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School appeals for security fence



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'Headline inflation up in April'



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**JKCI, ORCI share 500m/- from CRDB Bank Marathon**

**E-hailing firm DIDI seeks drivers, readies low-cost service in Africa**

**The leading jewelry maker will no longer use mined diamonds**

**IFC partners with LAPD to expand microfinance lending in Sub-Saharan Africa**

# Government, donors agree on Five-Year Plan finance mechanisms

By Henry Mwangonde

DEVELOPMENT partners yesterday pledged continued support for Tanzania's strategic development projects such as the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHPP) and the Standard Gauge Railway

(SGR) to help the country sustain lower middle income status and attain middle income rank.

Addressing a strategic meeting of the Treasury with the development partners, United Nations (UN) Resident Coordinator

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Ricardo Ambrosio Sampaio Mtumbuida, Mozambique's newly arrived Ambassador to Tanzania, presents his credentials to President Samia Suluhu Hassan at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Liberata Mulamula. Photo: State House

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# Envoys present credentials

## Focus on investments in talks with president

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday held talks with five new ambassadors, urging them to highlight available investment opportunities in sectors like agriculture, industry, tourism, livestock and fisheries.

The Head of State asked the ambassadors to seek out investors from their countries to enter into joint ventures with Tanzanian business groups in exploring opportunities in these sectors for mutual benefit.

Presidential communication director Gerson Msigwa said in a statement that the envoys are Lebibus Tobias from Namibia, Mary O'Neill from Ireland, Dr Mehmet Gulluoglu from Turkey, Marco Lombard from Italy and Ricardo Mtumbulda from Mozambique.



**In making far reaching changes in the government, the president has signaled major changes in orientation, including rectifying relations with various countries to ease the flow of investments into the country**

The president welcomed the new envoys to Tanzania, assuring them of the country's readiness to cooperate with their nations in strengthening diplomatic ties, with an eye to improving social and economic relations.

She asked the ambassadors to convey her sincere gratitude to the heads of state and government in their countries, assuring them of full cooperation.

Shortly after presenting their credentials at a State House ceremony in the city, the new envoys saluted the president for accepting them, promising to strengthen existing bilateral relations with Tanzania.

They pledged cooperation with the government towards achieving targeted socio-economic development goals. The envoys are the first batch to present credentials to President Samia since she

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# EAC vetoes report on Kiswahili commission

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Sectoral Council on Finance and Economic Affairs (SCFEA) of the East African Community (EAC) currently underway in Arusha has agreed not to dissolve the East African Commission for Kiswahili (EACK) due to its importance in promoting the language in the EAC partner states.

The decision was based on the objections from member states which rejected recommendations of a consultant who urged the dissolution of the commission, recommending that its responsibilities be taken up by the EAC Information, Technology, Culture and Sports Department.

Dissolving the EACK would reduce expenditure in the secretariat, but the head of the Tanzanian delegation, Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (pictured) said it was high time that the community strengthens the commission due to its importance.

"Let us consider Kiswahili as a language that unites and brings us together," he said, with other delegates agreeing to reduce the number of representatives in the East African Legislative Assembly from nine to five to increase efficiency.

During the meeting, each partner state presented budget estimates for the 2021/2022 financial year.

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# 'Private sector must help to end edible oil scarcity'

By Songwa wa Songwa, Dodoma

THE government has challenged the private sector to venture into cultivation of edible oil-producing crops and processing of the same to end the perennial shortage and save billions spent on importation of the essential product.

To that end, the government says it is ready to engage willing investors in talks aimed at reducing costs of investment in this sub-sector.

Hussein Bashe (pictured), Deputy Minister for Agriculture, told the National Assembly here yesterday that investment by private sector players in edible oil production can help to plug the gap of 365,000 metric tonnes



that are imported annually.

Tanzania's demand for cooking oil stands at 570,000 metric tonnes annually while local production capacity is 205,000 metric tonnes, hence the need to resort to importing the deficit.

"The government would like to appeal to the private sector to venture into this area of investment and we are ready to hold talks with companies and individuals who are ready to find ways of reducing costs of investment," he said.

He made this appeal while responding to Bunda MP Boniphace Getere who wanted to know government strategies to end the year-in-year-out shortage of cooking oil in the country.

"In the financial year 2021/2022, the government will inject 10.6bn/- into production of improved seeds, including oil seeds by improving and expanding infrastructure of the

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## Government, donors agree on Five Year Plan financing mechanisms

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Zlatan Milisic said the gesture by the government to engage development partners in elaborating the new development plan was a welcome move.

"These plans build on the development successes achieved to date and set out strategies for addressing the challenges that remain. As your partners, we remain committed to cooperate with you to make sure they can be successfully realized," he said.

The meeting focused on supporting Tanzania's economic and fiscal reforms in sustaining its middle-income status along with updating the status and bottlenecks in the implementation of the blueprint action plan.

The envoy advised that there is need for discussion on additional topics relating to enabling the country meet the challenge of long-term development prospects, noting that this year Tanzania will go through the universal periodic review conducted by the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva.

"Can we use this process as an opportunity to strengthen engagement, support and cooperation between government and partners on the rights, opportunities and inclusivity agenda?" he queried, noting further that the world has not yet come out of the crisis tied to the global coronavirus pandemic.

"Development partners appreciate and welcome the steps taken by the government recently, including the establishment of the National Committee on COVID-19," he said.

A government and society-wide approach to contain the COVID-19 pandemic and 'build back better' will be needed, he stated, offering support from development partners in all aspects of the country's response to the pandemic and its consequences.

Emmanuel Tutuba, the Treasury Permanent Secretary described the new commitments from development partners as important towards achieving the country's development vision and meeting its industrialization agenda.

The commitments are in line with endeavors to sustain the lower middle income status and successful transitioning to the next level.

"This strategic dialogue meeting sets the base for many years ahead of implementing

the development cooperation agenda. The agenda of this strategic dialogue as reflected in the presentations and subsequent deliberations will be the basis of our joint undertakings to the next strategic dialogue," he said.

He said there was need to continue promoting more substantive results and solutions-oriented dialogue aligned with the country's development agenda and signed bilateral agreements, while "maximizing the utilization of formal and informal communication tools to fast track programme implementation."

Despite graduating to lower middle income status globally as pronounced in July 2020, there is a lot that needs to be done by all stakeholders to sustain the current status and gradually transition to the middle-income status, he asserted.

The development partners can stay assured that the government will adhere to its commitment to improve the business environment that was amplified by the Blueprint, which provides "the framework for a holistic review of a business-enabling environment with a view to improve the business climate."

Other priority areas include enhancing productivity in agriculture, livestock and fisheries; promoting manufacturing to ensure a reliable market for domestically produced raw materials and value addition. Other major objectives include the creation of industrial parks, strengthening domestic revenue mobilization by creating a tax friendly environment to enforce compliance, continuing to improve the mining sector regime; promote tourism; elevate the transport infrastructure—roads, railway - SGR, ports and dry ports, air transport and ferries) as well as uplifting the use of information and communications technology (ICT).

Other plan objectives relate to the energy infrastructure (continue with the construction of JNHPP; Ruhudji and Rumakali hydropower projects and transmission lines) and continuing to invest in social sectors to ensure quality service delivery in health, education and water sectors.

All the six priorities are well aligned with the Five-Year Development Plan Phase III to be launched next month with the theme 'Realizing Competitiveness and Industrialization for Human Development.'



Finance and Planning ministry Permanent Secretary Emmanuel Tutuba (R) exchanges greetings with Zlatan Milisic, co-chairman of strategic consultative meetings with Tanzania's development partners, shortly before they held talks in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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parliamentary committee reports and from commissioners general of revenue authorities.

The council also received a report on implementation of directives provided to the partner states during its 11th meeting and a report on researches conducted on how to improve the community's operational structure in view of current resource limitations.

Earlier, Kenya's Finance Minister Ukur Yatani Kanacho urged countries to continue enhancing measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 which has affected economies of the partner states.

The council approved a common EAC theme for the 2021/2022 financial

## EAC vetoes report on Kiswahili commission

year-'Economic Recovery through Industrialization and Inclusive Growth.'

The Tanzanian delegation included the Minister of State in the President's Office (Labour, Economy and Investment for Zanzibar), Mudrick Ramadhan Soraga, the Zanzibar Minister for Finance and Planning Jamal Kassim Ali, Bank of Tanzania Governor Prof Florens Luoga, Permanent Secretary (President's Office, Finance and Planning for Zanzibar) Juma Malik Akil, the Isles Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Labour, Economy and Investment)

Mussa Haji Ali, the Deputy PS in the Isles Treasury, Amina Khamis Shaaban and other senior government officials.

The meeting convened by the EAC Secretariat was preceded by a conference of experts on finance and economic affairs from May 3 to 5, and a meeting of permanent secretaries the following day.

Representatives from Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda participated in the meeting, with South Sudan absent while Kenya and Rwanda participated virtually.



Technician Asanterabi Mngulwi (L) of the Mtera hydroelectric dam, which is located midway between Dodoma and Iringa regions, pictured at the weekend briefing a visiting delegation led by Energy deputy minister Steven Byabato (R) on power generation at the dam. Photo: Correspondent Renatha Msungu

## 'Private sector must help to end edible oil scarcity'

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Agricultural Seeds Agency (ASA) all over the country," he said.

The seeds will be distributed to all regions that produce oil-seed producing regions, including Mara, he stated.

In his question, the lawmaker asked why regions that are conducive for sunflower cultivation such as Mara are not officially recognized and assisted with key extension services so that they contribute in ending the shortage.

Apart from sunflower, other crops that produce edible oil and are cultivated countrywide are oil palm, sesame and cotton.

In June 2018, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said the government was working on plans to invest heavily in oil palm, sunflower and sesame crops in a bid to end recurrent shortage of cooking oil in the country.

Majaliwa spoke at his office in Dodoma while holding talks with the Tanzanian High Commissioner to Malaysia, Dr Ramadhan Dau who paid him a

courtesy call.

"We want to transform the crops with a view to having more yields so that we bring to an end the shortage of edible oil in our country," he said, noting that transformation will include replacing old seed species with modern ones.

Despite Tanzania being known for the production of the crops with the potential to end edible oil importation, the problem was old traditional farming methods which the government was out to replace with modern methods,

the premier had declared.

He asked the new envoy to help in these efforts by seeking collaboration partners in that country as it has made strides in agriculture and agro-processing to help Tanzania achieve that goal.

Cultivation and agro-processing of the three crops would not only relieve the government of the burden of importation but also improve the livelihoods of millions of smallholder farmers in the country, the government has often asserted.

## Envoys present credentials

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took office on March 19.

In making far reaching changes in the government, the president has signaled major changes in orientation, including rectifying relations with various countries to ease the flow of investments into the country.

The president has since held talks with key players in global economy and conducted a two day state visit to Kenya, making a landmark address to a joint session of the Kenyan legislature to end decades of competition and animosity underlining economic relations between the two countries.

## Girls' school appeals for security fence to keep away rampaging hyenas

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

has been troubling the school of 509 students.

She said when they do night studying, they find it hard to concentrate as wild beasts including hyenas enter the school.

Responding to the request, MP Hhayuma said he will submit it to the government to construct a fence around the school.

"I have taken up your request and will work on it to have the fence built to enable students to study in peace," he said.

He also pledged to end the book shortage problem afflicting all three Forms V and VI schools in the District.



**I have taken up your request and will work on it to have the fence built to enable students to study in peace**

THE headmistress of Nangwa girls secondary school in Hanang District, Manyara Region Establishtment Samuel Hyayuma.

"Basically, our school is faced with many challenges, but the biggest one is the lack of a perimeter fence to prevent wild animals rampaging the school compound. There are times students find it hard to learn," she said.

When given chance to speak, a Form VI student at the school Latifa Shabani said the problem



Jenista Mhagama, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament, Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities), speaks at the inauguration of the 47th Workers' Council of the National Social Security Fund in Morogoro municipality yesterday. She called on the Fund to do the most it can to place a premium on efficiency and profitability in tandem with further expanding and diversifying its membership base. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# 'Tanzania misses billions of global avocado income'

By Songwa wa Songwa, Dodoma

CUMBERSOME investment environment caused by restrictive taxes and permits are to blame for Tanzania's lackluster performance in the global avocado market whose value was estimated at over \$1trillion/- last year, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

Despite being one of the countries with conducive climate and land for avocado production, the country exported only 4,000 metric tonnes of the fruit worth US\$8million (over 18bn/-) in 2020, said deputy minister Prime Minister's Office (Investment) William Ole Nasha.

This is peanuts compared to neighbouring Kenya, for instance, which exported 68,000 metric tonnes of avocado worth US\$127million (300bn/-) in 2020.

The minister, responding to a question by Lupembe MP, Edwin Swalle (CCM) on behalf of Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, said the tonnages were exported to the European Union, China, India and Kenya.

The lawmaker wanted to know the government's plan to promote investment in the production of the crop in Njombe—one of the regions conducive for growth of the fruit.

The deputy minister went on to say that the government is now working to sort out issues that impede investment in the production of the fruit and exportation of the same.

"The government is working hard on investment challenges such as estimation and collection of cumbersome taxes, too long time taken to get land for investment, difficulty in getting

work and residence permit, as well as restrictive taxes imposed by local government authorities," he said, adding:

"Up to now, a total of 273 restrictive taxes have been cancelled and the government is continuing to improve investment environment by measures such as tax reliefs to investors and purchase of cold rooms for horticultural produce including avocado."

