initiative (GABI) flagship event sought to drum up support for Africa's business opportunities and innovations, under the theme "Unstoppable Africa: Shaping Global Ambitions for Agenda 2063".

Organized by the UN Global Compact's Global Africa Business Initiative (GABI) it markets the continent as the premier destination for business, trade, and investment, and is co-hosted by UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed and African Union Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat.

Among the notable attendees this year included the President of Poland, Andrzej Duda; the Global Head of Public Sector Banking, Citi - Julie Monack; Prof. Benedict Oramah, the President of the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank); as well as Mr. Makhtar Diop, the Managing Director of the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

Also in attendance were Ms. Cristina Duarte, the UN Special Adviser on Africa; Mr. Wamkele Mene - Secretary-General of the AfCFTA Secretariat; Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina - President of the African Development Bank Group; Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, the Director-General of WTO.

This year the summit emphasized inclusive participation and solution-driven solutions, culminating in a final roundtable where stakeholders committed to tackling pressing challenges. Key topics included unlocking inclusive trade growth, Africa's role in clean energy, digital advancements, and the global impact of African creativity and sports.

In his keynote video address, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres emphasized the importance of strengthening partnerships to drive progress in Africa and globally.

"Achieving an unstoppable Africa requires collective, unstoppable efforts to foster development in areas like renewable energy, food systems, education, and digital transformation," said Mr. Guterres, while calling for meaningful reforms in the global financial architecture to ensure that all countries receive the necessary support, while promoting job creation and economic growth through initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).



UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed stressed the critical role of Africa's private sector in driving impactful change, emphasizing that with the right investments and partnerships, Africa is poised for transformative growth

port, while promoting job creation and economic growth through initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

AU chair Moussa Faki Mahamat highlighted Africa's rich cultural diversity and the resilience of its people.

"Africa's story is one of determination, progress, and hope. Our strength lies not only in our resources but in our people—mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters—who tirelessly work to build a better future," he said.

UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed stressed the critical role of Africa's private sector in driving impactful change, emphasizing that

with the right investments and partnerships, Africa is poised for transformative growth.

UN Assistant Secretary-General and CEO UN Global Compact, Ms. Sanda Ojiambo, commended the Africa Business Leaders Coalition for its leadership, noting a nearly 25 percent reduction in carbon footprints among participating businesses since launching a climate statement at COP27.

Business leaders Mr. Aliko Dangote, Founder and CEO

of Dangote Group; Dr. James Mwangi CEO Equity Group Holdings; Mr. Peter Ndegwa CEO, Safaricom; Mr. Alex Okosi, Managing Director Africa, Google; also attended.

Insightful discussions

A panel on closing Africa's climate finance gap revealed that the continent receives less than 5% of global climate funding despite its renewable energy potential. Another panel explored the rising significance of Africa's cultural and creative industries, highlighting their role in economic growth and reshaping narratives.

The discussion on the digital economy included insights from leaders like Rwanda's ICT Minister, Paula Ingabire, and Safaricom's CEO, Peter Ndegwa, who emphasized the necessity for strategic financing and inclusive policies.

Additionally, a session on the African fashion sector showcased the industry's growth potential, with a focus on female designers dedicated to establishing a competitive presence in the global market.

The 2024 GABI event concluded with optimism and a shared commitment to harness Africa's potential for global leadership. With concrete plans and partnerships now established, the initiative is poised to continue its momentum toward a future where Africa leads on the global stage.

# Smokers have a higher level of harmful bacteria in the mouth

By Yvonne Prince and Glenda Mary Davison

A recent report by the World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that 8 million people die annually from smoking related complications. Despite efforts by governments and various organisations to create awareness about the dangers, around 1.3 billion people still use some form of tobacco and 80% of them live in low to middle income countries.

There is no safe level of smoking. Even second-hand smoke can lead to serious complications such as cardiovascular disease and cancer.

The mouth (oral cavity) is the first port of entry to the rest of the body and is home to a complex and diverse community of microorganisms, known as the oral microbiome. These organisms live in harmony with one another. They protect the normal oral environment, aid digestion, regulate the immune system and promote health.

If this balance is disturbed however, it can lead to the development of periodontitis (gum infections), inflammation and serious diseases, such as heart disease, cancer, liver and renal disease.

Changes to the bacterial composition of the mouth can be caused by several factors, such as bad oral hygiene, diet, alcohol and smoking.

We've looked into exactly what types of bacteria are affected. Our research did this by examining the oral health of 128 individuals who had participated in a 2014/2016 study of vascular and metabolic health.

We found clear differences in the bacteria present in the mouths of smokers compared to non-smokers.

Smokers had higher levels of harmful bacteria - like Fusobacterium, Campylobacter and Tannerella forsythia - in their mouths.

These bacteria can cause gum disease and may increase the risk of heart disease because they can trigger inflammation and other harmful effects in the body.

How smoking affects the oral biome

Tobacco and cigarettes contain several toxic substances which include nicotine, tar, radioactive chemicals, lead and ammonia. Many of these are formed from burning the tobacco. As a cigarette is smoked, these chemicals enter the oral cavity and change the surrounding environment by



reducing oxygen levels, changing the pH (level of acidity) and preventing adequate production of saliva.

Saliva not only keeps the mouth moist and helps digestion, but also has important antibacterial properties which assist in destroying dangerous germs and keeping the oral cavity healthy.

A dry mouth together with low oxygen levels in the mouth allows harmful bacteria to multiply.

The overgrowth of these organisms destroys the balance of the healthy bacteria normally found on the surfaces of the teeth, tongue and palate.

Nicotine One common chemical

found in cigarettes is nicotine. This toxin can increase the number of proteins on the surface of certain harmful bacteria such as P. gingivalis.

These proteins or receptors give the bacteria an advantage over the normal microorganisms and allows them to attach firmly to surfaces where they multiply into colonies

and form biofilms. Dental biofilms are a complex community of microorganisms which can form on the teeth and other hard surfaces. If not controlled, they can lead to plaque formation, periodontitis, gum disease and tooth decay.

Smoking and serious diseases

These abnormal colonies can influence the immune system, leading to slow healing, inflammation and even antibiotic resistance. The chronic inflammation caused by gum disease can lead to tooth loss and the destruction of gum tissue, which has been linked to systemic diseases such as cardiovascular disease.

Another bacterium, Streptococcus mutans, can also become abundant in people who smoke heavily. This organism is often present in healthy conditions but when the environment is disrupted, it can multiply and form part of dental biofilms, leading to tooth decay and oral cancer.

Vaping and e-cigarettes Electronic cigarettes or vapes operate with a battery and heating element which heats up a liquid. This produces an aerosol which is inhaled by the user. The liquid contains different flavourings as well as

harmful chemicals such as nicotine and lead.

Early research seems to suggest that e-cigarettes are not a good alternative to smoking tobacco. Although their effects on the oral microbiota have not been well studied, the increased growth of bacteria such as Fusobacterium and Bacteroidales has been observed in people who vape.

Both of these bacteria can cause periodontitis (gum disease).

Can these changes be reversed?

It is clear that the harmful chemicals in cigarettes and other forms of tobacco can lead to serious diseases which often begin in the oral cavity. The good news is that these can be prevented and the risk reduced.

Although it may take time, the healthy diversity of the oral biome can be restored by quitting smoking. This reduces the risk of gum disease, promotes the production of saliva and improves health.

Prevention is better than cure and governments and organisations such as the WHO need to continue to create awareness around the dangers of smoking, particularly among the youth.

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MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 07:50 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:00 AM MATANGAZO 08:10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:20 AM BRAND TALK 08:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 08:40 AM NEWS BULLETIN 08:50 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 09:00 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 09:10 AM NEWS BULLETIN 09:20 AM DJ SHOW 09:30 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 09:40 AM SPOTI LEO 09:50 AM HABARI YA DUNIA BBC 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:10 AM RADIO ONE DOCTOR 10:20 AM NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 10:30 AM AFRO TIZI 10:40 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:50 AM AFRO TIZI 11:00 AM MAMBO MSETU 11:10 AM MAMBO MSETU 11:20 AM MAMBO MSETU 11:30 AM MAMBO MSETU 11:40 AM MAMBO MSETU 11:50 AM MAMBO MSETU 12:00 AM MAMBO MSETU	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM 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## BUSINESS

## Current account deficit narrows as exports boost Tanzania's recovery

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S current account deficit significantly narrowed to US\$2,567.2 million in the year ending August 2024, from US\$3,846.5 million in the corresponding period in 2023, driven by the improved performance of the external sector.

This progress has been supported by global economic recovery, strong export growth, and a moderated rise in import bills, alongside favorable international commodity prices.

Bank of Tanzania's (BoT) monthly economic review for September shows that exports of goods and services surged to US\$ 15,064.6 million in the year ending August 2024, compared to US\$ 13,290.1 million during the same period in 2023.

This remarkable growth was largely fueled by higher service receipts, particularly from tourism, as well as increased exports of gold and traditional goods such as tobacco, cashew nuts, and horticultural products.

Traditional exports reached US\$ 1,099.9 million in the year ending Au-

gust 2024, up from US\$ 807.9 million the previous year, with much of the increase attributed to tobacco and cashew nut exports due to both volume and price effects.

Non-traditional exports rose slightly to US\$ 6,568.3 million from US\$ 6,349.8 million in the preceding year. A key driver behind this increase was the rise in gold exports, which surged by 8.2 percent to US\$ 3,189.4 million, reflecting both volume and price effects.

Horticultural exports, particularly edible vegetables, experienced robust growth, increasing by 35.3 percent to US\$ 454.4 million due to higher shipment volumes.

Service receipts saw a significant surge, climbing to US\$ 6,948.5 million in the year ending August 2024, up from US\$ 5,711.3 million in 2023.

This growth was largely attributed to strong performances in travel and transport services, with tourism leading the charge.

Tourist arrivals increased by 21.7 percent, reaching 2,051,404, a clear indication of the sector's recovery.



Tourist arrivals increased by 21.7 percent, reaching 2,051,404 during the year ended in August, 2024. File photo

Transport earnings, mainly from freight charges, also grew, amounting to US\$ 2,597.6 million compared to US\$ 2,184.7 million in the previous year.

On the import side, goods and services imports rose modestly to US\$ 16,427.5 million in the year ending August 2024, compared to US\$ 16,327.7 million in 2023.

Key drivers of this increase were the imports of refined petroleum products, iron and steel, and electrical machinery.

On a monthly basis, goods imports totaled US\$ 1,468.3 million in August 2024, up from US\$ 1,163.9 million in the corresponding period

in 2023.

The primary income account deficit widened to US\$ 1,760.8 million for the year ending August 2024, up from US\$ 1,446.4 million in the previous year, primarily due to increased interest payments.

However, on a monthly basis, the primary income account deficit narrowed to US\$ 96.2 million in August 2024, compared to US\$ 114.9 million in August 2023.

The secondary income account recorded a surplus of US\$ 556.5 million for the year ending August 2024, slightly down from US\$ 637.6 million in the same period in 2023.

This surplus was bolstered by a rise in personal transfers. On a monthly basis, the secondary income account registered a surplus of US\$ 43.5 million in August 2024, comparable to the same period in 2023.

This robust performance of the external sector, particularly driven by export growth and a stable import environment, underscores Tanzania's gradual recovery amid improving global economic conditions.

## State-owned firms' CEOs urged to play productive leadership roles

By Francis Kajubi

CHIEF Executive Officers (CEOs) have been urged to play a vital role in realizing productive leadership within public-led institutions.

This call was made on Monday evening by Dr. Tausi Kida, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Planning and Investment, on behalf of Chief Secretary Dr. Moses Kusiuluka.

She inaugurated a three-day induction program for CEOs currently taking place in Kibaha district.

Themed 'Enhancing Leadership and Strategic Management in Public and Statutory Corporations for Sustainable Development,' the program aims to equip CEOs with intensive leadership skills.

Dr. Kida stated that the program, which includes all appointees from 2022 to the present, is designed to provide new executives with essential frameworks and concepts to optimize workforce performance and potential.

"A comprehensive induction program for newly appointed heads of public parastatals aims to enhance

the effectiveness and productivity of public entities," she said. Dr. Kida emphasized that improving the efficiency of public entities would enable them to contribute more to government revenues.

Currently, official data shows that non-tax revenue collected by the Office of the Treasury Registrar from Public and Statutory Corporations (PSCs) and minority interest corporations amounts to only three percent.

She challenged the heads of public entities to step up their efforts to increase contributions to the Consolidated Fund, which would complement tax revenue in financing development projects and social services.

"President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan wishes to see positive changes in the entities you lead. We, as the government, need a return on investment," Dr. Kida remarked.

Tanzania has 309 State-Owned Enterprises with an investment capital of 75.8trn/-.