Speaking at a breakfast debate organized by Policy Forum in Dar es Salaam last month, retired Controller and Auditor General (CAG) Ludovick Utouh said that public institutions charged with promoting investment are dogged with institutional, operational, cultural, financial and human resource challenges that must be sorted out for investments to flow in seamlessly.

Utouh who is Executive Director of WAJIBU (Institute of Public Accountability), argued that for Tanzania to implement Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP II) 2016/17- 2020/21, the aforementioned issues must be resolved to allow public authorities tasked with mandate to promote, facilitate and coordinate investments, technology transfer, industry and trade to deliver.

He said the latest audit report by the current CAG Charles Kicheere unveiled presence of unfavourable environment for supporting investors as Tanzania was ranked 141 out of 190 countries, adding that from 2015 to 2020 Tanzania's score dropped by eight per cent in terms of creating friendly investment environment.

# Minister calls on NSSF to transform itself

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Social Security Fund (NSSF) director-general Masha Mshomba has been urged to work effectively and be more responsible to bring unity among workers and to bring positive changes in the fund.

Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labor, Employment, Youth and the Disabled Jenista Mhagama, made the call over the weekend when opening the 47th NSSF's newly

electd Workers Council. Mhagama expressed her positive expectations from the current NSSF Director-General Masha Mshomba to unite the fund as well as in addressing the challenges facing it.

She described NSSF as a big and giant social security fund with a lot of complex matters and challenges that need to be effectively addressed to ensure that the fund remains safe, maintains its good image while members' quarries and challenges are attended to

accordingly. The minister further called on all NSSF workers to assist and work cooperatively with the fund's Director-General so as to make one united NSSF as an unbreakable family bond.

"It is high time now for all NSSF employees to focus on building the Fund and embracing a strong sense of unity within the fund as the only better option to achieve the intended objectives of the fund," she said, directing NSSF's chairman of the Board of Trustees to ensure that the fund

remains one family and all issues are internally addressed while supervising staff welfare and other rights, as well as ensuring that fund's investment projects are implemented.

She stressed that government wants to see results and progress of the Fund in terms of revenue growth and registering new members because it is within the Fund's ability provided that the scope for private and informal sectors within the Country is not yet tapped.

# TAEC to install 20bn/- nuclear technology food storage centre

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC) is planning to establish a 20bn/- food storage centre that uses nuclear technology.

The modern facility to be installed at Mbezi Luis in Dar es Salaam is projected to play a vital role in expanding and modernising the country's capacity in professional food storage.

Senior Researcher at TAEC, Simon Mdoe said yesterday when speaking to the Guardian along the ongoing Innovation Week Tanzania -IWTz 2021 held in Dodoma.

The envisaged centre will

comprise installation of a modern multipurpose irradiator machine and other relevant structures.

"Preliminary work for construction of the vital facility has already started and is expected that upon its completion the center will be prudent in enabling the country to export foods and other agricultural products abroad at recommended quality," he explained.

He added that with the use of nuclear technology the facility will have the capacity to preserve dry food crops for more than six months.

"The modern storage center will also have capacity to extend shelf life for fresh products such as fish, meat and vegetables to between two and three weeks," he elaborated.

He observed that Tanzania was exposed to diverse and important external markets for food crops, but it was disconcerting to learn that only 10 percent of the country's capacity is being exported due to low storage technologies of items meant for exportation.

Mdoe noted that nuclear technology was vital for development of the industrial economy in Tanzania, but the use of the vital technology is still low, just at 40 percent.

Tanzania adopted nuclear technology in 1978, but started to use it in the 1990s.

According to him, nuclear technology plays paramount roles in different sectors, including health, water, mining, industrial and in power generation.

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

TANZANIA Horticultural Association (TAHA) has dug a deep well for Lumulomo entrepreneurial group that is able to pump 5,000 litres of water per hour to enable them develop its vegetable and fruit farming activities.

The 22 women members of the group located in Segese Ward in Msalala District, Shinyanga Region have raised 1.6m/- and bought a one-acre farm for farming and drilling of the well.

The group's chairperson Angelina Jackson revealed this on Monday during the visit of the Coordinator of the project's to identify gender equality for empowering women and girls from TAHA Glory Prosper sponsored by UN Women non-governmental Organizations (UN-Women NGOs).

She said the well will simplify irrigation work in vegetable and fruit gardens they farm for income generation for their families.

She further said irrigation farming needs a lot of water twice a day and added that in the last season they cultivated more than one acre and harvested only a bucket of fruits due to lack of water.

For her part Edina Shigela said challenges they face is to identify the types of pesticides, fertilizer for planting and for growing in order to do away with

# TAHA digs deep well for farming group in Kahama

anticipated losses that discourage them.

For his part, Segese ward executive Officer Patrick Mahona said the market challenges for entrepreneurs' groups has been discouraging them hence this project must go in tandem with finding reliable markets for their crops.

However, Mahona advised them to start Orange-fleshed sweet potatoes (OFSP) that fight malnutrition in small children as its market is open and easy

to get customers.

TAHA Project Coordinator Glory Prosper said they have dug two deep wells, one in Dungunyi Ward in Singida Region and the other one in Sgesse Ward in Msalala District, Shinyanga Region.

He said the Singida well serves four entrepreneurs groups - the Kiviki, Kitupa, Jimudu and Upendo no 2 groups while the one in Msalala District serves only one group - the Lumulomo group.

# Masauni presents fishing boat to youth

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S Minister of State in the President's Office (Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Public Service and Good Governance, Haroun Ali Suleiman, has called on all those who will be tasked to operate the fishing boat he handed to the Kikwajuni Constituency's Education Development Fund for conducting business activities in the Blue Economy to be faithful in performing their duties.

Suleiman made the call on behalf the Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi when presenting prizes to winners of the Quran Recital Competition and the handing over of the motor boat to the Constituency's Development Fund organised by the Deputy Finance and Planning Minister, who is also the constituency's MP, Hamad Yussuf Masauni.

Suleiman said without being faithful in the use of the boat there wouldn't be any benefits and will undermine the Fund's aims that include fishing and as provider of jobs to the youth.

"I once provided three such boats for fishing but each time I wanted to be provided with returns of their activities they told me the fish were scarce while I get reports that they make lots of catches," he said.

He called on the youth to avoid the use of illicit drugs, acts of child abuse and lack of trust so as to make the established projects work for the benefit of all the youth in the country in general.

For his part, the Deputy finance and Planning Officer Eng Hamad Yussuf Masauni, said the government has been creating enabling infrastructures for the people, but due to lack of faithfulness, the infrastructures get spoiled and projects die.

In the circumstances he decided to provide the boat to the Constituency's Education Development Fund managed by people with religious faith to eradicate embezzlement.

Masauni said the boat and its outboard motor cost more than 15m/- and handed to the Fund including 5m/- for the rooster fish to implement the government's efforts towards the Blue economy.

In regard to the Quran Recital Competition held at mao stadium in Unguja, Masauni praised all those who participated whose aim was to instill solidarity and unity among the people of Kikwajuni and Zanzibaris in general.

He said religious knowledge was a great stimulus for maintaining peace and ethics, hence it is better for the contests to be held in various areas to enable the youth confront challenges posed by globalization.



**UNHCR**  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

**ADDENDUM TENDER NOTICE -  
EXTENSION OF DEADLINE SUBMISSION**

**INVITATION TO BID (ITB)  
ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL FRAME AGREEMENTS  
FOR SUPPLY OF VARIOUS ITEMS**

- Background:**  
The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Dar es Salaam had initially advertised in various newspapers the invitation of reputable and qualified suppliers to submit firm offers for the establishment of multiple Frame Agreements for the supply of any or all the below-listed Items.
- Requirements:**

TENDER REFERENCE NUMBER	TENDER ITEM DESCRIPTION
ITB/2021/SUP/003	Supply of Assorted Spare Parts
ITB/2021/SUP/005	Supply of Tires
ITB/2021/SUP/007	Supply of Uniforms and Shoes
- Extension of deadline for submission**  
Due to the upcoming Eid-El-Fitr holidays, the tenders above which were to be initially submitted by 14th May 2021, the deadline has now been extended to **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 1600 hours.**

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

## 'Annual headline inflation increased to 3.3 pc in April'

THE annual headline inflation rate for the month of April, 2021 has increased from 3.2 per cent that was recorded in March 2021 to 3.3 per cent, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said yesterday.

Releasing the statistics yesterday, the acting Director of Population Census and Social Statistics, Ruth Minja said, "The increase of headline inflation rate means that, the speed of price change for commodities for the year ended April, 2021 has increased compared to the speed that was recorded for the year ended March, 2021."

She said, the overall index went up from 100.63 recorded in April, 2020 to 103.95 in April, 2021, adding that food and non-alcoholic beverages inflation rate has also increased from 4.2 percent in March, 2021 to 4.8 percent in April, 2021.

Annual inflation rate for unprocessed food has increased from 2.8 percent in March, 2021 to 3.4 percent in April, 2021 while inflation rate for all items without

unprocessed food for April, 2021 has stagnated at 3.4 percent as it was recorded in March 2021.

Minja noted that consumer price index (CPI) has shown a relatively stable price movement from April, 2020 to April, 2021, stating that in addition, annual headline inflation rates over the same period have shown a stable trend that ranges between 3.0 percent and 3.3 percent.

She added that CPI has increased by 0.5 percent between March, 2021 and April, 2021 compared to an increase of 0.9 percent recorded between February, 2021 and March, 2021.

The overall index has increased from 103.41 in March, 2021 to 103.95 in April, 2021. The increase of the overall index is attributed to price increase for some food and non-food items. Some of the food items that contributed to such increase

include: - finger Millet grains by 4.8 percent, fish (2.1), dry sardines (6.5) sunflower oil (2.4) and fruits (1.7).

On the other hand, some of non-food items that contributed to an increase of the index include: - liquefied hydrocarbons by 3.3 percent, kerosene (2.6), firewood (1.1), diesel (6.1) and petrol (7.2).

Minja noted that in comparison with other East Africa countries of Kenya and Uganda, the annual headline inflation rate in Kenya for the year ended April, 2021 has decreased from 5.90 percent recorded for the year ended March, 2021 to 5.71 percent for the year ended April, 2021.

In Uganda, the rebased annual headline inflation rate for the year ended April, 2021 has also decreased from 2.7 percent recorded for the year ended March, 2021 to 2.1 percent for the year ended April, 2021.



Khatib Makwinja, a student at Kwakombo Primary School in Korogwe District, pictured at the weekend presenting to NMB Bank Plc north zone manager Aikansia Muro (2nd-R) his drawing on 150 desks and 170 corrugated iron roofing sheets the bank donated to the school. Right is Korogwe district commissioner Kissa Kwakisa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Songwa wa Songwa, Dodoma

## COVID-19 has affected minerals sector - govt

THE impacts of global COVID-19 hit hard the Tanzania's mining sector, with diamond losing nearly half of its value, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

Deputy minerals Minister Prof Shukrani Manya told the House that Williamson Diamond Ltd for instance was forced to temporarily close shop in April last year after finding operations unsustainable due to high costs of production and record fall of prices.

"By March 2020, the price of diamond per carat fell to USD 131.13 from pre-pandemic price of USD 208.00," he said.

Prof Manya was responding to a question posed by Kishapu lawmaker Nyangindu Butondo who asked why Williamson Diamond Ltd closed shop.

"The miner is set to resume operations soon after approval of its overdraft funds by Tanzanian financial institutions that will enable it operate for a period of three months so as to reach next phase of global diamond sales," he said, adding:

"Global diamond prices are

anticipated to improve this year compared to 2020."

The Shinyanga-based Williamson Diamond Ltd became well known as the first significant diamond mine outside of South Africa. The mine was established in 1940 by Dr. John Williamson, a Canadian geologist, and has been in continuous operation since then, making it one of the oldest continuously operating diamond mines in the world.

Over its lifetime it has produced a reported over 19 million carats (3,800 kg) of diamonds with a 2020 report saying that high-quality pink diamonds from the mine could value up to USD700,000 a carat.

According to MiningReview Africa, response to the pandemic from governments and markets has shaken the mining industry with restrictions imposed on mining companies has seen production shut down across

multiple markets.

"Alta Zinc has shut-down production at its largest project in northern Italy. In Mongolia, Rio Tinto suspended non-essential operations following the country's first confirmed Covid-19 diagnosis" it says. "And Anglo American is in the process of demobilising most of the 10,000-strong construction workforce at its copper project in Peru."

It says while capital expenditure for the world's 20 largest mining companies grew by 12 per cent in 2019 to reach USD49.1-billion, it sees delays in project work and investments being put on hold.

"South Africa's 21-day period of national lockdown has similarly ground all local mining operations to a halt until at least April 16th. Even where shutdowns are not occurring, restrictions on the movement of people and supplies will inevitably delay development work."

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

## IFCU hailed for being first co-op union to buy fertilisers via BPS

THE government has praised Iringa Farmers Cooperative Union (IFCU) for being the first cooperative Union to purchase fertilizer through Bulk Procurement System (BPS) and distributing it at affordable cost to farmers.

Giving the praise here at the weekend during the Union's Annual General Meeting, the country's Cooperative Registrar Dr Benson Ndiege said among issues which the government has been stressing include the country's cooperative unions to be more robust in their managements to enable farmers get farm inputs at affordable costs.

The registrar called upon regional and district assistant registrars to mobilise cooperative societies to purchase fertilizer Bulk Procurement System (BPS) aimed at assuring all farmers in

Tanzania on the availability of quality fertilizer in time and at affordable cost.