The Treasury Registrar, Nehemiah Mchechu,

indicated that the induction program would feature high-impact sessions led by esteemed experts from both the public and private sectors.

According to him, the mandatory program will provide new heads of public entities with skills in strategic resource management, strategic leadership, financial management, public procurement, and public investment oversight.

"The induction program will lay the essential foundations for new executives to align their leadership competencies with the vision of a thriving public sector," Mchechu explained.

He asserted that the purpose of the CEOs Induction Program is to prepare newly appointed executives to better serve the citizens of Tanzania through exemplary leadership and to contribute to real value creation across the government. These reforms are in line with the Hon. President's 4R philosophy, specifically focusing on the 2R elements—rebuild and reform—to enhance the productivity of public institutions for the nation's benefit.

The three-day induction program aims to equip 111 newly appointed heads of State-Owned Enterprises with the necessary knowledge and networks to foster productivity in public entities.

Kadari Singo, Chief Executive of the Uongozi Institute, noted that induction programs have not been prioritized for many years, leading to shortcomings among CEOs and civil servants due to a lack of leadership skills.

Leadership is demonstrated when a leader dedicates time to inspire colleagues. A leader must possess the ability to manage an institution beyond just adhering to rules and guidelines. Personal leadership competence is also crucial for a

leader to serve as a role model for those they lead. Leaders are appointed based on their inherent potential rather than their superior knowledge.

A leader should be capable of managing and developing the assets of their institution while effectively directing the optimal use of resources.

Throughout the three-day induction program, CEOs will receive training in various areas, including financial management, the role of CEOs in managing public resources, accountability, stakeholder engagement, strategic communication, talent management, innovation and technology, experience sharing, and panel discussions.

## AfCFTA lags behind as it accounts for 16 pc of Africa's overall trade

LAGOS

AFRICA'S AfCFTA trade agreement is the world's largest free trade bloc. It opens access to potential markets of about 1.3 billion people and an estimated combined GDP of \$3.4tn.

Still, as delegates attending the Standard Bank Africa Unlocked conference in Cape Town heard recently, intra-African trade, at 16 percent, lags far behind other blocs.

Discussing the introduction of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement at the conference, panel members highlighted that, in contrast to intra-Africa trade, which accounts for about 16 percent of Africa's total exports, levels of bloc trading have reached 55 percent in Asia, 49 percent in North America and 63 percent in countries within the EU.

Given these statistics, it was highlighted that the AfCFTA should be leveraged to position African products more relevantly across global and intra-African markets.

A significant factor delaying this progress is Africa's failure to become economically complex by using its available products to develop products that can open opportunities in new

fields.

The principle of economic complexity, mastered in developed countries, has enabled countries such as the USA to create and export products based on oil for more than a century.

Nigeria, which also has access to oil, has not taken the step into complexity. As a result, the country is importing petroleum jelly, a product that could easily be locally duplicated. The same problem exists in many African markets where, for decades, beneficiation of raw materials has not occurred.

Covid-19 has been another limiting factor for African trade, and the continent is still recovering from the pandemic's impact, while many parts still grapple with the economic damage inflicted by it. At the same time, Africa still suffers the effects of having to shoulder a disproportionate disease burden in comparison with that carried by other continents.

Despite the disease burden, the continent still imports most of its healthcare supplies, and its trade deficit continues to increase.

Rectifying this situation and providing for a more significant portion of its own healthcare requirements would greatly support the conti-



Covid-19 has been another limiting factor for African trade

nent in its effort to become 'healthier' at lower cost, saving precious foreign currency and promoting competitive growth through intra-African and global trade.

The panel affirmed that three conditions must be present for trade to improve welfare levels and fulfil the mission of leveraging intra-African and global trade to reduce poverty and increase employment among participating nations.

The first of these is financial development. When domestic private credit extension as a

share of GDP reaches 18 percent, trade begins to reduce poverty.

Education is the second factor. A better-educated labour force translates into enhanced capabilities and productivity.

The third factor is governance. Although trade oils the machinery of growth, research has shown that in countries with higher levels of sound governance in all sectors of society, trade is far more effective at reducing poverty.

In practical terms, promoting intra-African trade and global exports of African goods

means connecting buyers and sellers so that markets can be explored, and products and services can be evaluated and adopted.

In African countries, more attention must be paid to forming strong local and international links and taking the necessary steps to ensure that all potential importers and exporters are fully aware of regulations, legislation and other important factors impacting potential partners.

The AfCFTA presents its signatories with an opportunity to aggregate volumes across the continent and leverage Africa's power. Pooling procurement can help simultaneously realise the promise of African industry and lessen the continent's reliance on imports.

If this could be accompanied by a review of the incentives offered to industry by countries such as India, which include investment opportunities in different economic zones, soft trade loans and subsidised land, water, and electricity, as well as tax breaks and similar benefits could be introduced across Africa, the continent's trade development would be increased.

NEW YORK

GOLD price maintains its corrective decline early Tuesday, looking to threaten the lower boundary of the recent range at \$2,630. The focus now remains on the Middle East tensions, additional Chinese stimulus rollout and speeches from US Federal Reserve (Fed) policymakers for fresh directives.

Gold price is struggling to find a foothold, as sellers remain in control amid the re-emergence of worries surrounding China's economic prospects, as Chinese traders return after a week-long holiday break.

Even though Chinese stocks re-opened with a bang, no announcements on further stimulus so far and the National Develop-

## Gold price maintains decline

ment and Reform Commission's (NDRC) gloomy outlook on China's economy intensified risk aversion across Asia.

China's state planner, the NDRC, said in its press conference that "the downward pressure on China's economy is increasing." Gold price, therefore, remains undermined, as China is the world's top gold consumer.

The Gold price correction, however, appears cushioned by a broad pullback in the US Dollar (USD) alongside the US Treasury bond yields, following the dovish remarks from St. Louis Fed President Alberto Mu-

salem. Musalem said late Monday that "further gradual reductions in the policy rate will likely be appropriate over time," adding that "I will not prejudge the size or timing of future adjustments to policy."

His comments fuelled a fresh leg down in the USD, despite markets ruling out a 50 basis points (bps) Fed rate cut next month.

Markets are currently pricing in about an 86 percent chance that the Fed will opt for a 25 bps rate cut at its next meeting, the CME Group's FedWatch Tool shows.

Looking ahead, speeches from Atlanta

Fed President Raphael Bostic and Fed Vice Chairman Philip Jefferson will be closely scrutinized in the absence of any top-tier economic data releases from the US later on Tuesday.

Traders will also pay attention to the escalating conflict between Israel and Iran, especially after the Iran-backed militant group, Hezbollah, fired dozens of rockets at Israel's third-largest city, Haifa. Meanwhile, the Israeli military has described its recent ground operation in Lebanon as "localized, limited and targeted," but it has steadily in-

creased in scale beginning last week.

Following a gradual decline over the last four days, Gold buyers are seen challenging the key static support of \$2,630.

The 14-day Relative Strength Index (RSI), however, stays well above the midline, currently near 62, suggesting that any decline in Gold price could be likely bought into.

Gold price needs a daily candlestick closing above the strong resistance near \$2,670 to negate the near-term downside pressure.

The next resistance is aligned at the record high of \$2,686. Further up, buyers will target the \$2,700 round level.

On the flip side, Gold sellers must crack the intermittent low of \$2,630 on a daily closing basis to unleash further correction toward the \$2,600 threshold.



# Burundi appeals for investments from Nigerians

ABUJA

THE government of Burundi has appealed for investments from Nigerian investors, insisting that the Eastern African country has the environment to grow their wealth.

A delegation from the country who was in Abuja, Nigeria made mouth watering incentives to Nigerian investors who might be interested in investing in the country.

Special Envoy of the Burundi President, Ambassador Liberat Fumukeyo, who led a delegation to Nigeria, urged

captains of industries to catch on to the abundant opportunities in Burundi.

Fumukeyo (pictured) said that there are juicy incentives for Nigerian investors that decide to invest in his country.

He said: "We have come to Nigeria with the delegation from Burundi and we have come to invite people from the private sector in this country to come to Burundi and explore the investment opportunities because we feel like there's something this country, (Nigeria) as an African power can do in terms of trade investment with other part of Africa."

On the attractions on ground for investors, the envoy said: "Well, I mentioned that we have a leg-



islation and an investment legislation and this one is very clear any investor coming into our country can repatriate their profit and their money provided that they comply with all the local policies, especially in the area of taxation. So they pay taxes like

everyone else and they will have equal treatment and be able to repatriate their profit."

On his visit to Nigeria, the envoy said: "We thought it would be proper to come down here and have a face to face interaction with the private sector of Nigeria so that we can understand exactly what they can do in this region."

On his part, Eng Mustapha Bello, former Minister of commerce and industry who was part of the Nigeria business community that met with the visiting envoy, commended the Burundian government for the audacious move.

He said: "First I must commend the Ambassador. I think he has done extremely well. I can't remember when last I've seen any head of embassy in Abu-

ja inviting business community members to interact with them. I think he has done well, he has started well by bringing a high level delegation from the president of Burundi to Abuja to come and make a presentation to us".

The former minister also explained his role in the meeting, which he said involved sharing information and inviting serious minded investors. He said: "My responsibility is to facilitate sharing the information and invite those who are serious business people and then take them over so that they can share their resources.

# Online travel market set to exceed \$800bn in 2028

By Guardian Correspondent

THE global tourism industry is experiencing a digital transformation that is reshaping the way consumers book their travel experiences.

From flight reservations to accommodation bookings, the rise of digital platforms has significantly impacted the growth of the online travel market, which reached nearly \$600 billion in 2023.

Industry experts forecast that this figure will continue to rise, surpassing \$800 billion by 2028, marking a new era of digitization in the tourism sector.

"As consumer behavior evolves and travel companies increasingly leverage technology to enhance their offerings, the global tourism industry is seeing a shift towards personalized, convenient, and data-driven travel solutions," says a report by Travel and Tour World.

"Digital platforms and metasearch engines are becoming the preferred tools for travelers looking to find the best deals, plan comprehensive itineraries, and secure unique accommodation experiences."

## Driving forces

According to TTW, several factors are driving the rapid growth of the online travel market, including increased internet accessibility, the widespread adoption of smartphones, and the rise of digital payment solutions.

With these technological advancements, consumers can now search for flights, compare hotel prices, and book complete travel packages in just a few clicks.

One of the main attractions of online travel platforms is the ability to compare prices, services, and reviews in real-time.

"Consumers today are savvier than ever, and the use of fare aggregators and metasearch en-

gines has empowered travelers to find the best value for their money," says TTW.

"Leading players in the industry, such as Booking Holdings Inc. and Expedia, have capitalized on this demand by integrating advanced algorithms, artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning into their platforms to deliver personalized recommendations and better user experiences."

Moreover, the rise of dynamic pricing—a strategy where prices fluctuate based on demand, seasonality, and consumer behavior—has been pivotal in the success of these platforms.

By utilizing dynamic pricing models, companies can offer competitive pricing while maximizing revenue, catering to both budget-conscious and luxury travelers.

Several companies have emerged as key players in the global online travel market, using innovative digital solutions to reshape the tourism industry. Among the top names are Booking Holdings Inc. (the parent company of Booking.com, Priceline, and Kayak), Expedia Group, and Airbnb.

## Booking Holdings Inc.

With a market-leading presence, Booking Holdings Inc. has established itself as a dominant force in the online travel space. Its flagship platform, Booking.com, offers a comprehensive range of services, including accommodation bookings, car rentals, and flights. The company's use of machine learning algorithms to provide tailored search results and personalized travel recommendations has helped it maintain a competitive edge in the industry.

Booking Holdings also owns the travel metasearch engine Kayak, which allows users to compare flights, hotels, and car rental options across different providers. Kayak's ability to aggregate data from various platforms in real-time



has made it an essential tool for price-conscious travelers.

## Expedia Group

Another leader in the digital travel revolution is the Expedia Group, which operates well-known travel brands such as Expedia, Hotels.com, and Vrbo. Similar to Booking Holdings, Expedia leverages AI and data analytics to optimize search functionality, offering users an intuitive booking experience. Expedia's platform simplifies the travel planning process by allowing customers to book bundled services, including flights, hotels, and rental cars, all in one place.

Expedia Group's focus on customer satisfaction and innovation has also led to the integration of virtual reality (VR) travel experiences, enabling users to preview accommodations or destinations before booking. This feature has enhanced consumer confidence in the booking process and reduced instances of dissatisfaction upon arrival.

## Airbnb's disruption

No discussion about digital transformation in travel would be complete without mentioning Airbnb. Since its founding over 15 years ago, Airbnb has revolutionized the accommodation industry by providing an online marketplace for short-term rentals and homestays. Initially a platform for budget travelers, Airbnb has expanded to include luxury stays, experiences, and long-

term rentals, offering travelers more unique and personalized options.