He said BPS was established through the 2009 Fertilisers Act as read with the 2017 Fertilizer Bulk Procurement Regulations, aimed at empowering small farmers via their cooperative societies to get quality fertilizer in time and at affordable cost.

He said IFCU has been the first cooperative union to show a good example for other unions to emulate in the country in rescuing farmers.

He said his office will not tolerate any manager of a cooperative society in the country who will fail to manage well his cooperative and its assets.

"I like to use this occasion to hail IFCU for establishing BPS and

for receiving the award for using it in importing fertilizer in the country," he added.

Iringa Regional Administrative Secretary Happiness Seneda who was supposed to be the official guest at the opening of the meeting did not attend but her speech was read by her assistant, Elias Luvanda who said in the past IFCU was not doing well contrary to the purpose it was established for.

He said for a very long time in the past it was an agency for collecting house rents and during the 2017/2018 farming season it succeeded to collect maize but the crop's sale was not good.

So in the 2020/2021 it managed to import fertilizer through BPS that was distributed to farmers in Iringa Region at affordable cost.

## Children and women in Rombo drilled on better ways of engaging in anti-GBV fight

By Correspondent James Lanka, Rombo

UZIKWASA.

A NUMBER of children and women in Rombo District, Kilimanjaro Region have received training on leadership skills to ensure their proper engagement in the fight against gender-based violence.

The training was conducted in three wards, Kirongosamanga, Kitirima, and Kingachi in Usseri whereas it brought together child protection stakeholders including teachers, ward and village executive officers, social welfare officers, police gender desk officers, community development officers and government officials from the district.

It was organised by the Action for Justice in Society (AJISO) in collaboration with Tanga-based non-governmental organisation-

Salvata Kalanga, programme manager on gender and leadership at UZIKWASA said they are collaborating with AJISO in providing the training in the district to enable the leaders to use reflective approaches in executing their activities, especially women and children protection.

She added that similar training has been conducted to women and children protection committees in Tanga, Dar es Salaam and Coast region.

The training was sponsored by the Irish Embassy in Tanzania and a German-based organisation-Bread for the World.

AJISO executive director, Virginia Silayo said they have conducted awareness training to primary and secondary school students within the District.

She said the training supplements government efforts to eliminate GBV through National Action Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children.

Rombo district social welfare officer, Siteiya Melubo promised to use the acquired knowledge to improve provision of services. She called upon children and women to make sure they report all the violence incidences to relevant authorities including police gender desks, teachers and parents.

Senior police officer in Rombo District, Issa Kalowa said the increase in GBV cases as well as early pregnancies is somehow fueled by some parents who abandoned their families in search of greener pastures in urban areas.



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**Position :** Technical Integration Cluster Manager (2 position)  
**Project :** Kizazi Kipya Project  
**Position Location :** Tabora and Songea  
**Contract Duration :** 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (Non-Renewable)

**Job Description and Application Link:**  
<https://cvpeople.tanzania.zohorecruit.com/jobs/Careers/594044000002479108/Technical-Integration-Cluster-Manager?source=CareerSite>

**Application Deadline :** Friday -14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Position :** Technical Service Coordinator Bi-Directional referrals and linkages (1 position)  
**Project :** Kizazi Kipya Project  
**Position Location :** Songea  
**Contract Duration :** 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (Non-Renewable)

**Job Description and Application Link:**  
<https://cvpeople.tanzania.zohorecruit.com/jobs/Careers/594044000002479126/Technical-Services-Coodinator-Bi-Directional-Referrals-and-Linkages?source=CareerSite>

**Application Deadline :** Friday -14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Position :** Senior Capacity Development Officer (1 position)  
**Project :** ACHIEVE Tanzania Project  
**Position Location :** Dar es Salaam  
**Contract Duration :** 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (Renewable)

**Job Description and Application Link:** CVPeople Tanzania - Senior Capacity Development Officer in Dar es Salaam (zohorecruit.com)

**Application Deadline :** Monday- 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Position :** Finance Assistant-Documents Management (1 position)  
**Project :** Kizazi Kipya Project  
**Position Location :** Dar es Salaam  
**Contract Duration :** 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (Non-Renewable)

**Job Description and Application Link:** CVPeople Tanzania - Finance Assistant-Documents Management in Dar es Salaam (zohorecruit.com)

**Application Deadline :** Wednesday- 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Detailed Position Job Descriptions and How to Apply:**

If you believe you are the ideal person we are looking for, please submit your application online describing why you are the right candidate for this position and a curriculum vitae detailing your experience and three (3) professional referees from previous and current place of employment. Please send the application online (through the CVPEOPLE Tanzania link under each position) as only the applications sent online will be reviewed.

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# Sharing the Wisdom of Traditional Chinese Medicine to Public Health -- Malaria

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) has been a very important part of the exchanges and communication between Silk Road cooperation countries since ancient times. In recent years, following the progress of the new Belt and Road Initiative, TCM has been playing a key role again in the Silk Road of health cooperation and the building of a community of common health for mankind. TCM has now spread to 183 countries and regions, and 86 cooperation agreements on it have been signed between China and foreign countries, as well as international organizations. The discovery of Artemisinin, drug derived from traditional Chinese medicine, has led to the winning of the Noble prize in Physiology or Medicine by a Chinese scientist in 2015, and TCM has once again returned on the international spotlight. This big step is not only a milestone for the internalization of it, but also a recognition of those Chinese scientists and research experts.

Malaria is one of the three major communicable diseases in the world. The understanding of malaria by Chinese goes back to ancient time where the malaria was already carved on the Yinxu oracle bone script. The pathogenesis, symptoms and acupuncture treatment of malaria were also recorded systematically on ancient Chinese medicine books like *Su Wen, Theory of Malaria* and *Theory of Piercing Malaria*. TCM believes that malaria is caused by the attack of the Evil Qi on the Healthy Qi, and the symptoms of malaria are fever, chills, headache, and sweating. Most of the malaria cases in China happened during summer and autumn. The concept of malaria treatment with Artemisinin is based on the ancient Chinese medicine book, *the Handbook of Prescriptions for Emergency* by Ge Hong. The handbook mentioned that consuming the strained "juice" of Qinghao plant immersed in cool water can cure malaria; this process is actually equivalent to extracting the colourless crystal of sesquiterpene lactone with peroxide bridge out of the sweet wormwood plant.

The Chinese experience in malaria control and prevention proves that during the malaria peak season or malaria pandemic, if the testing capacity of local malaria laboratory is poor, curing positive malaria cases is not enough to timely control the transmission. In 1970s, during the malaria pandemic period, Chinese government has implemented large scale mass treatment to control malaria in the central region of China. The annual malaria cases dropped from 30 million in 1971 to less



Group photo of the China-Comoros anti-malaria team in front of the China-Comoros Malaria Prevention and Treatment Centre in Grande Comore, Comoros, October 2013.

than 30 thousand in 2007, achieving a remarkable result.

To eliminate malaria as soon as possible is the consensus among countries. According to the *WHO Global Malaria Report 2020*, in 2019, there were a total of 229 million malaria cases and 409 thousand people died from malaria. Malaria is the major constraint factor to the social economic development of African countries. The antimalaria team from Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine is one of the practitioners promoting the Chinese experience in malaria control and prevention and artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs) to the world. The team has been working in the front line for many years. It has established malaria research centres in Cambodia, Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe, Togo and Papua New Guinea, implemented mass drug administration (MDA) with ACTs in those countries and achieved remarkable results. Malaria prevalence and mortality were significantly reduced after implementation of the MDA project.

In order to promote Chinese ACTs globally and let more Asian and African countries benefit from the drug, Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine and Guangdong New South jointly established an antimalaria team. Based on the Chinese experience in malaria control and prevention, after analysing the malaria setting and characteristics in Asian and African countries, the

team followed the traditional Chinese medicine theory and guidance of holism and treatment differentiation between syndromes to innovate the malaria control strategy. The new strategy is focusing on mass treatment rather than individual treatment, and focus on eliminating the gametophyte and plasmodium asexual bodies. MDAs with Artemisinin-Piperaquine tablets (Artequick®) were implemented in the islands of Anjouan, Grande Comore and Moheli, the 3 islands of the Comoros, a total of 800 thousand inhabitants participated in MDAs, and the outcomes were remarkable. In 2014, Comoros achieved zero malaria death, and the country's malaria cases saw a reduction of 98%. MDAs have successfully controlled the malaria epidemic; the island went from a high endemic region to a low endemic region in a short time. This strategy slowly evolved into a strategy of mass treatment with mass prevention ACTs customized for African countries.

The achievements of MDA project in the Comoros attracted the attention of experts from home and abroad. Former Comoros President Mohamed Sambi, former Comoros President Ikililo Dhoinnie and other heads of state, health ministers from more than 10 countries including Somalia, Malawi and Cambodia, as well as the diplomatic envoys of 34 African countries have visited Guangzhou and Meizhou for investigation trip to know more about the

MDA project. Somalia, South Africa, Haiti and other countries have expressed that they hope to address the threat of malaria with Artequick® and Chinese malaria elimination strategy. Xinhua News Agency, the New York Times, Reuters, Arabian Al Jazeera Network, Kenya Television KTV, the Economist and many other domestic and foreign leading media have issued special reports on the malaria elimination project in the Comoros. International organization including the World Health Organization also gave valuable remarks to the success of the project.

Following the success of the project in the Comoros, the team extended the Artequick® MDA to the West African country of Togo. Always guided by the holism theory of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), the antimalarial team assisted the Togolese government strengthening malaria management system and capability. The team, together with the Health Bureau of the pilot region, held 58 technical trainings on the process and implementation of the project. 5 rounds of social mobilization and sensitization covering government officers to local media were organized to ensure local residents accurately understood and received the right information about the malaria project. In 2017, 3 rounds of MDA were achieved within 60 days in the 200 villages of Est-Mono Prefecture in the Région des Plateaux. About 160,000 people took Artequick® at the same time.

Data from the Togolese health authority show that malaria cases were reduced by 85% and 90%, respectively compared with the same period in 2016 and 2015.

Under the cooperation agreement between China and Papua New Guinea (PNG) on malaria control and elimination, supported by China Shenzhen Municipal Health Commission, the antimalaria team collaborated with the Department of Health of Milne Bay Province to implement 3 rounds of MDA in 3 months in Kiriwina island in 2018, which led to an outstanding result. Covering an area of 450 km<sup>2</sup> and 45,000 residents, Kiriwina island is situated in the Trobriand Islands of the Milne Bay Province and is composed of 92 villages. Before MDA, the average parasite carriage rate was 18%, and malaria distribution was uneven. Parts of the island are high malaria-endemic areas and the highest parasite carriage rate reached 33.68%. Four months after MDA, parasite carriage rate was reduced by 98% and dropped to 0.31%. Under the same cooperation, supported by China Foreign Affairs Office, People's Government of Guangdong Province and Shenzhen Municipal Health Commission, the Chinese team constructed a China-PNG Malaria Control Center and trained middle to high level technical talents and a local antimalarial technical team to improve people's health and strengthen malaria control capability.

In the chapter "Great Theory on Yin-Yang Corresponding to Nature" of Plain Questions, it tells us "Treatment should focus on the source of a disease." The key to interrupting malaria transmission is the plasmodium, not treatment of cases. The ultimate vision of zero malaria can be achieved only by eradicating the source of infection and that is why WHO issue malaria free certification only when the country is free from malaria for consecutive 3 years. Traditional antimalarial measures like Long Lasting Insecticidal Mosquito Nets (LLINs) and Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) were used for years and have led to drug resistance as reported by some African countries. Besides, due to humanistic environment difference, the permanent antimalarial mode cannot deal with the complexity of the antimalarial work of today. As a result, specific and sustainable malaria control and prevention protocol shall become the new pursuit. In recent years, with the Chinese malaria control and elimination protocol being implemented in many Asian and African countries, WHO gradually recognizes the Chinese MDA strategy and issued the *Mass drug administration for falciparum malaria: a practical field manual* in 2017, in which acknowledgement part Professor Jianping Song of Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine was specially mentioned. This is an acknowledgement of TCM, a beneficial attempt of breaking up cultural barrier, and even a start in building a global community of health for all.

TCM embodies traditional Chinese culture, and it is an important part of the Chinese culture. Popularizing of Chinese strategy and TCM both play an important role in the Belt and Road Initiative. Nowadays, TCM Belt and Road Initiative still faces many difficulties and challenges. However, we will continue strengthening international cooperation, building an antimalaria team with Chinese characteristics, and improving international competitiveness so to contribute to global antimalaria work and TCM development.



Group photo of the visitors from China-Africa Fund for Industrial Cooperation Co., Ltd. (CAFIC) and the China-Papua New Guinea (PNG) malaria team in Kiriwina Island, PNG, November 2018.



The Sino-PNG Anti-Malaria Center in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, November 2018.

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## Website enables teachers, students to access textbooks online for free

By Guardian Reporter

THE newly launched Vodacom Tanzania's E-Fahamu website will enable teachers and students to get textbooks and supplementary books online for free.

The telecommunication company in partnership with the Tanzania Institute of Education (TIE) has installed textbooks and syllabus, which has been approved by the institute to the E-Fahamu website.

More than 80 textbooks, 1,020 supplementary books and 18 cartoons have been so far published on the website.

Speaking in Dodoma over the weekend during the launch of the E-Fahamu website, Minister for Education and Vocational Training Prof Joyce Ndalichako commended Vodacom Tanzania for launching an innovative website which will make students acquire reading materials for free something which will make them perform well academically.

"As we are all aware that the youth nowadays have interest on internet, now instead of browsing stuff that don't suit them, Vodacom Tanzania has offered them an opportunity to acquire learning materials but the most interesting is that all the materials are for free which will make every student have an opportunity to acquire them," said Prof Ndalichako.

The minister acknowledged the efforts being made to reach many students and especially those in rural areas, which is being done by Vodacom Foundation in partnership with the Universal Communications Service Fund (UCSAF) in distributing computers and routers to secondary schools in the country.

"So far, a total of 48 computers, 24 routers and Sim cards have been distributed to 24 secondary schools in the country being the first phase while the second phase is preparing to distribute 556 computers, 83 printers and 151 routers to 163 secondary schools," said the minister as she congratulates Vodacom for extending the donation to secondary schools and especially those at rural areas.

Minister Ndalichako said that through E-Fahamu website, performance in schools will increase as now teachers and students will have a variety of reading materials of their choice.

She added: "I call upon Vodacom

to continue increasing the number of textbooks and other materials to the E-Fahamu website so as to offer an opportunity to teachers and students to have access to as many materials as possible."

Earlier, Vodacom Foundation Director, Rosalynn Mworira said that the E-Fahamu platform, which was previous named as Instant Schools has increased reading materials after partnering with the Tanzania Institute of Education (TIE) in order to get positive results for learners who are using English and Swahili languages.

"Through E-Fahamu platform, any person can search, download and get different learning materials including those for class learning and vocational training," said Mworira.

She said as the telecommunication company it also works to improve the lives of Tanzanians through the education sector by partnering with different education stakeholders including TIE and UCSAF.

"We have also partnered with the Vice-President's Office (Environment) in creating learning materials for environment conservation so as to equip our students with environmental education," added Mworira.

She said the list of textbooks from TIE which teachers and students can acquire for both primary and secondary schools are Mathematics, Social Science, Science and Technology, Life Skills and Citizenship.

Standard Six books are for Kiswahili, English, Mathematics and Citizenship subjects which have been approved by TIE while for Standard One and Two are learning skills, writing and reading together with environmental health.

E-Fahamu will offer textbooks for Geography and History for secondary school students for Form One and Two while O level and A level secondary school students will access books for Applied Mathematics, Biology, General Chemistry, Physics and Kiswahili subjects.

In the past, Vodacom Tanzania in partnership with Samsung donated learning materials for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to five secondary schools in Dar es Salaam whereas over 4,000 students benefited with the donation.



Maximilian Iranqhe (L, in light blue jacket), who doubles as Arusha city mayor and council finance committee chairman, briefs members of the committee at the weekend on the brick factory built in Lemara ward and expected to start operations this week. Photo: Correspondent Cynthia Mwilolezi

## Lissu appeals for safety assurance

By Correspondent Enock Charles

CHADEMA Vice Chairman (Mainland) Tundu Lissu has called upon the government to guarantee him safety in the country before he returns home.

Lissu, the former Singida East Member of Parliament said he has also written to President Samia Suluhu Hassan seeking to meet her, but he has not received any response.

In an interview with The Guardian, Lissu expressed fears that his life may be in danger if he returns home now because security organs are yet to identify the people who attacked and assassinated him on September 7, 2017. He was shot with 16 bullets in Dodoma.

"I need to be assured of my security to be able to come back to the country;

it is important for the government to respond to my queries," said Lissu who was the parliamentary chief whip for Chadema.

Immediately after the attack on September 7, 2017, Lissu was airlifted to Nairobi Hospital where he received treatment before being moved to Belgium.

Lissu firstly went for specialized medical treatment in Belgium in January 2018.

On July 2020, Lissu jetted back into the country whereas on Monday August 3 he was nominated as party's presidential candidate for the October 2020 General Election.

Lissu collected 405 votes, defeating central zone chairman Lazaro Nyalandu and Dr Mayrose Mazinge who collected

36 votes and one vote respectively.

A total of 453 general council members out of 456 attended the decisive meeting held at Mlimani City Conference Center in Dar es Salaam.

Lissu contested against incumbent, the late President John Magufuli (CCM).

The opposition leader claimed to have been receiving death threats since the October 28 general election results were announced. He then sought refuge in the German Embassy in Dar es Salaam.

On November 10, 2020 Lissu left the country for Brussels, Belgium.

In the 2020 General Election, the late President John Magufuli won more than 84 percent of the vote against Lissu's who garnered less than 14 percent, according to the National Electoral Commission (NEC).



Dar es Salaam Regional Health Officer Enezaeli Ayo explains the importance of having quality toilets in schools and elsewhere. This was at yesterday's handing over of 21 such toilets at Kerezange Primary School in Dar es Salaam's Kitunda ward. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

MWANZA regional commissioner John Mongella has given one week for health services at Ilemela District Hospital to begin to benefit the people.

Speaking here at the weekend during his inspection visit at the hospital, he said what was now needed is for the health facility to start operating because the government aim is to improve health services in the country hence since the hospital's Phase I construction has been completed it should start working.

"The country whose citizens have poor health even its development agendas become

## RC for Mwanza gives ultimatum to Ilemela hospital to begin operations

difficult to implement, our President Samia Suluhu Hassan has identified herself in the health sector, the area touching her hence health services continue to be improved from huge government funding," he said.

Meanwhile RC Mongella visited Butimba Hospital in Nyamagana District and praised the construction of the hospital's building to house wards for men, children and pregnant women.

He said the huge modern

building costing 1.41bn/- and whose construction started in 2019 has been completed but advised for the establishment of an operation theatre to improve health services.

He therefore called upon the hospital authorities to start providing services beginning next week as they have all the necessary equipment including more than 150 beds, and added that they should endeavor to improve health services to reduce complaints, congestion and boost

internal income.

For his part the Ilemela District Executive Officer John Wanga said provision of health services to outpatients has begun hence they will implement the REC directives calling for provision of ordinary services that do not involve surgery.

For his part Mwanza City director Kiomoni Kimbamba said all equipment needed by patients admitted at the hospital have been procured and were continuing with minor works.

## NBC launches business club in Kigoma in new drive to bring financial services closer to people

By Guardian Correspondent, Kigoma

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has launched a business club in Kigoma Region as part of its efforts to bring financial services closer to people as well as support traders with education and loans for them to improve their projects.

Speaking during the launching event, Theobald Sabi, NBC executive director said a major objective of the club is to provide financial management education, business operations, and tax law to entrepreneurs and traders.

He said that NBC business clubs enable businesses to expand their business base by connecting with foreign and local businesses.

"Within the business clubs, we also have business clinics. This is the area where members benefit from a variety of training, including accounting, marketing education, and corporate tax education and the revenue authority in TRA as well other experts from Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA), the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO), the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA), Deloitte and other stakeholders," he said.

He said that through the clubs, entrepreneurs and traders are also capacitated on how to brand and participate in various trade exhibitions so as to advertise their products as well as expand networks.

"There are several traders who conduct businesses without having essential skills (business management skills), market techniques, how to access loans and capital, so with these clubs, traders benefit a lot to address various challenges that thwart

their development efforts," he said.

Sabi said that the bank wants to see traders benefiting from their businesses by operating profitably, improve income and livelihoods as well as contribute immensely to the country's economic growth.

During the launching workshop, businesses and entrepreneurs from different fields and together became aware of the opportunities offered by the bank.

Rashid Mchatta, Kigoma Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) commended NBC for bringing traders and entrepreneurs together through the club, something which will enable them to operate their businesses smartly and profitably.

"These clubs will enable you (traders) to increase capacity, understanding, and creativity in doing your business, so make sure that you make good use of the education to improve your income," he said.

Kilahumba Kivumo, one of the traders said that the club has come at the right time when the majority of traders are grappling to improve their businesses so as to operate profitably.

He said that various challenges facing business development in the region will be addressed through the club.

*"There are several traders who conduct businesses without having essential skills (business management skills), market techniques, how to access loans and capital, so with these clubs, traders benefit a lot to address various challenges that thwart their development efforts"*

# Villagers in Kilolo upbeat after landing more clean, safe water

By Guardian Correspondent, Kilolo

VILLAGERS of Mgowelo Village in Kilolo District Council, Iringa Region have hailed the government through the Rural Water and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) for bringing them enough water, something which will stimulate economic growth.

The village has been grappling to access clean and safe water since it was registered in 1975.

The residents made the remarks yesterday here during the inauguration of the new water project saying that they have been using unclean water for many years, something that has brought negative impacts to health and economic development.

Speaking before the Kilolo District Commissioner Asia Abdallah who visited the district to inspect various development projects, the villagers said that the water project will bring huge relief to the population.

DC Asia inspected the construction site of the primary court in Mahenge village, laying the foundation stone at the Mgowelo water project and the construction of Mgowelo dispensary.

Zamina Malenda, a resident of Mgowelo village in Nyanzwa ward, said that the launch of the water project has brought happiness to the village especially girls and women who are the biggest victims of the challenge as they were walking up to 5km daily to search for the precious liquid.

"If we fail to walk to the water sites, we are then forced to buy a bucket of 20-litres between five 500/- and 1000/- from water vendors who were fetching the water from traditional wells. We are very grateful to the government for bringing us this water project in the village," Malenda said.

Mposo Ngecha, also a Mgowelo resident said the inauguration of the water project in the village will help prevent outbreak of various water-borne diseases which were caused by consuming unsafe water.

Jackson Kitalula also said that water blues in village, has also affected marriages and brought conflicts and someone divorce as women had to wake up early in the morning every day to search for water leaving their husbands on beds.

"Most of the families here are poor and unable to pay the 500 to 1000/- for one bucket of water, so this forces women to wake up and go to fetch it while also walking long distances," Kitalula said.

Pastoralists also commended the government for bringing the water project in the village as this will support their animals to have enough drinking water.

Rapeiy Kalepa, chairman of Mgowelo village Livestock Committee pointed out that prior to the water project, they were spending a lot of money to treat their livestock from various diseases which were mostly caused by consuming dirty water.

"Due to the water crisis in the village, there was a time when at least 20 cows died every day from drinking contaminated water, but after this water project the problem of livestock diseases has been reduced," he said.

The pastoralist community donated two goats as a gift to the Kilolo District Commissioner and Ruwasa Manager in Kilolo, Engineer Enoch Basyagile as part of their gratitude to the leaders for supervising the water project.

Mgowelo village chairman, Bakari Mtalula also commended the government for the successful completion of the water project in the village.

He also asked the villagers to take care of the water project infrastructure as well as take care of its water sources so that the project can be sustainable and provide water to all people.

Mtalula emphasized that in order for the water project to be sustainable, the people must continue to contribute to the water service on a monthly basis so that when the water cove is damaged the village can repair it rather than wait for the government to come and repair it.

RUWASA manager in Kilolo District, Eng Basyagile said that the completion of the 200m/- water project in the Mgowelo village will benefit more than 1,100 people.

*"Most of the families here are poor and unable to pay the 500 to 1000/- for one bucket of water, so this forces women to wake up and go to fetch it while also walking long distances"*



NBC Bank managing director Theobald Sabi (4th-R) presents 500 bags of cement worth 10.5m/- to Kigoma regional administration secretary Rashid Mchatta (R) in support of efforts to improve education in the country, particularly through the construction of classrooms. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Agricultural group in Musoma benefits from modern oil milling machine aid worth 35m/-

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

IN efforts aimed to improve sunflower production and value chain, the Changanyikeni Agriculture Group in Masinono village in Musoma, Mara Region has been given a modern oil milling machine worth 35m/-.

Donated by the Musoma agriculture and livestock development organization (SHIMAKIUMU), the machine has capacity to process up to five tonnes of sunflower per day.

SHIMAKIUMU programme manager Elton Mtani said that the organisation works with 37 groups in 11 wards of Bugwema, Bukima, Busambara, Bwasi, Murangi, Nyakitende, Musanja, Nyakimrandirira, Etaru, Nyegina and Tegeruka.

He said apart from bringing closer to the community oil milling services, the machine will also stimulate and increase production of sunflower in the village and neighbouring areas. "We have donated the machine so as to enable the

group to improve its income, however in the agreements, the group has to supervise to ensure that the machine works well and the profit generated will be distributed fairly to the group and the donating organisation," he said.

Gweine Matare, secretary of the Changanyikeni Agriculture Group commended the organisation for extending their support to boost development efforts of men and women in Masinono village who have been working hard to improve their income.

He appealed for others to support the group accomplish the construction of a building so as to install the machine.

"Once the building is completed, we will install the machine immediately, so as to commence production, the donation has come at the right time considering that the harvest season is approaching," he said.

Matare commended the Musoma rural legislator prof Sospeter Muhongo who has also supported the group with quality seeds of various crops including

sunflower, maize, sorghum and cassava.

Speaking, Prof Muhongo said he has supported various groups with farming equipment and seeds so as to improve agriculture and livelihoods in the constituency.

"I will continue doing more initiative in cooperation with various stakeholders. Apart from SHIMAKIUMU donation of the machine to the village, there is also another organisation called Project Concern International (PCI) which is preparing to install sunflower oil milling machines in the villages of Kome and Kurwaki," he added.

Recently, the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) announced that it had embarked on the implementation of a five-year (2020-2025) strategy to increase the production of sunflower to spearhead the country's efforts to minimize a shortage and importation of edible oil.