What sets Airbnb apart from traditional hotel booking platforms is its emphasis on local experiences. Through the platform, travelers can book not only a place to stay but also curated activities hosted by locals, such as cooking classes, cultural tours, and adventure experiences. Airbnb's focus on experiential travel has resonated with younger generations, particularly Millennials and Gen Z, who value authentic, immersive experiences over traditional travel packages.

In response to the post-pandemic travel landscape, Airbnb has also adapted by offering flexible cancellation policies and promoting long-term stays for remote workers, further expanding its market share.

## Technology's role

The rapid digitalization of the travel industry is heavily driven by technology advancements, including artificial intelligence, blockchain, and mobile applications. These technologies are transforming how travel services are delivered, making the process more efficient, secure, and user-friendly.

## Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning

AI-powered chatbots and virtual assistants have become standard features on most travel booking platforms, enabling companies to offer 24/7 customer support. These tools can handle a

range of tasks, from answering FAQs to helping customers change bookings, providing an efficient and personalized experience.

Moreover, AI is instrumental in predictive analytics, helping companies anticipate consumer behavior, forecast demand, and offer customized travel packages based on user preferences. This level of personalization enhances customer satisfaction and loyalty, giving companies a competitive advantage.

## 2. Blockchain technology

Blockchain technology is another emerging trend that could revolutionize the travel industry. By providing a decentralized ledger system, blockchain offers enhanced security and transparency for transactions. In the context of travel, this technology can be used for identity verification, secure payments, and tracking travel-related documents.

In addition, blockchain's potential to eliminate intermediaries in the travel booking process could reduce costs for both consumers and companies, while enhancing data security and privacy.

## Digital wallets

The proliferation of mobile apps in the travel industry has further fueled its growth. Consumers are increasingly using mobile devices to search, book, and manage their travel plans. Leading companies have optimized their platforms for mobile, offering seamless in-app experiences that allow users to book travel on the go.

The use of digital wallets and mobile payment solutions has also become more widespread, simplifying the checkout process and reducing friction for users. As more travelers adopt cashless payment methods, companies are adapting their platforms to accept various payment options, from credit cards to cryptocurrency.

# Bank launches AI-empowered customer service system

By Guardian Correspondent

IN celebration of Customer Service Week 2024, CRDB Bank has officially launched a new digital customer service system utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) technology, named 'Elle,' which is short for 'Ellephant,' representing the bank's brand.

The launch of this system, aimed at providing customer support through a messaging communication platform known as 'Chatbot' and facilitating transactions, took place at the bank's headquarters, attended by over 200 customers of the bank.

Speaking during the launch event for Customer Service Week and the new customer service system, CRDB Bank's CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela, assured customers that quality service has always been a priority for the bank, and the launch of Elle aims to enhance efficiency in digital services.

"Elle provides instant responses, accurate information, and ease of using our services through our website and WhatsApp," said Nsekela.

Further explaining, Nsekela clarified that Elle will assist customers in getting answers to questions or challenges they encounter while using services, conducting transactions, and obtaining quick support without the need to communicate directly with customer service agents. Additionally, this system can connect customers with agents where personal services are re-



CRDB Bank Group CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (2nd L), along with senior officials of bank and some of the bank's customers, witness the launching of a new digital customer service system that utilizes artificial intelligence technology. The system was launched on Monday in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

quired.

This year's Customer Service Week is being celebrated under the theme "Above and Beyond," which aligns with CRDB Bank's philoso-

phy of ensuring that their services meet and exceed customer expectations.

Nsekela assured customers that the bank will continue to make sig-

nificant investments in technology, service and product innovation, along with training for employees to ensure that the services provided are of high quality and standard.

On her part, the Head of Customer Service at CRDB Bank, Yolanda Uriyo, stated that the bank continues to enhance its digital systems and invest further in modern

methods of receiving customer feedback.

"Through WhatsApp, Elle assists customers in conducting transactions easily, including sending money, checking balances, paying bills, checking account information, and many other services. Customers can also chat with 'Elle' about matters beyond banking, making it a more customer-friendly tool," Yolanda added.

CRDB Bank is recognized both nationally and internationally as a leading bank in customer service in the country. Recently, the bank was awarded the Quality Service Award by the European Society for Quality Research.

The launch of Elle continues to position CRDB Bank on the map as a leading bank in quality service in this East and Central African region.

Ahmed Zahoro, one of the CRDB Bank customers who witnessed the launch of this service, praised the bank for its continued investment in innovation to provide excellent customer service. "We thank our bank for caring about us. Elle will help provide ease and efficiency in accessing services and assistance promptly," he added.

Regarding the celebration of Customer Service Week, the Head of the Customer Service Unit, Yolanda Uriyo, indicated that this October, CRDB Bank will engage in various activities, including listening to its customers and addressing their feedback, alongside continuing to celebrate achievements in improving customer service.



# Oil edges lower after rallying to highest level

By Shariq Khan

OIL prices edged lower in early Asian trading hours yesterday as traders booked profits after prices rallied to their highest in over a month on Monday amid fears that the Middle East could be on the brink of a region-wide war.

Fighting in the Middle East intensified after Iran-backed Hezbollah fired rockets at Israel's third-largest city, Haifa, and Israel looked poised to expand its offensive into Lebanon, a year after the Hamas attack on Israel that sparked the Israel's ongoing war in Gaza.

Brent crude futures fell 23 cents, or 0.3 percent, to \$80.70 per barrel by 0029 GMT. US West Texas Intermediate futures fell 20 cents, or 0.3 percent, to \$76.94 a barrel.

Both contracts rose over 3 percent on Monday to hit their highest levels since late-August, adding to last week's rally that saw them rise by over 8 percent for the biggest weekly gains in over a year.

The rally began after Iran launched a missile barrage on Israel on Oct. 1. Israel has sworn to retaliate and is weighing its options, with Iran's oil facilities considered a possible target.

However, some analysts believe that an attack on Iranian oil infrastructure is unlikely and have warned that oil prices could face considerable downward pressure if Israel focuses on any other target.

Even if an attack targets Iranian oil facilities, there is 7 million barrels per day of spare supply capacity within the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to make up for the loss of its oil output, ANZ Bank analysts noted on Friday.

Meanwhile, Hurricane Milton intensified into a Category 5 storm on its way to Florida after forcing at least one oil and gas platform in the US Gulf of Mexico to shut on Monday.

US crude oil inventories are expected to rise by 1.9 million barrels in the week ended Oct. 4, according to a preliminary Reuters poll.

The American Petroleum Institute is due to post its tally of US stockpiles at 2030 GMT on Tuesday, fol-



lowed by the official tally from the Energy Information Administration at 1430 GMT on Wednesday. The outlook for oil prices in 2024 depends on various factors such as global economic growth, geopolitical tensions, supply and demand dynamics, and the energy transition towards renewable sources. The Organization of the

Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies, known as OPEC+, have been managing production cuts to stabilize the market.

Any changes to OPEC+ policies in terms of increasing or decreasing production quotas will directly impact global oil prices. Ongoing geopolitical events, particular-

ly in key oil-producing regions such as the Middle East (e.g., Iran, Saudi Arabia, Iraq), can disrupt supply. Heightened tensions or conflicts could cause supply shortages, pushing prices upward.

Western sanctions on oil-producing countries like Russia and Iran could limit their ability to export oil, tightening glob-

al supplies and potentially raising prices.

Analysts project oil prices to range between \$80 and \$100 per barrel, assuming a stable recovery in global demand, continued OPEC+ production management, and no major geopolitical disruptions.

## AfDB appoints director for special operations

Guardian Reporter

THE African Development Bank Group has appointed Dr. Emmanuel Pinto Moreira (pictured) as Director of Special Operations in the President's Cabinet Office.

Dr. Pinto Moreira, a Beninese economist, brings to the role over three decades of experience in macro-fiscal, growth, poverty, economic governance, trade, and competitiveness-related work.

His career spans middle-income and low-income countries in the Middle East and North Africa, East Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Sub-Saharan Africa.

In his new role, Moreira will focus on the initiative in the Bank's Ten-Year Strategy to revalue Africa's green wealth, working closely with the Economic Governance and Knowledge Management Vice Presidency, and other stakeholders.

He has previously held various senior positions at the Bank, including Lead Advisor in the Economic Governance and Knowledge Management Vice Presidency, and Director of the Country Economics Department.

Before joining the African Development Bank, Moreira worked at the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for about 20 years. He was the World Bank's Regional Lead Economist for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, leading policy dialogue with Maghreb countries on designing vision documents and providing policy advice on critical economic issues facing these countries. He also led the preparation of the Macro-Poverty Outlook for 18 countries and managed the knowledge agenda in the MENA region.

He also served as the World Bank's Acting Country Director for the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Congo.

At the IMF, Moreira served as a Senior Economist and Senior Advisor to the Executive Director for 24 Francophone African countries. Earlier in his career, he taught undergraduate courses in macroeconomics, statistics, econometrics and microeconomics at the University of Lorraine (France), where he earned his PhD and MSc in Macroeconomics.

Commenting on his appointment, Moreira said: "I am truly honored and excited about this new position. I will work closely with all relevant colleagues and leverage the whole ecosystem of the Bank to deliver the green wealth agenda to the benefit of our continent."

African Development Bank President Dr. Akinwumi Adesina praised Moreira's accomplishments: "The Bank Group will benefit immensely from his policy, research and analytical skills, coupled with his immense knowledge of socioeconomic issues facing the African continent and beyond."



# MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM



ITV PGM SCHEDULE								
<b>TUESDAY 27 Aug</b>	5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo	6:00	HABARI				
	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:40	Kumekucha				
	6:00	HABARI	7:30	HABARI				
	6:40	Kumekucha	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo				
	7:30	HABARI	8:55	Habari za saa				
	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo				
	8:55	Habari za saa	9:30	Soap rpt: Laws of love				
	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	9:55	Habari za saa				
	9:30	Soap: Laws of love	10:00	Waloto wetu				
	9:55	Habari za saa	10:30	Uasiri wako				
	10:00	Waloto wetu	10:55	Habari za saa				
	10:25	Jagina	11:00	Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing				
	10:55	Habari za saa	11:20	Kipindi maalum: TMDA				
	11:00	Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	11:55	Habari za saa				
	11:55	Habari za saa	12:00	AI Jazeera				
	12:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	12:30	Kipindi maalum rpt: Tanesco				
	12:30	Uasiri Wako rpt	12:55	Habari za saa				
	13:00	Shikabamba	13:00	Kipindi maalum rpt: Maisha ni nyumba				
	13:30	Habari za saa	13:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na mahakama				
	14:00	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	13:55	Habari za saa				
	14:55	Habari za saa	14:00	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na mahakama				
	15:00	Meza Huru	14:30	DW: Afrimax rpt				
	16:30	Waloto wetu	14:55	Habari za saa				
	17:00	Music: The Base	15:00	Meza huru				
	18:00	Hapa na Pale	16:30	Waloto Wetu				
	18:15	Mapishi	17:00	The Base (DJ Show)				
	18:30	Sema na Mahakama	17:30	Kisiam				
	19:30	Soap: Laws of love	18:00	Hapa na Pale				
	20:00	Habari	18:15	Maji Kilimanjaro				
	21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba	18:30	Jagina				
	21:35	Kipindi maalum:	19:00	Shamba lulu				
	22:00	Chetu ni chetu	19:30	Soap: Laws of love				
	22:30	Sosp: Uzalo	20:00	Habari				
	23:00	Jiji letu	21:05	Kipima Joto				
	23:30	Music: The Base	23:00	The Base				
	00:30	AI Jazeera	00:30	AI Jazeera				
<b>WEDNESDAY 28 Aug</b>	5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo	<b>SATURDAY 31 Aug</b>	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi			
	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi		6:00	HABARI			
	6:00	HABARI		6:40	Kumekucha			
	6:40	Kumekucha		7:00	Habari			
	7:30	HABARI		8:00	AI Jazeera			
	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo		8:55	Habari za saa			
	8:55	Habari za saa		9:00	Shikabamba			
	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo		10:05	Shika Bamba 5			
	9:30	Soap: Laws of love		10:35	Mjuzi Zaidi rpt			
	9:55	Habari za saa		11:15	Chetu ni chetu rpt			
	10:00	Waloto wetu		11:50	Hawavumi lakini wamo			
	10:30	Jungu kuu rpt		12:50	Art and Lifestyle			
	10:55	Habari za saa		13:30	Shamba lulu			
	11:00	Ripoti maalum		13:50	Soap rpt: Laws of love			
	11:55	Habari za saa		14:45	Igizo: Mizerany			
	12:00	AI Jazeera		15:15	Abuu yaku			
	12:30	Jarida la wanawake rpt		15:30	Rev rpt			
	12:55	Habari za saa		16:00	Dakika 45 rpt			
	13:00	Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT		16:45	Mzengwe rpt			
	13:30	Art and Lifestyle		17:00	The Decor rpt			
	13:55	Habari za saa		17:30	Meza huru			
	14:00	Shamsham za pwani rpt		19:00	EcoAfrica			
	14:55	Habari za saa		19:30	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights			
	15:00	Meza huru		20:00	Jagina			
	16:30	Waloto wetu		20:30	Out & About rpt			
	17:00	The Base		21:00	Dw News Africa			
	18:00	Hapa na Pale		21:30	Capchat			
	18:15	Mapishi		22:15	Telenovela rpt: In Love With Ramon			
	18:30	Uasiri wako		00:00	AI Jazeera			
	19:00	Kipindi maalum: TMDA		<b>Mon 26 Aug</b>	06:00	AI Jazeera		
	19:30	Soap: Laws of love			06:30	Kumekucha Michezo rpt		
	20:00	Habari			09:00	Meza Huru Rpt		
	21:05	Malumbano ya hoja			10:00	Rev rpt		
	21:30	Jiji letu			10:30	Dakika 45 rpt		
	23:00	Music: The Base			12:00	Mzengwe rpt		
	00:30	AI Jazeera			17:00	The Decor rpt		
	<b>FRIDAY 30 Aug</b>	5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo		17:30	Meza huru		
		5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi		19:00	EcoAfrica		
					19:30	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights		
					20:00	Jagina		
					20:30	Out & About rpt		
					21:00	Dw News Africa		
					21:30	Capchat		
					22:15	Telenovela rpt: In Love With Ramon		
					00:00	AI Jazeera		
					<b>Tues 27 Aug</b>	06:00	AI Jazeera	
						06:30	Kumekucha Michezo rpt	
						09:00	Meza Huru Rpt	
						10:00	Rev rpt	
						10:30	Dakika 45 rpt	
						12:00	Mzengwe rpt	
						17:00	The Decor rpt	
						17:30	Meza huru	
						19:00	EcoAfrica	
						19:30	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights	
						20:00	Jagina	
						20:30	Out & About rpt	
						21:00	Dw News Africa	
						21:30	Capchat	
						22:15	Telenovela rpt: In Love With Ramon	
						00:00	AI Jazeera	
						<b>Wed 28 Aug</b>	06:00	AI Jazeera
							06:30	Kumekucha Michezo rpt
							09:00	Meza Huru Rpt
							10:00	Rev rpt
							10:30	Dakika 45 rpt
							12:00	Mzengwe rpt
							17:00	The Decor rpt
							17:30	Meza huru
							19:00	EcoAfrica
							19:30	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
							20:00	Jagina
							20:30	Out & About rpt
							21:00	Dw News Africa
							21:30	Capchat
							22:15	Telenovela rpt: In Love With Ramon
							00:00	AI Jazeera





## WORLD

# Israel starts ground operations in Lebanon as Iran delivers warning

BEIRUT/GAZA/JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S military said yesterday it had begun ground operations in southwest Lebanon, expanding its incursions to a new zone a year after exchanges of fire began with Hezbollah and amid pleas by the UN for a diplomatic solution.

The regional tensions triggered a year ago by Hamas's attack on southern Israel have spiraled to a string of Israeli operations by land and air over Lebanon and direct attacks by Iran onto Israeli military installations.

Iran warned Israel yesterday against any attacks on the Islamic Republic, a week after Tehran fired a barrage of missiles on it, putting the Middle East on edge.

Any attack on Iran's infrastructure will be met with retaliation, Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi said, warning Israel against attacks on his country.

Araqchi will visit Saudi Arabia and other countries in the Middle East starting on Tuesday to discuss regional issues and work on stopping Israel's "crimes" in Gaza and Lebanon, Iran's ISNA news agency reported.

Hamas, which has seen the Palestinian territory of Gaza laid waste by Israel's war, vowed to rise "like a phoenix" from the ashes despite heavy losses from a year of fighting.

The UN agency for Palestine refugees said Monday that the year-long "brutal" war has turned the Gaza Strip into a

graveyard for tens of thousands and a sea of rubble.

"Twelve months of brutal war have transformed the Gaza Strip into an unrecognizable sea of rubble and a graveyard for tens of thousands of people, among them far too many children," Philippe Lazzarini, commissioner-general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), said on social media platform X on the first anniversary of the Gaza conflict.

Stressing that the Middle East is "sinking deeper into conflict, killing, and sheer horrors", he said: "The expansion of the war into Lebanon is wreaking havoc on civilians, many forced to relive traumas of the past."

Hezbollah said it targeted a military base south of Haifa with "Fadi 1" missiles and launched another strike on Tiberias, 65 km away.

They also targeted areas north of Haifa with missiles. Israel's military said around 190 projectiles had entered Israeli territory on Monday. There were at least 12 injuries.

Gulf states have sought to reassure Iran of their neutrality in the Iran-Israel conflict, sources told Reuters last week.

In Lebanon, the Israeli military piled more pressure on Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah, saying it was conducting "limited, localized, targeted operations" in Lebanon's southwest after announcing such operations for the



Smoke rises over Dahiyeh in Beirut's southern suburbs after overnight Israeli air strikes, amid ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, as seen from Sin El Fil, Lebanon on Monday. REUTERS

southeast border area.

Israel's military struck Beirut's southern suburbs overnight and said it killed a senior Hezbollah responsible for the group's budgeting and logistics.

If confirmed, the death of Suhail Hussein Husseini would be the latest in a string of Israel's assassinations of leaders and commanders of Hezbollah and its ally Hamas.

In the biggest blow to Hezbollah in decades, Israel killed its leader Hassan Nasrallah with an air strike in Beirut's southern suburbs late last month.

The United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon and the head of the UN's peacekeeping mission in the country said on Tuesday that their repeated appeals for restraint had "gone unheeded" in the year since the exchanges of fire began between Hezbollah and Israel.

"Today, one year later, the near-daily exchanges of fire have escalated into a relentless military campaign whose humanitarian impact is nothing short of catastrophic," they said in a joint statement.

## Israeli operations steadily expand

Tension between Iran and Israel is running high after years of shadow war and assassinations have turned into direct confrontations that have put the region on edge.

Israel has been weighing options to respond to Tehran's ballistic mis-

sile attack last week, carried out in response to Israel's military action in Lebanon.

US news website Axios cited Israeli officials as saying Iran's oil facilities could be hit, which would be a serious escalation that could drive up global oil prices.

On Friday, President Joe Biden said he would think about alternatives to striking Iranian oilfields if he were in Israel's shoes, adding he thought it had not yet concluded how to respond to Iran.

Israeli airstrikes have displaced 1.2 million people in Lebanon, and Israel's intensified bombing campaign has worried many Lebanese that their country will experience the vast scale of destruction wrought on Gaza by Israel.

Israeli forces issued a warning in Arabic to beachgoers and boat users to avoid a stretch of the Lebanese coast, saying they would soon begin operations against Hezbollah from the sea.

About 2,000 Lebanese have been killed since Hezbollah began firing at Israel a year ago in solidarity with Hamas, most killed in the past few weeks.

The Israeli military has described its ground operation in Lebanon as localized and limited, but it has steadily increased in scale beginning last week.

The Israeli Defense Forces says its aim is to clear border areas where Hezbollah fighters have been embedded, with no plans to go deep into Lebanon.

Agencies

## Putin to receive CIS leaders in Kremlin

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin, whose country holds the rotating presidency in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) this year, will receive CIS leaders in the Kremlin in the run-up to the organization's summit.



Prior to the summit, the Russian leader will hold two bilateral meetings - with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan. Both will focus on normalization of relations between Baku and Yerevan on the basis of the 2020 trilateral agreement.

The bilateral meetings will be followed by CIS talks in narrow and extended formats. The meeting with limited attendance will be held in the format of a free discussion, where every participant will have an opportunity to bring about issues of their highest concern.

During the summit, the leaders will discuss key cooperation tasks of the Commonwealth, as well as topical regional and international problems and outline main areas of work in the future. It is expected that the decision will be made to pass CIS chairmanship from Russia to Tajikistan in 2025.

The leaders are expected to sign a number of important documents. The summit will end with a formal reception for the foreign delegations.

## Wrapping up results and drafting future plans

During the meeting in the Kremlin, leaders of CIS countries will conclude results of the Russian presidency in the Commonwealth and outline plans for 2025, aide to the Russian President Yury Ushakov said.

"All the main activities have already been implemented and the forthcoming meeting in the Kremlin tomorrow will become the culmination of the whole our work as the presiding party," Ushakov said. "The Russian president will inform his counterparts about preliminary results of the Russian presidency."

This year, Moscow focused "on tasks of further deepening the comprehensive partnership within the framework of the Commonwealth, increasing efficiency of its activities and strengthening the role and the weight of CIS," the presidential aide continued.

CIS leaders are expected "to conclude results of cooperation within the framework of the Commonwealth in this year and will determine main tasks for 2025," Ushakov added. Furthermore, "current regional international problems and steps to increase the activity of the work of the organization, its executive entities and sectoral authorities" will be discussed.

It is also planned to sign a number of multilateral documents promoting cooperation in the economy, culture, law enforcement, and humanitarian and military spheres, as well as to adopt an Address by the CIS Heads of State to the Commonwealth nations and the world community on the 80th anniversary of the Victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945.

CIS Secretary General Sergey Lebedev is expected to brief journalists about the results of the summit.

Awards and decorations of the Commonwealth will be bestowed in connection with the summit, including a honorary certificate that will be handed over to TASS Director General Andrey Kondrashov to mark his "great personal contribution into shaping of the Commonwealth's common information space."

The next official summit of the CIS will take place on October 10, 2025, in Tajikistan's capital Dushanbe.

## PM Modi to embark on Laos visit to attend 21st ASEAN-India, 19th East Asia Summits

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will visit Laos from October 10-11, the Ministry of External Affairs said yesterday. The Prime Minister's visit comes at a time when India is marking a decade of the Act East Policy this year.

PM Modi's visit to Vientiane comes at the invitation of counterpart Sonexay Siphandone, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

During his visit, Prime Minister Modi will attend the 21st ASEAN-India Summit and the 19th East Asia Summit being hosted by Laos, which is the current Chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

"India is marking a decade of the Act East Policy this year. Relations with ASEAN are a central pillar of the Act East Policy and our Indo-Pacific vision," the MEA said in an official statement.

The ASEAN-India Summit will review progress of India-ASEAN relations through Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and chart the future direction of cooperation.

ANI

# Hopfield and Hinton win 2024 Nobel Prize in Physics

STOCKHOLM

SCIENTISTS John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton won the 2024 Nobel Prize in Physics for discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning within artificial neural networks, the award-giving body said yesterday.

The award comes with a prize sum of 11 million Swedish crowns (\$1.1 million), which is shared between the winners if there are several. The physics prize is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. "This year's two Nobel Laureates in physics have used tools from physics to develop methods that are the foundation of today's powerful machine learning," the award-giving body said in a statement.

Widely considered the most prestigious prize for physicists across the world, it was created, along with awards for achievements in science, literature and peace, in the will of Alfred Nobel.

The prizes have been awarded with a few interruptions since 1901, though the Nobel economics honor is a later addition in memory of the Swedish businessman and philanthropist, who had made a fortune from his invention of dynamite.

Outside the sometimes controversial choices for peace and literature, physics often makes the biggest splash among the prizes, with the list of past winners featuring scientific superstars such as Albert Einstein,



John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton, seen in picture, are awarded this year's Nobel Prize in Physics, which is announced at a press conference by Hans Ellergrén (center) permanent secretary at the Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm, Sweden, yesterday. AP

Niels Bohr and Enrico Fermi.

Last year's physics prize was awarded to Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier for their work in creating ultra-short pulses of light that can give a snap-

shot of changes within atoms, potentially improving the detection of diseases.

Physics is the second Nobel to be awarded this week, after US scientists Victor Ambros and Gary

Ruvkun won the medicine prize for their discovery of microRNA and its role in gene regulation, shedding light on how cells specialize.

Agencies

# China keeps advancing space exploration technology

AS one of the two operational space stations in the world, the Chinese space station Tiangong weighs over 100 tons and offers more than 100 cubic meters of living and working space, showcasing superior technology worldwide.

"Every small step forward brings us closer to our aspirations. The Chinese space station is always worth looking forward to!" This was the heartfelt exclamation made by Chinese astronaut Liu Yang on September 2, 2022, upon completing her first spacewalk during the Shenzhou-14 mission.

In 2012, Liu made her first journey to space aboard the

Shenzhou-9 spacecraft. As she left the Tiangong-1 experimental space lab, she made a wish: "I will definitely come back." Ten years later, Liu realized her dream of "flying to the heavens" once again.