According to reports, annually, the country imports 365,000 metric tonnes of edible oil which cost over 400bn/-.

# EATV REWARDS MAMA LA MAMA 2021

By Guardian Reporter.

In celebration of mothers day . EATV named Tumaini Ananiah also known as "Mama Azzy" from Mwenge Dar Es salaam receive the coveted title and and awarded 1 million Tanzanian shillings from UBA bank, a cooking stove worth 750,000 from Jaden Home Store, a DSTV decoder with premium subscription, beauty products worth 1 million Tanzanian shillings form ATSOKE, and OMO soaps .

In a ceremony held at LEVANT restaurant Masaki Dar Es Salaam, 'Mama Azzy' dined in an all paid luncheon by the restaurant with her son Azzy who nominated her for the title of Mama la Mama, along side campaign coordinator, EATV's Deogratius Kithama.

"We thought Mama Azzy is an example to live by, on how she lives and takes care of her disabled son Azzy" Said Mr Kithama, referring to how "Mama la Mama" recipient Mama Azzy has managed to single handedly take care of her son who has been disabled for 35 years.

On her side Ms Brendansia Kileo, Commu-

nication and marketing manager of UBA bank applauded EATV for such an initiative " East Africa Television has done a tremendous initiative for this campaign wanting to uplift mothers and here at UBA we wanted to be part of such a great cause", while DSTV Tanzania's Shumbana Walwa spoke on the importance of having a society that embraces mothers in regards to peace and stability in their caretaker role.

Mama la Mama campaign is run by East Africa TV through online participation, on which people nominate their mothers and explain why they should be named 'Mama la Mama' "EATV has tremendous respect for the work that



mothers do, as we believe they lay foundation of the society we live in, and define the fabric of society growth" concluded Mr Kithama



TUESDAY 11 MAY 2021

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Who did seriously care about World Lupus Day - May 10?

LUPUS, technically known as systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), is an autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system mistakenly attacks healthy tissue in many parts of the body. Symptoms vary between people and may be mild to severe. Common symptoms include painful and swollen joints, fever, chest pain, hair loss, mouth ulcers, swollen lymph nodes, feeling tired, and a red rash which is most commonly on the face. Often there are periods of illness, called flares, and periods of remission during which there are few symptoms.

The cause of SLE is not clear. It is thought to involve genetics together with environmental factors. Among identical twins, if one is affected there is a 24 per cent chance the other one will be as well. Female sex hormones, sunlight, smoking, vitamin D deficiency, and certain infections are also believed to increase the risk. The mechanism involves an immune response by autoantibodies against a person's own tissues. These are most commonly anti-nuclear antibodies and they result in inflammation. Diagnosis can be difficult and is based on a combination of symptoms and laboratory tests. There are a number of other kinds of lupus erythematosus including discoid lupus erythematosus, neonatal lupus, and subacute cutaneous lupus erythematosus.

There is no cure for SLE. Treatments may include NSAIDs, corticosteroids, immunosuppressants, hydroxychloroquine, and methotrexate. Although corticosteroids are rapidly effective, long-term use results in side effects.[5] Alternative medicine has not been shown to affect the disease. Life expectancy is lower among people with SLE. SLE significantly increases the risk of cardiovascular disease with this being the most common cause of death. With modern

treatment about 80 per cent of those affected survive more than 15 years. Women with lupus have pregnancies that are higher risk but are mostly successful.

Rate of SLE varies between countries from 20 to 70 per 100,000. Women of childbearing age are affected about nine times more often than men. While it most commonly begins between the ages of 15 and 45, a wide range of ages can be affected. Those of African, Caribbean, and Chinese descent are at higher risk than white people. Rates of disease in the developing world are unclear. Lupus is Latin for "wolf": the disease was so-named in the 13th century as the rash was thought to appear like a wolf's bite.

SLE is one of several diseases known as "the great imitator" because it often mimics or is mistaken for other illnesses. SLE is a classical item in differential diagnosis, because SLE symptoms vary widely and come and go unpredictably. Diagnosis can thus be elusive, with some people having unexplained symptoms of SLE for years.

Common initial and chronic complaints include fever, malaise, joint pains, muscle pains, and fatigue. Because these symptoms are so often seen in association with other diseases, these signs and symptoms are not part of the diagnostic criteria for SLE. When occurring in conjunction with other signs and symptoms, however, they are considered suggestive.

While SLE can occur in both males and females, it is found far more often in women, and the symptoms associated with each sex are different. Females tend to have a greater number of relapses, a low white blood cell count, more arthritis, Raynaud's phenomenon, and psychiatric symptoms. Males tend to have more seizures, kidney disease, serositis (inflammation of tissues lining the lungs and heart), skin problems, and peripheral neuropathy.

## Nurses play decisive community health role, merit more attention

THE critical role that nurses play in protecting and caring for our communities cannot be overstated. In many ways, they are the face of healthcare. Today marks the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the foundational philosopher of modern nursing, who was born 200 years ago. Florence, also called 'The Lady with the Lamp', was called in 1854 by the Secretary of War, to organise a corp of nurses to tend to the sick and fallen soldiers of the Crimean War.

International Nurses Day is an international day observed around the world on 12 May - the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth of each year, to mark the contributions that nurses make to society. The International Council of Nurses has celebrated this day since 1965.

Florence Nightingale who was born on May 12, 1820 and died on August 13 1910 was an English social reformer, statistician and the founder of modern nursing. Nightingale came to prominence while serving as a manager and trainer of nurses during the Crimean War, in which she organised care for wounded soldiers at Constantinople. She gave nursing a favourable reputation and became an icon of Victorian culture, especially in the persona of 'The Lady with the Lamp' making rounds of wounded soldiers at night.

Recent commentators have

asserted that Nightingale's Crimean War achievements were exaggerated by the media at the time, but critics agree on the importance of her later work in professionalising nursing roles for women. In 1860, she laid the foundation of professional nursing with the establishment of her nursing school at St Thomas' Hospital in London. It was the first secular nursing school in the world, and is now part of King's College London.

In recognition of her pioneering work in nursing, the Nightingale pledge taken by new nurses, and the Florence Nightingale Medal, the highest international distinction a nurse can achieve, were named in her honour, and the annual International Nurses Day is celebrated on her birthday. Her social reforms included improving healthcare for all sections of British society, advocating better hunger relief in India, helping to abolish prostitution laws that were harsh for women, and expanding the acceptable forms of female participation in the workforce.

Florence Nightingale was born on 12 May 1820 into a wealthy and well-connected British family at the Villa Colombaia, in Florence, Tuscany, Italy, and was named after the city of her birth. Florence's older sister Frances Parthenope had similarly been named after her place of birth, Parthenope, a Greek settlement now part of the city of Naples.

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By Jan Egeland and Jean-Michel Grand

## G7 leaders know what needs to be done to prevent famines, but will they act?

TODAY'S G7 meeting is a potential game changer for preventing famine in crisis countries if world powers step up

There is no shortage of food in the world today, yet hunger levels are rising. While global food production increases, hunger afflicts more people now than at any time since 2015, when governments around the world agreed to stamp it out.

At least 174 million people across the planet are experiencing crisis levels of food insecurity. This means that millions of families are eating just one daily meal, and parents are skipping food for an entire day so their children don't go to bed hungry. Conflicts are causing this crisis, exacerbated by the economic impacts of the pandemic and the climate crisis.

G7 ministers are meeting in London this week amid this bleak reality, and are expected to adopt new measures to prevent famine and food insecurity. If sufficiently ambitious, a proposed Humanitarian Crises and Famine Prevention plan could galvanise their governments to better respond to food crises before they escalate into famine, as well as to respond urgently to the millions of people already on the brink.

Two concrete factors will determine if the proposed famine prevention compact will be a gamechanger for the world's most vulnerable communities.

First, the G7 governments of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States must make new commitments to fully fund United Nations aid appeals and invest in preventing food crises from escalating. Experience shows that investment in preparedness is far more cost effective than responding to emergencies once they have developed.

The gap between humanitarian needs and funding is widening. Crisis countries like Syria, Somalia, Yemen and the Democratic Republic of the Congo are among 20 countries listed by the UN as being at risk of famine, but are desperately underfunded.

This is in part because some donor nations, including the UK, are slashing aid funding just when it is needed most. Last week, the Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, said 'no-one is going hungry because we're not signing cheques.' If only this were true.

The UK government is also cutting aid across Africa, despite the UN warning that 15 of the 20 countries most at risk of famine are on the continent. UK aid was vital in preventing famine in Somalia in 2017 when drought uprooted over a million people from their homes.

Early action supported by British people's money provided water, food and hygiene support that

saved lives and reduced human suffering. Yet a recent leaked memo points to government plans to cut global water and sanitation aid by 80 per cent.

In the Middle East, UK aid to Yemen previously helped pull the country back from the brink of famine, treated children for malnutrition and rolled back diseases like cholera. Today, Yemen is closer to famine than it has ever been - over 16 million people face going hungry in 2021. Yet at a donor summit in March, the UK pledge was almost 60 per cent lower than in 2019.

The second factor determining if the famine prevention plan will reverse the global hunger emergency is whether G7 governments will use their diplomatic power to ensure conflict-affected communities can physically access aid, and moreover, prevent wars in the first place.

This powerful group of governments play an essential role in promoting international law that protects civilians caught up in conflict, and have the power to help realise the UN's calls for ceasefires and peace processes in the context of the pandemic.

Working in crises in nearly 50 countries, we have seen firsthand authorities increasingly abusing their power to restrict how freely humanitarians can move, depriving communities in whole regions from accessing aid.

Non-state armed groups are equally a growing threat to our ability to deliver relief. Action Against Hunger and Norwegian Refugee Council staff, clinics and offices were recently the target of attacks in northeast Nigeria, leaving hundreds of thousands at risk of losing access to essential aid.

The UK claims that fighting hunger is a foreign policy priority, yet it continues to cut aid funding to the countries where people are most at risk. This week's G7 gathering of foreign and development ministers gives the UK the opportunity to partly redeem itself, by working with its partners to ensure concrete action to prevent famines.

The lives of 174 million people depend on it.

The Group of Seven (G7) is an intergovernmental organisation consisting of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. The heads of government of the member states, as well as the representatives of the European Union, meet at the annual G7 Summit.

As of 2018, the G7 represents 58 per cent of the global net wealth (\$317 trillion), more than 46 per cent of the global gross domestic product (GDP) based on nominal values, and more than 32 per cent of

the global GDP based on purchasing power parity. The seven countries involved are also the largest IMF-advanced economies in the world.

The concept of a forum for the world's major industrialized countries emerged before the 1973 oil crisis. On Sunday, 25 March 1973, the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, George Shultz, convened an informal gathering of finance ministers from West Germany Helmut Schmidt, France Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, and the United Kingdom Anthony Barber before an upcoming meeting in Washington, D.C. When running the idea past President Nixon, he noted that he would be out of town and offered use of the White House. The meeting was subsequently held in the library on the ground floor. Taking their name from the setting, this original group of four became known as the "Library Group". In mid-1973, at the World Bank-IMF meetings, Shultz proposed the addition of Japan to the original four nations, who agreed. The informal gathering of senior financial officials from the United States, the United Kingdom, West Germany, Japan, and France became known as the "Group of Five".

Then, in 1974, President Pompidou of France died and his immediate successor refused to run in the special election, making two changes of head of state in France in one year. Chancellor Brandt of West Germany was forced to resign in a scandal, making a change in West Germany as well. In addition, then-President of the United States Richard Nixon and Japanese Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka were forced to resign in disgrace. Queen Elizabeth II was forced to broker a deal to form a government after a hung election, which was so unstable that another election the same year had to take place, and finally, the traditionally unstable government of the 1st Italian Republic changed Prime Ministers yet again. The new American President, Gerald Ford, asked some other new heads of state/government to hold a retreat the following year to get to know one another.

In 1975, a summit hosted by France brought together representatives of six governments: France, West Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Schmidt was head of government and Giscard d'Estaing head of state, respectively, in their respective countries, and since they both spoke fluent English, it occurred to them that they, and British Prime Minister Harold Wilson and U.S. President Gerald Ford could get together in an informal retreat and discuss election results and the issues of

the day. In late spring, d'Estaing of France invited the heads of government from West Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States to a summit in Château de Rambouillet; the annual meeting of the six leaders was organized under a rotating presidency, forming the Group of Six (G6). In 1976, with Wilson out as prime minister of Britain, Schmidt and Gerald Ford felt an English speaker with more experience was needed, so Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister of Canada, the next largest advanced economy after the first six, was invited to join the group[8] and the group became the Group of Seven (G7). Since first invited by the United Kingdom in 1977, the European Union has been represented by the president of the European Commission and the leader of the country that holds the presidency of the Council of the European Union; the Council President now also regularly attends. Until the 1985 Plaza Accord no one outside a tight official circle knew when the seven finance ministers met or what they agreed upon. The summit was announced the day before and a communiqué was issued afterwards.

Following 1994's G7 summit in Naples, Russian officials held separate meetings with leaders of the G7 after the group's summits. This informal arrangement was dubbed the Political 8 (P8) - or, colloquially, the G7+1. At the invitation of Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Tony Blair and President of the United States Bill Clinton, Russian President Boris Yeltsin was invited first as a guest observer, later as a full participant. After the 1997 meeting Russia was formally invited to the next meeting and formally joined the group in 1998, resulting in a new governmental political forum, the Group of Eight or G8.

In 2020, US President Donald Trump advocated that Russia should be invited to re-join the group and invited Australia, India and South Korea to join. Since 1975, the group meets annually on summit site to discuss economic policies since 1987, the G7 finance ministers have met at least semi-annually, up to four times a year at stand-alone meetings.[17]

The annual G7 leaders' summit is attended by the heads of government. The member country holding the G7 presidency is responsible for organising and hosting the year's summit. The serial annual summits can be parsed chronologically in arguably distinct ways, including as the sequence of host countries for the summits has recurred over time and series. Generally every country hosts the summit once every 7 years.

# Is the campaign for a female UN chief a good try in a lost lause?

UNITED NATIONS

As negotiations for the upcoming election—or re-election—of a UN Secretary-General gather momentum, one undeniable fact looms heavily over the final decision: the choice of a UN chief is the intellectual birthright of the five big permanent members (P5) of the Security Council, namely, the US, UK, France, China and Russia.

All others, including the General Assembly (GA) and civil society organizations (CSOs), remain bit players in the political drama currently unfolding in a world body which has remained locked down, since March 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The 193-member GA, the UN's highest policy making body, remains and will continue to remain a political non-entity playing only a subservient role to the Security Council.

The rules are cast in stone: the secretary-general shall be appointed by the GA upon the recommendation of the Security Council.

Perhaps the GA's only task is to rubber-stamp the decision made by the big powers—as it has sheepishly done over the last 76 years—even though it has the right, and the overwhelming votes, to reject any of the candidates nominated by the Security Council.

**But so far it has not.**

Meanwhile, how effective or ineffective is the campaign, mostly by CSOs and women's rights activists, for the UN's first woman Secretary-General?

With no public support from any of the P5 countries, the gender-empowered demand for a female UN chief may eventually be a good try in a lost cause.

Despite the UN's campaign for gender empowerment, both globally, and also inside the world body, the UN has so far elected only four women – in contrast to 71 men – as Presidents of the General Assembly in the last 76 years, while it has never had a female secretary-general in the history of the Organization.

Mavic Cabrera-Balleza, Founder & Chief Executive Officer of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP), a coalition of over 100 women's rights organizations from more than 40 countries worldwide, told IPS a true UN reform should address the continued dominance of the P5 in selecting the Secretary-General.

"This is the 21st century. I thought colonialism is over. If I am a member of the General Assembly, the biggest UN organ that prides itself on one-country, one-vote policy, I will be insulted," she said.

Meanwhile, the authors of a 1996 landmark study on UN Reforms – Brian Urquhart and Erskine Childers, both senior UN officials – said the selection of the Secretary-General is quite literally part of a male-oriented "old-boy network."

Titled "A World in Need of Leadership: Tomorrow's United Nations", the report, co-sponsored by the Ford Foundation and the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, called for "a standard policy of non-renewable terms of office, and a single seven-year term" both for the Secretary-General and for all executive heads throughout the UN system.

**But that never got off the ground.**

As things stand, the current incumbent Antonio Guterres is heading for a second term—unless he antagonizes either one of the P5, even if it is at the 59th minute of the eleventh hour.

In a distant past, the UN chief who had a running battle with the US – Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt – was the only secretary-general who was denied a second term even though he garnered 14 of the 15 votes in the Security Council, with the US exercising its veto against him.

Arora Akanksha, a UNDP staffer and a self-nominated candidate challenging Guterres, says: "The UN preaches democracy to the world but can't organise a competitive



election in its own backyard. It's a hypocritical sham".

"The absence of any women, people of colour, or young people from the race should set alarm bells ringing for anyone who cares about democracy, justice, or equality."

But hers may be a voice in the wilderness because not a single P5 country has indicated its willingness to support her candidature—at least as of now.

She also does not have the sponsorship of either India or Canada, her motherland and her country of adoption respectively.

Asked about her current status in relation to the upcoming elections, Akanksha said, "I have reached out to all 193 member states. I have met with five countries so far. Countries are fearful of nominating me because of retaliation from members of the Security Council and the European Union."

The other candidate apparently is Rosalia Arteaga, a former President of Ecuador, who is being officially supported by her home country, but prefers to be a candidate of CSOs, according to a report in PassBlue, a nonprofit, independent, women-led media site popular within the UN community.

Anwarul K. Chowdhury, former UN Under-Secretary-General and one-time Ambassador of Bangladesh to the UN, told IPS it is interesting to find that this year's election for the Secretary-General is getting all the attention for the candidacy of individuals who are showing interest in the post.

Among them, the media – both social and traditional – outreach of Ms. Arora Akanksha seems quite wide ranging. "I am in full support of her campaign focus on a woman to be the next Secretary-General, as I have been advocating for years".

But the point about the absence of "people of colour" is not factual as we know that out of nine SGs, five were non-white, said Ambassador Chowdhury, who was Ambassador of the UN Security Council in June 2001, and who led the process for a second term for Secretary-General Kofi Annan of Ghana (1997-2006).

"Also, I am sure Ms. Akanksha understands that when she says "The UN preaches democracy to the world ...", the functioning of the Organization is not democratic as the UN's founders included in the Charter of the UN creation of the five permanent members of the Security Council whose positions finally decides the election of the Secretary-General."

The basic point that she makes in her recent press release is that her "...candidacy is legally valid under the rules established by the UN in 2015" according to UN General Assembly resolution 61/321.

"The main focus and assertion of that resolution is that only Member States of the UN are invited to nominate candidates. I believe amongst Ms. Akanksha's 200 policy experts, there would be people to know that and would have advised her correctly".

To attain some credibility for her candidature, Ms. Akanksha should make efforts to obtain the agreement of a Member State to submit her name as a candidate. She had reportedly said earlier that "It was a positive discussion ... I'm still waiting to hear what Canada's position would be," he noted.

"That would give her candidacy a much-needed credibility and elevate it to a formal one in accordance with the existing decision of the General Assembly. Without that, her pronouncements in her vision statement would remain hollow

and merely a listing of areas and issues of concern which have been raised by many over the years", declared Ambassador Chowdhury.

Saber Azam, former UN official and author of two books on Afghanistan and Liberia <https://www.saberazam.com>, told IPS the UN is at a very critical moment in its history. There is a need for profound reform.

"The President of the General Assembly cannot and should not ignore the candidacy of Ms. Arora Akanksha or anyone else who comes forward."

Times have changed since the inception of the United Nations 76 years ago, he said, and the world has new realities. Decision-making powers must ensure that the process is transparent, inclusive, gender-balanced, and geographically fair. "The UN welcomes female candidates for all positions; why not the SG's?", he asked.

Sanam Naraghi-Anderlini, founder and CEO of the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN) told IPS this is one of the most difficult and important jobs in the world.

"It requires wisdom, political savvy, experience and a depth of humanity – a quality that is often undervalued."

Given the UN is 76 years old as an institution, having difficulty to pull itself into the 21st century, there has been an urgent need for an SG that has vision, imagination, empathy for the marginalized and the energy needed to shift course and renovate the culture and practices of the system, she argued.

"At the very least, it would be good to see a job description setting out the criteria for eligibility. It would also be good to see the institution's power brokers – notably the member states – uphold the existing rules".

For example, she pointed out, if the retirement age for UN staff is 65, shouldn't the same rule apply to its senior leadership and special envoys? Instead, it seems that a different set of rules come into play above the 37th floor.

If the UN advocates principles of good governance, including transparency, should it not practice these principles in its own home? she asked.

"If the system is serious about gender equality and equal opportunity, should it not give female candidates a genuinely fair shot, and finally, if the UN is our chance of shaping a better future for future generations, why not consider having a younger person at the helm – one who has a genuine stake in the future, and who is at least among the world's 87% of the population that is below the age of 65?" she added.

But none of these factors are being considered. Instead, there will be a little flurry from NGOs and women's organizations, and a handful of brave alternative candidates, but in reality, the die is cast. Business as usual will prevail to the detriment of the original values and vision that led to the creation of the UN 76 years ago, she declared.

Explaining the process, Ambassador Chowdhury said: the position of Secretary-General is one of great importance that requires the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and a firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

"The President of the General Assembly and of the Security Council invite candidates to be presented with proven leadership and managerial abilities, extensive experience in international relations, and strong diplomatic, communication and multilingual skills. Member States are invited to present candidates in a letter to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council," he added.

Cabrera-Balleza said "I also find it problematic that civil society continues to remain on the sidelines in this selection process. How many General Assembly and Security Council resolutions have sung praises to the critical role of civil society in implementing the mandates of the UN?", she asked. **IPS**



**PROVISION OF INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF CAPACITY BUILDING OF MOYO WA HURUMA ORPHANAGE CENTER TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring Capacity Building Of Moyo Wa Huruma Orphanage Center and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the below listed service.

**Scope of work:**

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01175	PROVISION OF CAPACITY BUILDING OF MOYO WA HURUMA ORPHANAGE CENTER

**II. INFORMATION REQUIRED**

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 1 references from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Environment Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.25%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.25%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.25%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above) where applicable	1.25%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.25%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01175)</b>	<b>75%</b>
Proof of expertise and evident experience on the following areas: Supply Chain and Management, Early Childhood Education, Human Resource Management, Corporate Management, Public Administration, Community Development, Public Health, Gender and Development, Youth Programs, Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, Education, Social Welfare.	75%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01175)** of the services they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than **0830 A.M 21 May 2021** (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email, documents should be submitted in PDF format (documents should NOT be submitted via a link). In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email. In case the applicant does not comply with the EOI Submission Requirements, GGML shall not be liable for not considering the applications that have been compromised.

**=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=**

# IMF, World Bank must support developing countries' recovery

SYDNEY and KUALA LUMPUR

**T**HE COVID-19 pandemic continues to take an unprecedented human and economic toll, wiping away years of modest and uneven progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Developing countries now need much more support as progress towards the SDGs was 'not on track' even before the pandemic.

By end-2022, average incomes are expected to be 18% below pre-crisis levels in low-income countries (LICs) and 22% less in emerging and developing countries excluding China - compared to 13% lower for developed economies.

These lower incomes will push hundreds of millions into extreme poverty and hunger, surviving on incomes under US\$1.90/day. The World Bank estimates the poor increased by 119-124 million in 2020, and by 143-163 million more this year.

## Fiscal gap growing fast

As the UN Secretary-General has noted, "richer countries have benefited from an unprecedented \$16 trillion of emergency support measures... the least developed countries have spent 580 times less in per capita terms on their COVID-19 response".

Last year, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and UNCTAD estimated that developing countries need about US\$2.5 trillion for relief to affected families and businesses, and to expedite economic recovery.

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva later acknowledged that developing countries need much more. The IMF's April 2021 Fiscal Monitor estimates that only achieving access to basic services by 2030 in 121 developing countries would require US\$3tn, up to half in LICs.

Most developing countries cannot do more due to financing constraints. As public spending needs shoot up, the pandemic has significantly cut their revenue. Recent IMF research found "larger output losses are experienced by countries with lower GDP per capita", partly due to "lower fiscal stimulus".

With limited tax and other revenue, developing countries will need to borrow more, increasing their already high public debt. As the IMF notes, "the international community [needs] to provide additional support through grants, concessional financing, and, in some cases, debt relief".

Too little, too late?

The Bretton Woods institutions (BWIs) - the IMF and the World Bank - must mitigate the new setbacks, by enabling relief, recovery and reform. The Fund



and also the Bank have responded, sometimes innovatively, but far too slowly. Most importantly, actual support from both BWIs so far is far short of needs.

The Fund used its Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust fund to provide relief for six months of IMF debt payments owed by 29 LICs. But last October, the IMF board rejected a new Pandemic Support Facility with easier conditions than usual.

Although the Fund has committed about US\$250 billion, a quarter of its US\$1 trillion lending capacity, it has only deployed a tenth of its capacity so far, according to former senior official, Ousmane Mandeng. He argues the Fund should instead offer much more support that countries need and want.

According to The Economist, since March 2020, the

IMF has only disbursed US\$32bn in emergency financing while offering US\$74bn via other facilities, both "with more strings attached".

The 85 countries now receiving funds from the IMF account for only around 5% of global GDP. None of them could access the Fund's new "short-term liquidity line" due to its stringent conditions.

BWIs must rise to the challenge

In April 2020, the Bank announced a new multi-donor trust fund, the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Multi-Donor Fund. This is supposed to complement the US\$160bn the World Bank Group had pledged to deploy by mid-2021.

Bank disbursements have been slow despite the urgency, with actual disbursements to needy countries

totalling only US\$79bn by June 2021, under half what was pledged. The Bank also dropped its Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility, criticised for being too small and too slow.

However, fast-disbursing budget support during the much deeper and more extensive pandemic crisis is actually less than during the GFC. The Bank is no longer offering more emergency budget support.

Just as the Fund lent more in 2009 during the global financial crisis (GFC) than since the pandemic began, new Bank loan disbursements rose less in the first half-year of the pandemic than during the GFC.

The Bank committed US\$19.5bn to finance the G-20's grossly inadequate April-December 2020 Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI). Meanwhile, it has refused any debt standstill for loans owed to it, arguing this would jeopardise its credit rating and consequent ability to borrow cheap. Blocked by the Trump administration, the likely issue of US\$650bn IMF special drawing rights (SDRs) is still only half the SDR1tn (US\$1.37tn) The Financial Times deemed necessary.

SDRs do not need to be repaid, and incur a very low interest rate (currently 0.05%), costing less than loans. They are often more attractive than grants, typically tied to conditions.