During the Shenzhou-14 mission, Liu and other crew members welcomed the arrival of two lab modules, Wentian and Mengtian. The two modules, together with the Tianhe core module, formed the space station's basic configuration in T shape, demonstrating the ingenious design of the Chinese space station.

Nie Haisheng, another Chinese astronaut who was tasked with three of China's

pioneering spaceflights, has gained new insights and experiences each time. He said that the Chinese space station is continuously enhancing comfort, increasing reliability, expanding living space, and diversifying space food.

"Upon entering the space station, my first impression was how spacious it felt, with a real sense of depth," said astronaut Tang Hongbo.

"My second impression was how quiet the sleeping area was, with very little noise. The third one was that this was truly a 'room with a view,'" Tang added.

"When I was off work, I would always grab my phone and snap pictures of the stun-

ning scenery outside the window. It's also a unique opportunity to conduct experiments and get firsthand experiences there," Tang said.

China's manned space program has always aimed for world-class standards, working toward major breakthroughs in key technologies.

China has tackled critical technological challenges in space exploration, including space transportation, space extravehicular activity, and space docking. It has independently developed a unique space station robotic arm system that meets mission requirements.

All components and core elements are manufactured

by China.

Starting with the launch of the Tianhe core module in April 2021, China completed the comprehensive construction of its space station in less than 20 months, setting a world record for the fastest space station assembly.

China's manned space program has completed what took developed countries half a century in just 30 years, from unmanned flights to manned missions, from single-day solo flights to multi-person extended stays, from in-cabin experiments to extravehicular activities, and from single spacecraft flights to the space station orbiting the Earth.

Behind these achievements lie the collaborative efforts of over 110 research institutes, more than 3,000 scientific research units, and hundreds of thousands of researchers, all working together to drive China's advancements in space.

Equally eye-catching are the applications of space technologies across different industries.

In 2016, during the Shenzhou-11 mission, China cultivated vegetables in space for the first time. Astronaut Jing Haipeng wrote in his diary: "At that time, my fellow crew member Chen Dong and I were both thrilled. We immediately shared this good news

with the ground staff. We took many photos and even posed for pictures with the lettuce sprouts."

Six years later, Chinese astronauts celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival in space for the first time, enjoying fresh lettuce they had grown themselves. "The taste was fantastic," said astronaut Cai Xuzhe.

The primary objective of building spacecraft and space stations is to apply research advancements. In these Chinese national space laboratories, various experiments are underway, with an increasing number of applications successfully transferred and adapted.

People's Daily



# Russia repels enemy attacks, hits reserves, Kiev loses troops: Situation in Kursk area

MOSCOW

THE Ukrainian armed forces lost over 200 servicemen in the Kursk area over the past 24 hours, the Russian Defense Ministry reported, adding that the total losses of the Ukrainian army since the beginning of hostilities in the region amounted to over 21,250 people.

The Russian military repelled two Ukrainian counterattacks near Lyubimovka, Pekhovo and Russkoye Porechnoye, as well as foiled several attempted attacks near Olgovka. Russian tactical aviation and missile forces hit the enemy reserves in the Sumy Region.

TASS has compiled the main information about the situation in the Kursk Region.

## Operation to destroy Ukrainian formations

Russian servicemen repelled two Ukrainian counterattacks near Lyubimovka, Pekhovo and Russkoye Porechnoye over the past 24 hours, as well as foiled several attempted attacks near Olgovka.

Russia's battlegroup North continued offensive operations and defeated the Ukrainian troops near Daryino, Lyubimovka, Nikolayev-Daryino, Novy Put and Plekhovo.

Russian aircraft and artillery hit the manpower and equipment of 14 Ukrainian brigades in



the Kursk Region

Tactical aviation and missile forces hit troop concentrations in Ukraine's Sumy Region.

## Ukrainian losses

Over the past 24 hours, the enemy lost over 200 servicemen, three armored combat vehicles, as well as four artillery guns, two mortars and three motor vehicles.

Since the beginning of hostilities in the Kursk Region, Kiev has lost over 21,250 servicemen,

136 tanks, 66 infantry fighting vehicles, 98 armored personnel carriers, 891 armored combat

vehicles, 589 motor vehicles, 177 artillery guns, 33 multiple rocket launchers, including eight HIMARS and six US-made MLRS, nine launchers of anti-aircraft missile systems, five transport and loading vehicles, 45 electronic warfare stations, nine counter-battery radars, three air defense radars, 22 pieces of engineering and other equipment, including 13 engineering demolition vehicles, a UR-77 demining unit, and three armored repair vehicles.

Information about civilian deaths, injuries

Over 300 civilians were in-

jured and almost 70 died as a result of the Ukrainian actions in the Kursk Region, Rodion Miroshnik, the Russian Foreign Ministry's special envoy for the crimes of the Kiev regime, said during a Rossiya-24 TV broadcast.

## New criminal case

The Russian Investigative Committee has opened a criminal case against Ukrainian servicemen and mercenaries over the deaths of at least three civilians in the Sudzha district of the Kursk Region, the press service said.

Agencies

# European leaders call for ceasefire, two-state solution in Gaza conflict

BRATISLAVA

MANY European leaders on Monday called for an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip while repeating their support for the two-state solution.

Since Israel launched a large-scale offensive in Gaza to retaliate against a surprise attack by Hamas on the southern Israeli border on Oct. 7 last year, 41,909 Palestinians have been killed, and 97,303 others injured in Gaza, including many children and women, according to health authorities in Gaza on Monday.

On the Israeli side, Hamas' attack has killed over 1,250 Israelis and foreign nationals, with more than 250 people abducted and taken to Gaza. Many Israeli hostages haven't returned yet while some were killed in bombardment.

On Monday, the EU's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell described an immediate ceasefire as "the only way" to secure the release of hostages and de-escalate the "dangerous" situation in the Middle East. He reaffirmed the EU's commitment to diplomacy, stating: "The time for a ceasefire is now."

European Parliament President Roberta Metsola echoed these sentiments, affirming the parliament's unwavering calls for a ceasefire and the release of hostages.

UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer stressed the importance of



EU leaders came up with a compromise text that condemns Hamas' attack and backs Israel's right to defend itself "in line with international law". AFP

stopping the "living nightmare" of Palestinians and vowed to use the "power of diplomacy" to minimize their suffering on the ground. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz noted the "violence and hunger" inflicted on the Palestinians in Gaza every day.

He said the German government is committed to a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and the advancement of the political process, despite the immense challenges.

On social media, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez highlighted the shocking toll on civilians from the spiral of violence in Gaza, the West Bank and now Lebanon. He posted:

"The situation is unbearable. The war must end now." Addressing an official ceremony in Rome to mourn the victims of the year-

long conflict, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni noted Israel's legitimate right to defend itself, while stressing the need to perform the right per international humanitarian law. "We cannot remain indifferent to the enormous toll of innocent civilian victims in Gaza," she said.

Also on Monday, Slovenian Prime Minister Robert Golob blamed the Israeli army for "one of the largest massacres we know in our times," condemning the killing of civilians as disproportionate to the right to self-defense, and calling for stronger international intervention.

Many European governments, including the UK, Germany, and Spain, also reaffirmed their support for a two-state solution. Starmer said a two-state solution is "the only viable long-term

route through" the conflicts in the Middle East.

Countries such as Norway, Ireland, and Spain have officially recognized Palestine, following the example of several other EU members, though major powers like France and Germany have yet to do so. However,

Scholz said on Monday, in the end, a two-state solution is the only way to a peaceful coexistence of Israelis and Palestinians.

## PRO-PALESTINE PROTESTS

Since the weekend, Europe has seen waves of protests demanding an immediate ceasefire in the Middle East. In Britain, multiple demonstrations took place in several cities, with 17 arrests made after a pro-Palestinian march in London on Saturday.

In Rome, several thousand pro-Palestinian demonstrators gathered on Saturday without official authorization. Clashes broke out between some protesters and police, causing some 30 law enforcement officers and three demonstrators to be injured.

Also on Saturday, thousands of people held a demonstration in Warsaw, the capital of Poland, chanting slogans like "Stop Israel's death machine!" Similar protests also took place in other Polish cities and Latvia's capital Riga. And on Monday, protests were held in front of Romania's Parliament and in Valletta, Malta.

Xinhua

# Ethiopian parliament appoints FM as new president

ADDIS ABABA

THE two houses of the Ethiopian parliament on Monday appointed Foreign Minister Taye Atske Selassie as the new president.

The appointment followed the end of the term of current President Sahle-Work Zewde after six years of service as the country's head of state. The newly-appointed president was sworn in on Monday before members of Ethiopia's House of Peoples' Representatives (HoPR) and House of Federation as the new leader of Africa's second most populous nation.

With a diplomatic career spanning three decades, including his role as Ethiopia's permanent representative to the United Nations, Atske Selassie has served as the country's foreign minister since February this year until his new appointment.

Prior to his appointment as the country's foreign minister, he also held the position of foreign policy adviser to Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed. Zewde was elected as Ethiopia's first female president in October 2018.

In his acceptance speech following his appointment, Atske Selassie expressed his strong commitment to serving Ethiopia and its people, with a particular focus on fostering national unity and togetherness. "Deep foresight and patience are the poles of Ethiopia's endurance.

Hence, it is necessary to move forward by moving away from distractive ideas," he told members of the Ethiopian parliament. He further stressed the collective responsibility to maintain national harmony to tackle socioeconomic and governance challenges while preserving recent positive achievements.

Atske Selassie also called on Ethiopians from all walks of life to exert concerted efforts towards the realization of the country's development aspirations.

Addressing a joint session of the two houses, Atske Selassie said the government is striving to achieve 8.4 percent economic growth in the current fiscal year starting on July 8.

To reach this goal, efforts are being made to address foreign currency shortages, curb inflation, and build a resilient agricultural sector that can withstand



the impacts of climate change. He noted that Ethiopia achieved 8.1 percent economic growth last fiscal year, significantly reducing inflation and creating job opportunities for over 4 million people.

"The government will focus on expanding mechanized agriculture, creating a favorable investment climate, substituting imported commodities, implementing macroeconomic reforms, and improving tax and non-tax collections to meet the target," the new president said.

Atske Selassie also highlighted Ethiopia's deepening diplomatic relations with China, which have been elevated to an all-weather strategic partnership.

He emphasized that Ethiopia's engagement with China continues to gain momentum. He also said that Ethiopia's diplomatic influence in multilateralism has strengthened with its recent entry into the BRICS mechanism earlier this year.

Ethiopia, which operates under a parliamentary political system, grants its president largely ceremonial powers.

These include granting amnesty to prisoners, officially opening the annual sessions of the parliament's two houses, receiving foreign ambassadors, and presenting the country's annual objectives to the parliament.

In contrast, the prime minister serves as the head of government, with the party or coalition holding at least 51 percent of the seats in the HoPR, the parliament's lower house, forming the government.

# South Korean envoy lauds growing India-South Korea ties

NEW DELHI

SOUTH Korean Ambassador Chang Jae bok yesterday expressed confidence that India-South Korea relations will strengthen further through cultural and people-to-people exchanges while indicating high-level visits between the two nations in the near future.

However, he declined to provide further details about the anticipated "high-level visits."

Speaking to ANI, the ambassador highlighted the crucial role of cultural exchanges in bringing the two nations closer.

"Based on the people-to-people exchanges and culture, the relations between our two people, the relations between India and Korea, will increase and will be strengthened further. So we hope that high-level exchange of visits will be realised very soon," Chang Jae bok said.

When asked whether any high-level visit is being planned between the two nations, he refused to give details.

The ambassador was the chief guest at the Hangeul Day celebrations at Apeejay School, Panchsheel.

Hangeul Day is celebrated October 9th

in Korea to honor the institution of the Korean writing script, hangeul by King Sejong in 1446.

The ambassador was impressed by the performances of the students, noting their enthusiasm for Korean culture.

"I was touched by the school's warm welcome and amazed by the students' enthusiasm for Hangeul and Korean culture," he said.

On the ongoing conflict in West Asia, the Ambassador acknowledged India's significant influence, particularly in West Asia, and stressed the importance of close cooperation between the Korean and Indian governments moving forward.

"So we looking forward to the close cooperation with India, government (on the matter)," he said.

India-Republic of Korea (ROK) established diplomatic relations on 10 December 1973. PM Narendra Modi and President Yoon Suk Yeol had their first in-person bilateral talks in the sidelines of G7 Summit in Hiroshima, Japan on 20 May 2023.

President Yoon visited India on 9-10 September 2023 to attend G20 Summit in New Delhi.

On a weekend night, on an open stage in the Ninth Street of Guanyinqiao business area, Jiangbei district, southwest China's Chongqing municipality, people were singing and dancing, creating a lively atmosphere.