IPS

# China-Europe freight trains put BRI on fast track to cooperation

By Zhong Nan

**T**HE freight train service between China and Europe will continue to show its competitive edge over maritime and air transportation, and further enrich the cooperative content of the Belt and Road Initiative this year, experts and business leaders said.

The latest data showed freight train trips between China and Europe soared 70 percent on a yearly basis to 3,345 rides in the first quarter of this year.

They carried 317,000 containers, up 79 percent year-on-year, according to China State Railway Group, the national railway operator.

Certain logistical difficulties, caused by COVID-19-related disruptions, were resolved in a timely way.

The transcontinental cargo train service has proved that it is no longer a supplement to secure the stability of supply chains between the two sides, said Feng Hao, a researcher at the Institute of Comprehensive Transportation, which is affiliated with the National Development and Reform Commission.

The services and goods trade volume has risen since last year, and has highlighted several factors: China and its European partners' willingness to maintain smooth trade flows; their complementary trade structures; the gradual recovery of the European Union market; and China's well-developed industrial and supply chains, he said.

Despite the pandemic in 2020, a record 12,400 freight train trips were made between China and Europe last year, up 50 percent on a yearly basis. They carried 1.14 million containers, up 56 percent from 2019, data from China State Railway Group showed.

Feng said the China-Europe freight train service, launched in 2011, is now considered to be a significant part of the BRI. The service has boosted trade between China and participating countries. It has encouraged more Chinese cities to open the new routes for freight train service to connect with other non-EU markets related to the initiative.

For instance, in early March, the Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region launched a new route of the China-Europe freight train service linking the region and Kazakhstan.

The newly opened route of 5,031 km connects Guangxi's capital Nanning and Kazakhstan's Nur-Sultan with a stop in Xi'an, capital of Northwest China's Shaanxi province, according to Nanning International Railway Port.

Before the route started operations, it used to take around 45 days for machinery made by manufacturers in Guangxi to arrive in Kazakhstan by road transportation. Now, a freight train on the new route takes only 13 days to accomplish the same task.

Zhou Sitong, a manager with China Railway Nanning Group Co Ltd, said the operation of this new route has great significance in promoting Nanning's role in the BRI's growth and driving the industrial development of surrounding areas.

"The Suez Canal blockage in late March has prompted Chinese companies to explore new transportation options to reach their clients. Excessive reliance on a single transport corridor could prove unreliable under certain circumstances," said Liang Ming, a researcher with the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation.

Zhou Shihao, founder and CEO of YQNLink, a Shanghai-based global intelligent logistics platform, said daily inquiries about the China-Europe freight train have nearly tripled over the past several weeks, reflecting rising concerns about uncertainties such as the shipping com-



A crane loads containers onto a China-Europe freight train carrying automobiles, furniture and daily necessities before its departure from Tianjin on Feb 24.

panies' limited service capacity and high freight cost.

"To secure enough storage space, it is common for our clients to make reservations between 20 days and one month in advance," said Kong Weidong, executive vice-president of the railway business unit of T.H.L Group (Shanghai) Ltd, a freight forwarder.

The growth of the China-Europe freight train service has also promoted multimodal transport and boosted Chinese firms' investment in markets related to the BRI.

For instance, in early April, China Railway Shenyang Group Co Ltd and China Railway Container Transport Corp began to ship 150 commercial vehicles, manufactured by a Chinese carmaker from Dalian, Liaoning province, to the rail terminal of the Berelast logistics center in Russia via the two-way cargo train service.

The commercial vehicles were first shipped by a car roll-off ship from Ningbo, Zhejiang province, to Dalian. It took 20 days to ship these cars to the rail terminal of the Berelast logistics center, which is located about 70 kilometers from Moscow's Red Square, saving between 15 and 20 days compared with ocean shipping service.

Jointly built by Liaoning Port Group and Russian Railways beginning 2017, the logistics center is the first major logistics infrastructure cooperation project between the two countries, said Ma Yunchi, president of the Berelast logistics center.

Operated by more than 100 employees and with 1.79 million square meters of land, the facility owns six 1,050-meter-long loading and unloading railroads, and 240,000-square-meter warehouse.

With container capacity reaching 750,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), it can meet the demand of one-third of Moscow's container transit transportation.

Grishin Olegovich, the center's executive vice-president, said one of the facility's main tasks is to build a regional hub for the China-Europe freight train service and reduce its service blind spots in overseas sections.

Huo Guang, head of goods yard management of China Railway Shenyang Group, said before 2020, all the cargo trains departing from Shenyang and Dalian in Liaoning province for Europe used a locomotive with a speed of 80 kilometers per hour. The number of containers did not exceed 41.

"The trains today are all equipped with locomotives that can reach speeds of 120 kilometers per hour. Each of them typically carries 50 containers on the journey as demand for such a service remains high," he said.

China Railway Shenyang Group has operated 75 freight train services between China and Europe, and shipped 7,374 containers of goods to various European cities in the first quarter of this year, he said.

Despite rising demand, it is certainly not feasible for trains to replace maritime transport's major role in trade, said Dong Liwan, a professor of shipping and port services at Shanghai Maritime University.

He stressed that a large cargo ship can carry more than 20,000 standard containers. It would take a large number of trips by a cargo train to carry that amount of goods.

Moreover, underdeveloped facilities and limited manpower at some overseas terminals also affect the capacity of trains, he said.

To further accelerate the shipping efficiency of the China-Europe freight train service, the Urumqi Customs authority has cut the trains' release time from 3.5 hours to half-an-hour at land ports in the Xinjiang Uygur auton-

omous region, by using a new paperless system.

As a result, the efficiency of train traffic has been significantly raised, said Wang Jun, director-general of the Department of Port Control at the General Administration of Customs.

He said China will continue to deepen its cooperation with the parties concerned to promote the role of Authorized Economic Operator agreements and other policy tools in boosting trade activities between China and Europe via rail, help companies resolve issues in both export and import, and encourage more companies from economies related to the BRI to join AEO certification programs.

The program was advocated by the World Customs Organization for strengthening international supply chain security and facilitating movement of legitimate goods.

Under the program, Customs authorities from various regions form partnerships with the industry to collaboratively cut barriers to Customs procedures and enhance international trade efficiency.

Xinhua

# 3 landscape conservation projects converge in the Kilombero valley



AWF programme manager in Kilombero Pastor Magingi (L), with cacao growers in the area. Photo: Correspondent Marc Nkwame

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame

Kilombero valley in Tanzania is an area of high biodiversity - including a Ramsar listed wetland - that is under ever-increasing human pressure.

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat is an international treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands. It is also known as the Convention on Wetlands. It is named after the city of Ramsar in Iran, where the convention was signed in 1971.

It is also part of the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), a public-private partnership initiated through the World Economic Forum to improve agricultural productivity, investment, food security and livelihoods in this high-potential development corridor. This is the story of three recent IUCN projects converging in this valley to make progress on sustainable development, local governance and conservation.

THERE is an uncanny alliance brewing in the Kilombero Valley, the country's leading water catchment area found in Morogoro Region, this is where agriculture should merge with the conservation of natural resources.

Sounds like a miracle? Well, it should, because the type of agriculture in practice in the area also includes the water demanding paddy farming that, of course, relies heavily on irrigation.

In most cases irrigation means diverting flows from rivers to water adjacent farms. Afterwards the resulting muddy trickle gets reverted back into rivers and lakes causing destruction through pollution, siltation and decreasing water basins.

As it happens the Kilombero Valley Floodplain, is one of the country's few Ramsar sites featuring biodiversity of international importance and providing critical ecosystem lifeline to tens of thousands of people within its margins.

Measuring over 220 kilometers long and up to 70 kilometers wide, the Kilombero Catchment area lies within the Rufiji River Basin and currently also managed by the Rufiji Basin Water Board.

However the Valley's long term sustainability was getting threatened by increased consumptive upstream water use for irrigation and tapped flow regulation to feed hydropower dams.

But the latest case for Kilombero is different, there are over 2,000 farmers that are now benefitting from the African Wildlife Foundation's new responsibility farming initiative dubbed 'Inclusive Green

Growth for Agrarian Communities.'

The Project is executed in Kilombero District' project in partnership with the Global Fund for Nature, funded by the German government through the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Among the beneficiaries are residents of 16 village located within the Mngeta division, of Mlimba Council, including Mofu, Ihenga, Namwala, Mngeta, Mbingu, Ikule, Njage, Makutano, Kisege, Udagaji, Lukorongo, Chiwachiwa, Igi-ma, Vigaeni, and Mchombe

There are over 100,000 small-holder farmers in the area with about 90 percent of the population depending on Agriculture, where more than 70 percent grow rice and almost 20 percent grow cocoa. At least 35 percent of all farmers happen to be women.

The 'Inclusive Green Growth for Agrarian Communities' project has enabled rice and cocoa farmers within the Kilombero River Basin to increase their harvests by 36 percent and 28 percent, respectively.

For rice farmers, new and improved seeds, known as 'Saro' or Semi-Aromatic Rice, was developed in association with Ifakara Research Center. The variety is both high-yielding and consumes less water in addition to speedier ripening time to boost rice productivity on smaller patches of land.

As far as cacao growers are concerned, AWF has helped them gain access to improved cocoa seedlings, better farming techniques (including intercropping, rainwater harvesting, and crop rotation), as well as upgraded cocoa fermenting and drying, have fetched better prices in the market.

For instance, the Mbingu Organic Cocoa Agricultural Marketing Co-operative of Ifakara, helps farmers improve their earnings by training them on better farming techniques, as well as providing them with a facility for drying their cacao seeds, which helps to stabilize cocoa prices by keeping production rolling, even during the rainy seasons.

The farmers have also benefited from guidance in developing business plans to help them access capital from local financial institutions, such as the NMB Bank in Morogoro and expand their operations.

Hand in hand with that, the Inclusive Green Growth project is also working to replenish the valley's forest cover, restoring natural trees to over 2800 hectares of land.

AWF has supported the cooperative with technical knowledge as well as infrastructure develop-

ment, with the construction of a solar dryer capable of holding 5000 tons of cocoa beans at a go.

Eventually the farmers have realized the importance of trees in providing shade to protect other crops from direct sunlight and preserving soil moisture, help to stabilize rain cycle patterns, and are also a source of food through yielded fruits, firewood, and curative traditional herbs.

The Inclusive Green Growth project has therefore pioneered reforestation efforts to restore wildlife corridors and water sources that have been degraded as a result of human activities.

So far the community has planted more than 700,000 trees and restored 2,800 hectares of farmland, riverbanks and the Ruipa Wildlife Corridor, which is a protected area.

Community-based organizations such as Miti Maisha have been instrumental in establishing and managing tree nurseries, while also distributing seedlings to schools, farmers, and the general population.

"We started tree nurseries in order to improve our livelihoods and to help the community to fight deforestation. We advertise our trees through radio stations and have managed to attract customers even from other districts. So far, we have sold over 60,000 seedlings," explained members of the 'Miti Maisha' Club.

Ally Mbolwa the Ward the Mbingu Ward Extension officer said the area is now a major exporter of tree seedlings to other wards as well as neighboring districts, because most residents are now actively involved in restoration of green cover in Morogoro.

As far as the officer is concerned, the group is now looking to expand its facilities to meet growing demands and improve the variety of seedlings available.

"The community has come to appreciate ecological benefits such as clean water and reliable rainfall, which has improved attitudes and behavior towards the protection of forests and water catchment areas. Many have adopted practices that ensure the restoration of ecosystem integrity," said Pastor Magingi, the AWF Program Manager in Kilombero under whose stewardship the project has thrived.

Magingi is on view that local communities have been enthusiastic about changing from previous unsustainable agricultural practices - such as unregulated irrigation and the use of plastic bags to nursery seedlings - in favor of environmentally friendly options that work for the good of people, wildlife, and wild lands.



## PROVISION OF INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY (TSF) DESIGN WORK TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

### I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Design Work and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the below listed service.

### Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01185	PROVISION OF TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY (TSF) DESIGN WORK

### II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Environment Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.25%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.25%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.25%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above) where applicable	1.25%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.25%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01185)</b>	<b>75%</b>
Proof of having Geotechnical engineering background with over 10 years industry experience	12.5%
Proof of being Professionally registered by recognized statutory bodies (ERB & CRB)	12.5%
Proof of having 10 years expertise (with a proven track record) in the design of gold tailings storage facilities based on waste rock	12.5%
Proof of Expertise of upstream and downstream tailings dam design with waste rock wall impoundment	12.5%
Proof of Experience with TSF design in seismic zone	12.5%
Knowledge of relevant software packages to achieve the scope of work.	12.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01185)** of the services they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than **0830 A.M 21 May 2021** (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email, documents should be submitted in PDF format (documents should NOT be submitted via a link). In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email. In case the applicant does not comply with the EOI Submission Requirements, GGML shall not be liable for not considering the applications that have been compromised.

**=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=**

# UN banks on water as 'game changer' in food production and consumption

UNITED NATIONS

**A**S the United Nations prepares for its solutions-based Global Food Systems Summit in September, officials say resolving issues around water scarcity, pollution and wastage is crucial transforming food production and consumption.

The third Global Food Systems Dialogue was held virtually on Tuesday Apr. 27 with the event's special envoy Dr. Agnes Kalibata calling on participants to contribute "game-changing ideas" to better manage the world's water resources.

"Water is everything. Water touches all 17 SDGs and so it is critical to everything that we do," she said.

Noting that water systems are under stress from exploitation, pollution and drought, said it was time for action.