"We come here to listen to music, enjoy food, and go shopping. The Ninth Street never sleeps at night," said Chen Qi, a young local resident.

Just across the street, at the Beicang Cultural and Creative Block, a 24-hour bookstore was filled with young readers, who are drawn to the artistic night market.

The night economy is an important part of urban commerce. In China, the booming night economy has evolved from traditional night markets centered around dining and shopping to integrated hubs for culture, tourism, and entertainment.

# Night economy thrives across China

Cities across the country are striving to boost nighttime cultural and tourism consumption and offer a wide range of nighttime activities in line with local conditions, injecting fresh energy into the consumer market.

For instance, the 5th Tianjin Nighttime Life Festival was recently held in north China's Tianjin municipality, including over 100 events integrating shopping, tourism, culture, and sports.

In Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning province, the First Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Culture Night Market was launched, where people could learn traditional Chinese fitness exercises like Baduanjin, Wuqinxi, and Tai Chi from experts.

Shijiazhuang, capital of

north China's Hebei province, has integrated business models such as nighttime entertainment, tourism, and sports, providing a range of sports activities for its residents.

Apart from diverse and vibrant urban nighttime activities, the rural economy in Chinese rural areas also has its unique appeal.

For example, in Wangjiazhuang village, Lingtai county, Pingliang, northwest China's Gansu province, people came together for vibrant bonfire parties and village basketball competitions, also known as "CunBA" usually held after sunset.

Local farmers in Shuijing village, Zhenning county, Anshun, southwest China's Guizhou province, tapped into the beauty of a vast lotus pond

to attract visitors to come and appreciate the lotus flowers while tasting local snacks.

According to Pan Helin, an official with China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the Chinese night economy is flourishing with numerous highlights: themed night markets with cultural and creative products and delicious food have enriched the options for nighttime consumption; nighttime bookstores and museums are merging with technology and cultural tourism sectors to create new consumption models. "All these services cater to the unique and wide-ranging demands of Chinese consumers," Pan added.

However, as the night economy develops, residents living near commercial districts

inevitably face disturbances such as nighttime noise, lights, and cooking fumes. While promoting the night economy, regions across the country have improved their management and provided better public services to minimize the negative impacts on the surrounding environment.

For instance, Maoming North Road located in Nanjing West Road business circle in Shanghai's Jing'an district has turned into a pedestrian street every weekend and on all Chinese national holidays. This year, during events like the UEFA EURO football championship and the Paris Olympics Games, some bars and restaurants there were allowed to extend their opening hours from 1 a.m. to 3 a.m. on weekends.

It is reported that relevant

local government departments have reached agreements with nearby businesses and shop owners on the allocation of outdoor business areas, maintaining consistent LED brightness levels and prohibiting outdoor loudspeaker advertisements at night. In addition, the property management company of the pedestrian has set up a self-regulating committee for shop owners to oversee and enforce these regulations.

The Chinese night economy is developing in tandem with new business forms such as on-demand retail and community e-commerce, better meeting consumers' nighttime consumption needs.

"I was worried about my child getting cold while swimming at night, so I ordered a few cups of hot ginger tea and

some snacks. To my surprise, they arrived in just over 10 minutes," said Yu Mengying, a resident in Lianyungang, east China's Jiangsu province, who was unfolding a picnic blanket on a beach.

"Now we can travel light as we don't need to take too many things with us. We can place orders on our phones anytime, and the delivery is fast," she said.

New technologies like big data have also improved the management and service quality of the Chinese night economy.

At the Caita night market in Shenyang, a market regulation enforcement officer was checking food vendors using a smart monitoring platform while recording his findings on a mobile application. The inspection was completed in just five minutes.

People's Daily



# SPORT

## Sean Combs' mother breaks silence: 'My son is not the monster they have painted him to be'

By Cheyenne Roundtree

SEAN Combs' mother, Janice Smalls Combs, says she is "devastated" by the "narrative created out of lies" about her son, likening the fervor surrounding the Bad Boy Entertainment founder to a "public lynching."

The 83-year-old released a statement in defense of Combs on Sunday night – her first public comments since Combs' barrage of civil lawsuits last fall and his arrest on sex trafficking and racketeering charges in September.

Combs begged the world to "not judge" her son before hearing "his side" and claimed prosecutors used Combs' settlement with ex-girlfriend Casandra "Cassie" Ventura "as an admission of guilt" to build a federal criminal case against him.

"My son is not the monster they have painted him to be, and he deserves the chance to tell his side," Janice's statement read. "I can only pray that I am alive to see him speak his truth and be vindicated."

Combs is being held without bail after he was arrested in New York City on Sept. 16. He is appealing the judge's decision, with the next court date set for Thursday. While a trial looms, he is also facing nearly a dozen civil lawsuits brought against him by several women and one man who claim Combs sexually assaulted them. The alleged encounters date back from 1990 to as recently as this summer.

Last week, Houston attorney Tony Buzbee announced in a press conference that he was representing upward of 120 accusers – both men and women – who say they have sexual abuse claims against Combs and his associates. Buzbee said 25 of the accusers were minors at the time of the alleged abuse – including a nine-year-old boy who claims he was forced to perform oral sex on Combs after auditioning for the iconic record label.

In her statement, Janice Combs broadly labeled these claims as "lies" that are "motivated by those seeking a financial gain, and not justice." "These individuals saw how quickly my son's civil legal team settled his ex-girlfriend's lawsuit, so they believe they can receive a quick payday by falsely accusing my son," she added.

"False allegations of sexual assault thwart true victims of sexual violence from getting the justice they deserve." (Combs' lawyer, Erica Wolff, said Combs "emphatically and categorically denies as false and defamatory any claim that he sexually abused anyone, including minors.")

Janice acknowledged that Combs wasn't perfect and "made mistakes in his past," referring to unearthen hotel surveillance footage that showed Combs violently stomping on Ventura before dragging her back toward his hotel suite.

"My son may not have been entirely truthful about certain things," she wrote. "Sometimes, the truth and a lie become so closely intertwined that it becomes terrifying to admit one part of the story, especially when that truth is outside the norm or is too complicated to be believed."

### 'Janice Smalls Combs' Full Statement

"I come to you today as a mother that is devastated and profoundly saddened by the allegations made against my son, Sean Combs. It is heartbreaking to see my son judged not

for the truth, but for a narrative created out of lies. To bear witness what seems to be like a public lynching of my son before he has had the opportunity to prove his innocence is a pain too unbearable to put into words. Like every human being, my son deserves to have his day in court, to finally share his side, and to prove his innocence.

"I am not here to portray my son as perfect because he is not. He has made mistakes in his past, as we all have. My son may not have been entirely truthful about certain things, such as denying he has ever gotten violent with an ex-girlfriend when the hotel's surveillance showed otherwise.

"Sometimes, the truth and a lie become so closely intertwined that it becomes terrifying to admit one part of the story, especially when that truth is outside the norm or is too complicated to be believed. This is why I believe my son's civil legal team opted to settle the ex-girlfriend's lawsuit instead of contesting it until the end, resulting in a ricochet effect as the federal government used this decision against my son by interpreting it as an admission of guilt.

"It is important to recognize that none of us, regardless of our status, are immune to fear or mistakes. Not being entirely straightforward about one issue does not mean my son is guilty of the repulsive allegations and the grave charges leveled against him. Many individuals who were wrongfully convicted and later exonerated had their freedom taken from them not because they were guilty of the crimes they were accused of, but because they didn't fit the image of what this society considers to be a 'good person.' History has shown us how individuals can be wrongfully convicted due to their past actions or mistakes.

"Watching the world make jokes and laugh at my son's life crumbling before our eyes is something I can never forget. It is truly agonizing to watch the world turn against my son so quickly and easily over lies and misconceptions, without ever hearing his side or affording him the opportunity to present his side.

"These lies thrown at him are motivated by those seeking a financial gain, and not justice. These individuals saw how quickly my son's civil legal team settled his ex-girlfriend's lawsuit, so they believe they can receive a quick payday by falsely accusing my son. False allegations of sexual assault thwart true victims of sexual violence from getting the justice they deserve.

"To make matters worse, the federal government is now using these lies to prosecute my son. This injustice has been unbearable for our family. The worst part of this ordeal is watching my beloved son be stripped of his dignity, not for what he did, but for what people choose to believe about him.

"I ask his supporters, fans, colleagues, friends, and the public to not judge him before you've had the chance to hear his side. I beg you to think about those who have been wrongfully persecuted, to remember that not everyone who has made mistakes in life deserves to have their entire existence judged by a single action or a few mistakes.

"My son is not the monster they have painted him to be, and he deserves the chance to tell his side. I can only pray that I am alive to see him speak his truth and be vindicated."

RollingStone



Sean Combs and his mother, Janice Combs, at the 2023 MTV Video Music Awards. Agencies

## SPORTS

## Coach Gamondi eyes derby glory in Yanga-Simba rivalry

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

YOUNG Africans Sports Club (Yanga) head coach, Miguel Gamondi, has expressed confidence that the almost two weeks remaining before the much-anticipated clash against Simba SC will be sufficient for him to analyze and prepare for his opponents.

The derby, set for October 19 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, promises to be a high-stakes encounter as the two rivals meet for the first time in the Tanzania Mainland Premier League this season.

Gamondi (pictured) acknowledged the significance of the match, noting that while he prepares meticulously for every game, the upcoming clash against their traditional rivals Simba presents a unique challenge. He emphasized the importance of giving Young Africans fans something to cheer about, particularly after their loyal support through both highs and lows.

"I think now the members and fans of Young Africans have regained their happiness after our 4-0 victory against Pamba. The game against Simba is still two weeks away, and we will prepare thoroughly. While we approach every game with seriousness, this is a special challenge.

"It's time to study them carefully and craft strategies to counter them. It's going to be a great match, and we want to offer it as a gift to our loyal supporters who always stand by us," said the Argentine coach.

Gamondi admitted that the derby would not be easy, considering the competitive nature of the Premier League this season. However, he expressed optimism about playing at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, a venue that he believes provides ideal conditions for the tactical plans he intends to implement.

"We will be playing at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, which will make it a good game. It won't be easy, but we are excited to play there. The pitch allows for a variety of playing styles, and both teams will benefit from that. Our aim is



to be fully prepared to secure a win," he added.

The October 19 clash follows their last meeting on August 8 in the Community Shield semi-final, where Young Africans emerged victorious with a 1-0 win courtesy of a goal by Congolese midfielder Maxi Nzengele. This match set the tone for the Premier League season, with Young Africans aiming to continue their dominance over Simba.

Last season, Young Africans swept both league fixtures against Simba, winning 5-1 in the first round on November 5, 2023, and securing a hard-fought 2-1 victory in the second round on April 20, 2024. The upcoming derby will be Young Africans' chance to extend their winning streak against their fierce rivals.

Young Africans currently sit in fourth place in the Premier League standings, having won all four of their opening matches. The defending champions have collected 12 points, scoring eight goals and maintaining a perfect defensive record, with no goals conceded so far.

Gamondi's influence has been evident, as he has instilled discipline and tactical awareness in his squad, contributing to their unbeaten start.

For Young Africans fans, this derby holds special significance. The rivalry between Young Africans and Simba is one of the most storied in African football, capturing the attention of the entire nation with each encounter.

The Benjamin Mkapa Stadium is expected to be packed to capacity, as fans from both sides eagerly await another thrilling chapter in this fierce rivalry.

Gamondi, well aware of the pressure associated with such a high-profile match, is determined to deliver a performance that will bring joy to Young Africans supporters.

"Our fans have been incredible. They've been with us through every challenge, and now it's our time to repay their faith. We know how important this game is for them, and we are ready to give everything we have," he said.

As the countdown to October 19 begins, all eyes will be on Gamondi's tactical preparations. With a two-week window to fine-tune his approach and study Simba's weaknesses, the Argentine coach remains optimistic about Young Africans' chances of continuing their dominance.

A win in this derby would boost Young Africans' title aspirations and reaffirm their status as the top team in Tanzanian football.

Meanwhile, fans from both sides will be eagerly watching every development as the day of the derby draws nearer, hoping their team will emerge victorious in what promises to be another exciting chapter in the Young Africans vs Simba rivalry.

## Michael Jordan and Front Row's Bob Jenkins standing firm in their fight against NASCAR

By JENNA FRYER

MICHAEL Jordan arrived at Talladega Superspeedway about 30 minutes before the start of the playoff race and made his way directly to Bubba Wallace's pit stand for a quick visit with his guys.

The NBA great eventually made his way down pit road to Tyler Reddick's stand, where he sat on the wall and waited for Front Row Motorsports owner Bob Jenkins. Both NASCAR team owners have refused to sign NASCAR's charter agreement and last week filed a federal antitrust lawsuit against the stock car series.

The brief exchange Sunday was planned as a show of solidarity by the only two teams that chose not to accept NASCAR's terms for its new revenue-sharing model. 23XI Racing and Front Row want a jury to decide if NASCAR is, indeed, "monopolistic bullies" as the suit alleges.

Jordan said before the race the lawsuit is on behalf of all Cup Series teams; 13 organizations signed the charter agreement, with 23XI and Front Row the only holdouts. Many team owners have said they signed on deadline and under threat of having the entire charter system revoked.

"I think everybody should have an opportunity to be successful in any business and my voice is saying it hasn't been happening," Jordan told Fox Sports.

He said he had no intention of speaking with NASCAR chairman Jim France, who is named in the suit, while in Talladega over the weekend.

The legal battle has become the biggest talking point in NASCAR in the middle of its playoffs as the entire industry waits to see what happens next. NASCAR has declined to comment and France declined to discuss it at Talladega. NASCAR's court response could come as early as this week ahead of Sunday's playoff elimination race at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Michael McDowell, who won the pole for Sunday's race for Front Row, defended Jenkins' decision to battle NASCAR. McDowell decided months ago he was leaving the team he's driven for since 2018 at the end of the season, but is supportive of what Jenkins and 23XI are trying to



Bob Jenkins, owner of Front Row Motorsports and Co-owner Michael Jordan, of 23XI Racing, pose before a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Talladega Superspeedway, Sunday, Oct. 6, 2024, in Talladega, Ala. (AP Photo)

accomplish.

"Bob Jenkins is so dedicated to this sport," McDowell said. "He has spent millions and millions and millions and millions of his own dollars to be in this sport and to be competitive. Nobody does that unless they're insane or super passionate."

"He's passionate about our race team and being competitive. It's been a steady progression and I feel like we're at a point now where we're a contender," McDowell continued. "There is nobody spending what we spend and performing how we perform. Nobody. And if he has to spend his own money, there is a problem."

Denny Hamlin, who co-owns 23XI Racing with Jordan and Curtis Polk, also defended taking the fight to court.

"It's been stated in statements by Michael Jordan that he loves NASCAR," Hamlin said. "We've obviously invested heavily in NASCAR and reinvested what I got out of this sport as a driver back into it as an owner. Certainly, we love the sport, just would love to see change as well."

Asked if he thinks NASCAR has any appreciation for what Hamlin – who as a Charlotte Hornets season ticket-holder developed a relationship with Jordan and then persuaded Jordan to start a NASCAR

team with him – and 23XI have done for the sport, Hamlin took a long pause.

"Probably not," he finally answered.

Jordan is the highest-profile team owner in NASCAR, and one of only two who are Black. 23XI also has one of the most diverse teams in the garage, from driver Wallace to crew members and non-competition employees.

The lawsuit has raised another concern around the garage: Team owner Richard Childress said he was not sure if the agreement he signed is the same terms that, say, Hendrick Motorsports received – and if 23XI and Front Row eventually reach an agreement with NASCAR will organizations that have already signed be guaranteed the same terms?

"I don't know what's going to happen because it's just so unprecedented in our sport," Trackhouse Racing owner Justin Marks said. "There's no historical precedent. I think in other cases like this, in other sports, you have collective bargaining unions. So it's just a very, very different setting. I think we have a blank slate and we can land anywhere. I think whatever comes out of this, I have to believe that it should affect everybody the same."

AP



## Will global soccer be reshaped after EU's top court issued a major ruling in Lassana Diarra case?

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN and GRAHAM DUNBAR

THE global soccer transfer market, worth more than \$10 billion each season, is facing a revolutionary overhaul or a nuanced evolution following last week's ruling by the European Court of Justice in the Lassana Diarra case.

By ruling that some FIFA regulations on player transfers are contrary to EU legislation relating to competition and freedom of movement, the bloc's top court has paved the way for deep changes in the sport's economy.

Here is a look at the key elements of the case and the possible impact of the landmark ruling.

### \*Who is Lassana Diarra?

Lassana Diarra (pictured) is a former much-traveled footballer whose career saw him play for prestigious clubs such as Chelsea, Paris Saint-Germain and Real Madrid. He represented France 34 times. At one point in his career, Diarra moved to the Russian league. It's a dispute with Lokomotiv Moscow that triggered the legal case examined by the European Court of Justice (ECJ).

### \*How did we get there?

Diarra signed a four-year contract with Lokomotiv in 2013. The deal was terminated a year later after he was unhappy with alleged pay cuts. Lokomotiv applied to the FIFA dispute resolution chamber for compensation and the player submitted a counterclaim seeking compensation for unpaid wages. The Court of Arbitration for Sport found the Russian club terminated the contract "with just cause" and the player had to pay 10.5 million euros (\$11.2 million). Diarra said his search for a new team was hampered by FIFA rules stipulating that any new club would be jointly responsible with him for paying compensation to Lokomotiv.

### \*Why does the court believe FIFA rules are in breach of EU law?

Free movement is a fundamental right of workers in the European Union within the single market. On that basis, the EU's top court said that the FIFA rules, including the one that resulted in the refusal to provide Diarra with an international transfer certificate (ITC) for a move to Charleroi, restricted his freedom of movement.

The court also found that FIFA regulations breached the bloc's competition law because they aim at restricting and preventing "cross-border competition which could be pursued by all clubs established in the European Union."

### \*What is the next legal step?

The ECJ ruling will now be referred back to the appeal court in Mons, Belgium, which will rule on the Diarra case. This could take years rather than months. Although FIFA said it was satisfied "that the legality of key principles of the transfer system have been reconfirmed," Diarra's lawyers claimed "total victory."

The judges in Luxembourg acknowledged having stability in player rosters and regularity in competitions are legitimate objectives for FIFA, but that rules must be applied proportionally.

### \*Is the Diarra ruling comparable to Bosman?

Some analysts have compared it to the ECJ's 1995 decision on Belgian Jean-Marc Bosman. That ruling removed restrictions placed on foreign EU footballers within national leagues and allowed players in the bloc to move to another club for free when their contracts ended. Those principles had an obviously wider focus than the narrower scope of Diarra, about terminating a contract for cause.

For now, the decision on Diarra does not change how the transfer market functions. But many legal

experts believe that the ruling will ultimately have major effects on the sport's economy.

"The decision essentially says the current system is too restrictive and so will have to change," said Ian Giles, a partner at Norton Rose Fulbright law firm. "It's entirely possible this means players will feel they can now break contracts and sign on with new clubs, without the selling club being able to hold them or demand significant transfer fees. This will likely result in reduced transfer fees and more economic power for players – but over time things will have to stabilize to allow clubs to remain economically viable."

It took more than five years after the Bosman ruling for updated FIFA transfer rules to be published in 2001. Some of those debates then will now be revisited.

### \*Effect on the European soccer industry

A major reset of transfer fee values can seriously affect many smaller market clubs. Bosman already accelerated gaps in wealth and competitive balance across European soccer, which is increasingly dominated by a small group of clubs. They can lure free-agent players with higher signing bonuses and salaries – money that previously would be more widely distributed via transfer fees.

Spending by super-wealthy clubs can still reward smaller ones who excel at investing time and expertise in scouting and developing local and global talent: Ajax, Brighton, Genk in Belgium, which nurtured Kevin De Bruyne, Thibaut Courtois and Leandro Trossard.

The influential European Club Association, which represents more than 700 teams, sees potential threats to the industry's health in the fallout from Diarra. Transfer fees and payments to clubs from former players being sold later in their career "are an efficient and effective means of wealth distribution from bigger clubs to smaller ones," the ECA noted.

### \*Lawfare against FIFA

The soccer industry is increasingly a game being played by lawyers in courts and government offices.

FIFA is being challenged in several legal arenas, in part because it works (Diarra, Super League, agents regulations). There is also a growing perception FIFA does not listen before launching projects and that pro-transparency reforms demanded and passed a decade ago are in decline.

Within hours of the Diarra ruling Friday, the group of domestic leagues and player unions announced a news conference in Brussels for Oct. 14 to explain their filing to the European Commission. The complaint on competition law grounds argues FIFA adds new and bigger tournaments to the congested calendar without proper consultation.

European Leagues and FIFPRO once had a seat at FIFA's Football Stakeholders Committee that was a key forum for debate, including on the transfer market. FIFA paused the panel in 2021 and soon its president Gianni Infantino pushed for playing World Cups every two years. The idea was resisted by a widespread backlash. The leagues group says the Diarra ruling shows how representation at FIFA is "becoming legally essential."

FIFA had indicated before Friday it would consult widely on transfer market reforms it believes can focus on specific issues raised by Diarra, rather than a total overhaul.

Diarra's lawyer Jean-Louis Dupont – who also represented Bosman 30 years ago – sees a bigger picture. He appeared to be recruiting for a wider suit against FIFA by claiming "all professional players have been affected by these illegal rules" and could now seek compensation.

AP

# Man City v Premier League legal case verdict - what it all means

By Emlyn Begley

THE verdict has been announced in Manchester City's legal case against the Premier League over the league's rules on commercial deals involving clubs' owners.

City, who are owned by the Abu Dhabi-backed City Football Group, had some complaints upheld, with two aspects of the associated party transaction (APT) rules deemed unlawful by a tribunal.

But the Premier League says the tribunal rejected the majority of Manchester City's challenges and "endorsed the overall objectives, framework and decision-making of the APT system".

APTs are aimed at the value of sponsorship deals with companies linked to clubs' owners.

This case is not directly related to the Premier League disciplinary commission which will hear 115 charges against City for allegedly breaching its financial regulations, some of which date back to 2009.

The tribunal – in a 175-page document – ruled that shareholder loans should not be excluded from the scope of APT rules and that some amendments made in February by the Premier League should not be retained.

In this arbitration process, Chelsea, Newcastle and Everton all acted as witnesses for City.

Witnesses for the Premier League included Manchester United, Liverpool, Arsenal, Tottenham, Brighton and West Ham.

Brentford, Bournemouth, Fulham and Wolves wrote letters in support of the rules.

BBC Sport has asked all the clubs mentioned for comment and none have yet responded.

Simon Leaf, partner and head of sport at law firm Mishcon de Reya, told BBC Sport: "Whilst the decision will be embarrassing for the Premier League, because in a couple of narrow areas their rules have been found to be unlawful, generally speaking the decision confirms that the vast majority of the APT rules are indeed lawful."

"Therefore whilst we can expect to see some changes to the rules going forwards, on the whole this isn't a resounding victory for Manchester City by any stretch of the imagination."

The Premier League has called a meeting for next week to discuss the implications of the judgement.

### \*How did we get here?

APTs are commercial deals involving clubs and companies to which they have close ties. Restrictions on fair market values (FMVs) were introduced in December 2021, shortly after a Saudi-led takeover of Newcastle.

The Premier League has the right to assess the value of such deals to ensure they have not been inflated, which could give clubs more to spend under current financial rules.

The rules were changed following a vote in February that was unanimous. Twelve clubs voted to change the rules, with two abstaining and six voting against the changes.

Those rule changes involved amendments to the definition FMV, and shifting the burden of proof to a club to show a transaction is at fair market value.

The BBC reported in June that City were due to face the Premier League in a legal battle.

The Premier League and Manchester City both said they welcomed the tribunal findings announced on Monday, with each side focusing on the elements in their favour.

"What the Premier League says... The Premier League's statement said that City "brought a wholesale challenge" to the APT rules and were "unsuccessful in the majority" of the challenge.

It added the tribunal deemed the APT rules to be necessary and that if prices above fair market value were paid then "competition will be distorted as the club would be benefiting from a subsidy".

The league also said the tribunal had "rejected Manchester City's argument that the object of the APT



Manchester City had taken legal action against the Premier League's APT rules. Agencies

rules was to discriminate against clubs with ownership from the Gulf region".

Its statement also said that, except in the two respects where City won, the tribunal found that City's arguments were "unfounded, including on any alleged inconsistency in approach as between certain types of clubs".

### \*What Manchester City say...

City's statement focused on the two areas where they won, as the club claimed the "Premier League was found to have abused its dominant position".

It said the club had "succeeded with its claim" and that "the APT rules were found to be unlawful". City added that the tribunal found "both the original APT rules and the... amended... rules violate UK competition law... and the requirements of procedural fairness".

The Premier League champions said the rules were found to be "discriminatory... because they deliberately excluded shareholder loans".

And the club added "there was an unreasonable delay in the Premier League's fair market value assessment of two of the club's sponsorship transactions".

### \*What's next?

The Premier League says it will look to change the two aspects that the tribunal ruled against the league on.

That means integrating the tribunal's assessment of shareholder loans and removing some of the February amendments.

It says it is "conducting a process that can allow the league and clubs to enact those specific changes quickly and effectively".

"Concerns that clubs could be hit with additional costs"

### BBC News sports editor Dan Roan

Both sides are claiming victory, and in truth the judgement contains something for both City and the Premier League.

League sources are emphasising the fact that most of City's challenges to the APT rules failed, and that the wider system was endorsed by the panel.

They also seem confident that the rules will be swiftly amended by the clubs within two weeks in order to

make them lawful.

But the panel's ruling that the exclusion from the rules of interest-free loans from owners to their clubs (shareholder loans) was unlawful, has led to concerns that clubs could now be hit with additional costs that they were not anticipating.

This could mean some are in danger of breaching PSR regulations. The suggestion is that such loans will now be subject to commercial market rates of interest.

That could have major ramifications for those clubs that owe tens (or even hundreds) of millions of pounds to their owners.

The Premier League seems relatively relaxed about that issue, along with speculation that City and other clubs could seek compensation for any losses suffered by the rules.

On shareholder loans, league officials believe a fair market value analysis of such borrowings would be placed on the cost of the loan (i.e. the interest rate), not the value of the loan itself, and that the impact on clubs, therefore, would be minimal.

They also feel that such loans will only come into the scope of APT once the rules are amended, and will not be applied retrospectively, so only future loans will be affected.

However, BBC Sport has learned that City's lawyers believe that not subjecting previous shareholder loans to a Fair Market Value assessment (while continuing to apply it to previous sponsorship deals) would be unfair, and that they may seek an injunction to prevent the Premier League from doing so.

But there will be fears from some in the game that any weakening of APT rules designed to preserve fairness and competitive balance could lead to certain clubs being able to sign more lucrative commercial deals.

There is also the question over whether this could have an impact on the 100-plus charges the league has brought against City for alleged financial rule breaches. City deny wrongdoing, and a hearing into the case continues.

Whatever the consequences, what is clear is that this dispute has reinforced the sense of division among the clubs over the financial regulations they are subject to.

"The Premier League feels it is OK" BBC Sport's chief football news reporter Simon Stone

From reading the tribunal's decision, the complexity of this case is highlighted in a couple of points.

The first is that for the hearing, there were 280 pages of statements and 150 pages of submissions. The second is the verdict itself, which runs to 177 pages.

On pages 161 and 162 of the verdict, eight separate areas in which City have failed in their claim are identified.

However, on page 163, it outlines that declaratory relief, injunctive relief and damages can be sought. This could be a financial problem for the Premier League depending on whether City pursue a claim – which they have indicated they will – and what the size of it is.

Of even greater issue are the comments on page 164, which point out a number of the Premier League's rules are unlawful as they don't include shareholder loans. It is this which forms the basis of City saying the Premier League has "violated UK competition law".

In order to change the rules, the Premier League will need 14 clubs to vote in favour. However, some of the clubs benefit from shareholder loans at preferential (or non-existent) rates. Getting the rule changes required may not be straightforward.

It is also the second time in just over a month that issues with wording within Premier League regulations have been highlighted after Leicester had their financial regulations breach charge thrown out.

That regarded an issue surrounding whether they were a top-flight club on the 30 June reporting date, in a season where they competed in the Premier League but were relegated (before 30 June).

The Premier League feels it is OK after this latest decision because of the number of allegations dismissed but it remains to be seen whether their calm reaction is justified.

The fierce manner in which City have responded to the verdict, allied to the knowledge they are currently fighting the substantive issue of 115 financial charges, which they deny but if found to have breached will be seismic, suggests they have spotted a weakness in the Premier League's regulations and will look to exploit it as far as they can.

BBC



Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Man City v Premier League legal case verdict - what it all means**

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## Simba aim for top spot in CAF Confederation Cup Group A

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli



SIMBA Sports Club have learned their group-stage opponents for the CAF Confederation Cup (CAF CC) following the recent draw conducted by the Confederation of African Football (CAF).

The Tanzanian giants will compete in Group A alongside Tunisia's CS Sfaxien, Algeria's CS Constantine, and Angola's FC Bravos.

The competition in Group A is expected to be fierce, particularly from CS Sfaxien, a club with a rich history in African football. Sfaxien have made multiple appearances in the CAF Confederation Cup group stages and won the title three times, with their last triumph in 2013.

Despite facing challenges in recent years, the Tunisian side remains determined to restore their former glory and will pose a significant

threat to Simba's ambitions.

CS Constantine, representing Algeria, are another seasoned competitor in continental football. The club has participated in both the CAF Champions League and the CAF Confederation Cup on several occasions.

However, their runs in these tournaments have often ended in the early stages, a weakness Simba will look to exploit in their encounters with the Algerian side.

FC Bravos, from Angola, will be making their debut in the CAF Confederation Cup group stages. While they are the least experienced team in the group, Bravos could still present a challenge to Simba, as new entrants in such tournaments can often spring surprises.

The group stage matches are set to begin in late November. Simba will kick off their campaign on November 28 with a home fixture against FC Bravos. Following that, they will travel to Algeria to face CS Constantine on December 8.

Their third match will see Simba return to Dar es Salaam to host CS Sfaxien on December 15, a crucial encounter given Sfaxien's pedigree in the tournament. Simba will then travel to Tunisia for the reverse fixture against Sfaxien on January 5, 2025.

Simba's away fixtures will continue with a trip to Angola on January 12 to play Bravos, before finishing the group stage with a home match against CS Constantine on January 19.

Simba have a well-established strategy of advancing from the group stages of CAF competitions. Their usual approach is to secure all nine points from their home matches and aim to collect at least two points from their away fixtures, ensuring a spot in the quarter-finals.

Ahmed Ally (pictured), Simba's Information and Communication Manager, expressed confidence in the team's ability to perform well in the group stage and reiterated the club's goal of finishing first in Group A.

"Our target is clear: we want to finish at the top of the group and reach the quarter-finals," said Ally. "We have a solid plan: secure all nine points at home and aim for at least two victories away. We believe we can win against FC Bravos and CS Constantine on the road, and we will give a strong fight against CS Sfaxien."

Ally also emphasized the importance of fan support during the group stage, urging Simba's passionate supporters to fill the stadium for each of the home matches.

"My message to the fans is that preparations must begin now. From November onwards, every Simba fan should be ready to come to the stadium and support the team. Filling the stands is crucial, and our fans have a key role in driving us to victory," Ally added.

While Simba's immediate focus is on securing a spot in the quarter-finals, the club has set lofty goals for this year's CAF Confederation Cup campaign, with the ultimate aim of winning the prestigious tournament - a title that has eluded them in the past.

"Reaching the quarter-finals is our minimum goal, but we have our sights set on winning the championship," said Ally.

Simba, one of East Africa's most successful football clubs, have previously reached the knockout stages of both the CAF Champions League and Confederation Cup. This season, they are determined to go all the way and claim their first continental trophy.

As Simba prepare for the tough group-stage fixtures ahead, the players, technical team, and supporters alike are united in their quest for success on the African stage.

With experienced teams like CS Sfaxien and CS Constantine in their group, the journey will not be easy. However, Simba remain confident in their ability to rise to the occasion and make their mark in this year's CAF Confederation Cup.

## Yanga eye success in tough CAF Champions League group

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans spokesman, Ali Kamwe, has acknowledged the progress of their opponents in Group A of the CAF Champions League, while expressing unwavering confidence in his team's ability to succeed.

In the recent draw held in Cairo, Young Africans were placed in a challenging group alongside former interclub champions TP Mazembe (DRC), MC Alger (Algeria), and Al Hilal (Sudan).

Despite the strong competition, Kamwe (pictured) emphasized that this season presents a valuable opportunity for Young Africans to advance further in the prestigious tournament.

Kamwe highlighted the team's growth and squad development, stating that they are fully prepared to compete at the highest level.

"This is a favorable group for us as we are familiar with all of our opponents, except MC Alger, whom we haven't faced in a long time," Kamwe said.

"While our opponents are strong, we are equally capable, and this makes for a competitive and exciting group. We believe we can compete with any team, regardless of where we play, and this gives us an advantage going into the competition."

He expressed optimism about the team's chances, particularly in matches against TP Mazembe, noting that Young Africans have experience playing in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Kamwe added: "We are focused on preparing for a successful season and building on our achievements from last year."

Young Africans enter the CAF Champions League group stage with momentum following impressive performances in both the Champions League and Confederation Cup preliminary rounds.

The team secured their spot in the group stages by convincingly defeating Vital'O FC of Burundi and CBE of Ethiopia in the qualifying stages.

The upcoming encounter with TP Mazembe is significant, as the two teams met in the CAF Confederation Cup group stage last season, with Young Africans emerging victorious in both legs, winning 3-1 away and 1-0 at home.

Young Africans will also be eager to avenge past defeats against familiar foes in Group A. In the 2022/2023 season, Al Hilal eliminated Young Africans from the second preliminary round of the Champions League with a 2-1 aggregate victory.

The teams drew 1-1 in Dar es Salaam before Al Hilal secured a 1-0 win in Sudan.

However, this season presents a new challenge for Al Hilal, who will play their home matches in Libya due to political instability in Sudan. This offers an additional opportunity for Young Africans to capitalize on the neutral venue.

MC Alger also boast a recent victory over Young Africans, having defeated the Tanzanian side 4-1 on aggregate in the CAF Confederation Cup preliminary first round in 2017.

Although Young Africans managed to secure a 1-1 draw at home, MC Alger triumphed 4-0 in the second leg.

This season marks Young Africans' third appearance in the CAF Champions League, and their first back-to-back qualification.

Kamwe is optimistic that the revamped squad can surpass last season's quarterfinal finish. Last year, Young Africans were eliminated by Mamelodi Sundowns after a goalless aggregate draw, with Sundowns advancing 3-2 on penalties.

With renewed confidence, Kamwe concluded: "Our goal is to build on last season's success and go even further in this year's competition."



## Hemed 'Morocco' now confident ahead of crucial AFCON qualifiers against DR Congo



Tanzania national soccer team (Taifa Stars) players pictured yesterday during a training session. Photo: Courtesy of TFF

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli & Nassir Nchimbi

TAIFA Stars interim head coach Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman has expressed his satisfaction with the progress of his team as they prepare for two pivotal back-to-back 2025 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers against DR Congo.

Tanzania's national football team is aiming to secure a spot in the prestigious tournament, set to take place in Morocco next year.

The first leg of the qualifiers will see Taifa Stars face DR Congo in Kinshasa tomorrow, with the return leg scheduled for October 15 at Tanzania's iconic Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam. These matches are crucial for both teams as they compete for valuable points to secure qualification for the AFCON finals.

With four points from their first two matches, Taifa Stars are in a promising position in Group H. To secure a place in the AFCON finals, Tanzania will need at least two wins from their remaining four qualifiers. Success in both upcoming matches against DR Congo would greatly boost their chances of progressing.

Coach Morocco acknowledged the challenge posed by DR Congo, noting the team's strong form in

recent games. However, he remains confident in Taifa Stars' preparation and progress.

"Our main focus is on the next two games against DR Congo. We know these matches will be tense due to the quality and consistency of our opponents. They are a tough team, but I am confident in the progress of our players," Morocco said during a press briefing in Dar es Salaam. "The players are working hard, and that gives me great confidence."

Morocco praised his players for their dedication during training sessions, highlighting the positive response to tactical and physical drills. The coach emphasized that the mission is to secure early qualification for AFCON, making these consecutive matches against DR Congo vital to the team's plans.

"We respect DR Congo - they have talented players - but we also have a strong mix of young and experienced players who can compete with any team," Morocco added.

Taifa Stars defender Mohamed Hussein echoed his coach's confidence, stating that the team is in good shape and focused on the task ahead.

"We are progressing well, and so far, there are no major issues in our camp. We are concentrating on the two big games, and with the support of Tanzanians, I am sure we will succeed," Hussein said.

Tanzania's quest for a fourth AFCON qualification is bolstered by the fact that three of their remaining four group stage

matches will be played at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium. This home advantage, coupled with strong fan support, provides a significant boost for Taifa Stars.

Currently, Taifa Stars sit in second place in Group H with four points, while DR Congo leads the group with six points after winning both of their opening matches. The top two teams from the group will secure direct qualification to the AFCON finals, making these upcoming games critical for Tanzania.

Coach Morocco has assembled a well-balanced squad that blends youthful energy with the experience of seasoned veterans. This combination has proven effective so far, and the coach hopes it will continue to bring success.

"DR Congo has very talented players, but we also have a team that is more than capable of competing at this level," Morocco emphasized. "Our team is improving every day, and I believe we can get the results we need."

As the countdown to tomorrow's showdown in Kinshasa continues, all eyes are on Taifa Stars to see how they perform under pressure. A positive result away from home could set the stage for a triumphant return to Dar es Salaam and move Tanzania one step closer to their AFCON qualification dream.

For now, the focus remains on preparing for two crucial matches that could shape the future of Tanzanian football on the continental stage.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