"Water is life, but it is one of those sources of life around biodiversity, irrigation or whether it is the water we get from above through rain-fed agriculture, it is one of the elements of food systems that is most taken for granted. It is not appreciated for what it is worth."

Dialogue participants discussed the links between food and water systems and explored action to tackle the water challenges that threaten food systems, protect waterways, conserve the resource and ensure water equity.

Stating that "when water is wasted, food is wasted and when water is scarce, food is scarce", chair of the UN Water Partnership Gilbert Houngbo reminded the gathering that demand for food is rising - along with the world population.

"We know that in 2019, 690 million people went to bed hungry every night and very likely this year, the social report that is about to be released by the five agencies under the leadership of FAO, will certainly be confirming those difficult situations," Houngbo said.

"In the past two decades, the annual amounts of available freshwater resources per person have fallen by roughly 20 percent and an estimated 3.2 billion people live in an agricultural area where water is scarce."

In a March to July 2021 report, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN and the World Food Programme warned that acute hunger would soar in over 20 countries, in the absence of urgent and scaled-up assistance.

The report on early warnings on acute food security stated that already, over 34 million people are struggling with 'emergency levels' of acute hunger across the world. This meant that they were one step away from starvation.

The Global Food Systems Summit is hoping to attract the commitment, technology and financing needed to feed all people sustainably. Through its focus on water as the game-changer in this goal, the Global Food Systems Dialogue acknowledges that managing scarce water resources will be critical to tackling hunger and achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

"The kinds of food that we grow, store and eat, have a direct impact on water. The way in which water is used in agriculture is no longer sustainable. We know that irrigation accounts for more than 70% of global water withdrawals. Existing techniques such as rainwater harvesting or micro-irrigation can make a major difference, while new research in digital technology holds out an even greater promise for more sustainable water use in agriculture," the UN-Water chair said.

The dialogue builds on existing global water-related goals, including those outlined in the UN Decade on Water and Sustainable Development (2018-2028). That initiative calls for urgent action to increase access to safe water



The Global Food Systems Summit is hoping to attract the commitment, technology and financing needed to feed all people sustainably, but organisers say managing scarce water resources will be critical to tackling hunger and achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

## RADIO One

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI

## JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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**Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One** **Radio One**

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI

## JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

**Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO** **CAPITAL RADIO**

and ease pressure on water resources and ecosystems.

The decade's halfway mark will be observed in 2023 and officials are already planning for the event, as another opportunity to take stock of the world's progress in achieving ambitious goals for water security.

"COVID-19 has again put into sharp focus, the indivisible nature of the sustainable development agenda and food and water security is at the very heart of this agenda. Water is essential when it comes to feeding our populations, with freshwater resources under increasing pressure, so are food systems," said Yoka Brandt, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the UN. The Netherlands is one of the host countries of the 2023 mid-term review of the Decade on Water and Sustainable Development.

The organisers of the dialogue say by bringing together the Global Food Systems Summit



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ICT Minister says private sector crucial in the country's digital transformation drive

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# JKCI, ORCI share 500m/- from CRDB Bank Marathon

By Smart Money Reporter

SOME half a billion shillings to be raised from CRDB Bank Marathon 2021 will go to support activities of Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute and Ocean Road Cancer Institute in Dar es Salaam as the country experiences a surge in the deadly disease.

CRDB's Corporate Affairs Director Tully Mwambapa has said in Dar es Salaam that the international marathon was initiated with an objective of fundraising to support needs of the community.

"The success that we registered in last year's marathon has enabled this event to be recognised and registered internationally. This international recognition will provide more business opportunities to Tanzania as the marathon will now feature more foreign participants," Mwambapa said.

She further noted that part of the proceeds will go towards covering surgical treatment of under-privileged children at JKCI while the other amount will go towards the construction of a call centre at ORCI.

She urged the public to register for the marathon which will be held in August this year so that the proceeds can go towards charity to assist needs of the community. "As we all know, cancer is one of the major challenges facing the community and in order to combat it we need to back state efforts to address the same," she added.

In order to take in the competition, individuals can register online by paying a 30,000/- while groups will pay 25,000/- but also through CRDB Bank branches coun-



CRDB Bank Plc's corporate affairs director, Tully Mwambapa speaks in Dar es Salaam. Photo courtesy of CRDB.

trywide. "Payment can also be done through CRDB Wakalas, SimBanking application from any mobile money accounts," Mwambapa stated while saying foreign participants can also pay by bank cards. The full marathon will cover 42.2kms, 21.1kms half marathon, 10kms and five kilometres while cyclists will cover 65kms.

Listed at Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange, the lender is the largest in the market by net assets value and was rated as one of the 10 most reliable banks to invest in by Moody's Investor Services last year. The rating agency gave the bank a B1 stable rate.

The bank has over three million customers in the country and through its subsidiary in Burundi with a record 246 branches, 550 ATMs, 1,800 point of sale outlets and 19,000 agents countrywide. The bank's major shareholders include Danish International Development Agency and Treasury while the public has a minority stake.

# E-hailing firm DiDi seeks drivers, readies low-cost service in Africa

CAPE TOWN

CHINESE-BASED ride-hailing service DiDi Chuxing is on a partner driver recruitment drive and is preparing to introduce its low-cost service locally, when it expands to Cape Town later this month.

The Uber and Bolt competitor, backed by Softbank, started piloting its service in Gqeberha, Eastern Cape, last month, and will officially launch its low-cost DiDi Go service when it opens new operations in Cape Town on 17 May.

Founded in 2012, DiDi Chuxing is a Chinese vehicle-for-hire company headquartered in Beijing, with over 600 million users and tens of millions of drivers. The South African expansion marks the e-hailing company's first presence in Africa and the 17th active country globally. The defini-

tive gathering of SA's cyber security professionals, ITWeb's Security Summit virtual event will feature over 50 speakers, including six international keynotes.

After analysing the needs and preferences of riders in Cape Town, the e-hailing company says it decided to launch three services on the platform: DiDi Go, the low-cost alternative for price-sensitive riders; DiDi Express, the standard service for those seeking a balance between price and comfort; and DiDi XL, for those who need more space, with a capacity of up to seven seats.

DiDi Express is charged at a base fare of R15 and a distance rate of R10 per kilometre. The service will compete with Uber's normal price, which starts from R7.50/km, and Bolt's normal price, which starts from R6.00/km.

While DiDi says its low-cost service pricing will only be revealed on the day before the launch date (16 May), the e-hailing service assures customers that the service will "bring the best value for money to the city of Cape Town." In addition, it will host 'DiDi Days' on certain days of the week, when users can enjoy bigger discounts on trips.

"We are proud to confirm our launch in Cape Town on 17 May. The pandemic has posed a huge challenge on users who need to get around, on entrepreneurs, and even on government. We firmly believe our service will make a difference; that's why it is the ideal time to launch in Cape Town," says Ken Liu, DiDi launch lead in South Africa.

"We've also learnt valuable lessons from our very successful pilot launch in Gqeberha, which we used



Ken Liu, DiDi launch lead in South Africa.

to improve our proposal for Cape Town users and drivers. As such, we decided it was essential to launch more options on our platform, which will allow us to be more accessible and better reach more users and entrepreneurs."

## Driver considerations

The e-hailing service is currently on a

driver-recruitment drive in Cape Town and is offering drivers who sign up to the app zero commission payable during their first four weeks of using the platform, after which the service will take a 13% cut from drivers.

Drivers will receive a R250 sign-up bonus after they've completed 10 trips during the first week after the launch. They will also get a R300 bonus for every new driver they refer, which can add up to a total of R15 000 in referral bonuses, notes the company. In terms of safety measures, DiDi says it's of the view that mobility and entrepreneurship must be safe and reliable.

"Our wide range of safety features beneficial to users and driving partners include facial detection for riders and drivers, SOS buttons for riders and drivers linked to police, 24/7 safety response support with dispatchable safety patrols, preview information for riders and drivers, and safety training for drivers, among others," says DiDi.

Uber and Bolt's low-cost services led to several run-ins between the companies and their drivers, who say they hinder their earning potential, by offering riders discounts of up to 30%.

Last week, Uber drivers requested the e-hailing company to put its new UberGo low-cost service on hold, saying it's a form of exploitation. In July, thousands of Bolt drivers protested over the e-hailing company's similar low-cost service shortly after it was introduced.

# The leading jewelry maker will no longer use mined diamonds

COPENHAGEN

PANDORA A/S, which makes more pieces of jewelry than any other company in the world, will stop using mined diamonds as part of a broader strategy to drop raw materials associated with unethical production methods.

Despite decades of reform, the global jewelry market remains tainted by reports of human rights abuses at mines and factories. To address such concerns, Tiffany & Co. last year started providing customers with details of newly sourced, individually registered diamonds that trace a stone's path all the way back to the mine.

Pandora, which is based in Copenhagen, said on Tuesday it will now only use diamonds manufactured in laboratories. The company is set to release its first collection using lab-made stones in the UK, and will turn to other markets in 2022.

The decision to shun mined diamonds comes less than a year after Pandora pledged to stop relying on newly mined gold and silver in its jewelry. By 2025, its entire production will use only recy-

clered precious metals as part of a plan to ensure its operations are carbon neutral within four years.

Sustainable stones  
Pandora's lab-made diamonds are grown from carbon with more than 60% renewable energy on average, a ratio that's set to rise to 100% next year. The company is taking a stand on its raw materials as investors increasingly focus on sustainability. Nordea's asset management unit recently said it plans only to hold securities that live up to environmental, social and governance standards across all its portfolios.

To be sure, Pandora uses relatively few diamonds in its production. The company, which has branded itself a maker of affordable trinkets, used mined diamonds in about 50 000 pieces last year out of a total of roughly 85 million pieces of jewelry. Pandora also highlighted price as a consideration behind its decision. Lab-made stones cost about a third of mined ones and the switch will make diamond jewelry accessible to more consumers, it said.

Global diamond sales fell 15% in 2020



Pandora A/S diamond jewelry.

due to lockdowns, travel restrictions and economic uncertainty, according to a research report by the Antwerp World Diamond Centre and Bain & Co. Production of rough diamonds fell 20% in 2020 and prices declined by 11%.

The market for lab-created stones currently enjoys double-digit growth,

with younger customers in particular keen to identify sustainable producers, according to the Bain report. The lab-made diamonds will have the same physical characteristics as mined stones, Pandora said. The new collection will include rings, bangles, necklaces and earrings, it said.

# IFC partners with LAPO to expand microfinance lending in Sub-S. Africa

LAGOS

THE International Finance Corporation (IFC) has entered into partnership with the Lift Above Poverty Organization (LAPO) to help expand banking services to low-income populations in sub-Saharan Africa.

As part of the partnership, IFC will conduct market analysis of several African countries, including fragile states, and provide advisory support to LAPO to help it expand its microfinance business beyond Nigeria and Sierra Leone, where it currently operates with more than 495 branches, serving over 800,000 customers.

LAPO's planned microfinance expansion will help boost financial inclusion and increase lending to individuals and micro and small businesses in the region, stimulating economic activity. The expansion will specifically target women borrowers, low-income earners, and those in rural areas.

"Through IFC's advisory support, we will expand our capacity to build greater financial inclusion among a rural, low-income client base in sub-Saharan Africa. IFC's advisory will also help us deepen our efforts to reach more women-owned micro enterprises, which currently represent about 70 percent of clients in our existing microfinance operations," Dr. Godwin Ehigiamusoe, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, LAPO said.

"IFC's support to LAPO is part of our commitment to strengthen economic development in sub-Saharan Africa, support micro enterprises, and reduce poverty," said Kevin Njiraini, IFC's Regional Director, Southern Africa and Nigeria. "This project marks a significant milestone in the development of microfinance in Africa, particularly as countries continue to suffer the severe effects of the COVID-19 pandemic."

## Uluguru Spice Project transforms lives of smallholder spice farmers



A spice expert trains smallholder spice farmers benefited from the Uluguru Spice Project. Photo courtesy of SAT.

By Smart Money Reporter

**S**PICE farmers in Uluguru Mountains are earning windfall profits thanks to a project which has introduced them to modern agriculture practices and use of hybrid seeds.

A recent report by Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania said over 1,500 farmers from the Uluguru Mountains catchment area and 172 model farmers from other regions backed by 31 agriculture extension officers are benefited directly from the Uluguru Spice Project.

The USP was initiated for farmers living in the Ruvu River catchment area along Uluguru Mountains and facilitates knowledge of sustainable cultivation methods as well as marketing strategies with the main focus on spice production and trade.

The project's goal is to improve productivity of small-scale spice farmers who are organised in a cooperative societies and practice organic agriculture while protecting sensitive catchment. One of the farmers who have benefited from the project is Ramadhan Sanda, a smallholder spice producer.

In 2016 Mzee Sanda and his fellow farmers joined the USP through SAT with the expectation to make a proper living out of farming with the hope to increase productivity and

quality of his crops. He said that before joining the USP, his harvest was five kilograms of cardamom, 35kgs of cinnamon and 70kgs of black pepper per acre. "But after improving cultivation practices, I now get 10kgs of cardamom, 70kgs of cinnamon and 200kgs of black pepper on the same piece of land," he revealed.

Mzee Sanda said since adopting spice production as a business, he has increased his productivity and earned more money which has prompted him to increase his farm size by buying more land. Last year he added to his 2.5 acre another farm of 1.3 acres where he is practicing intercropping with agroforestry integrated with cardamom, cinnamon, pepper and even vanilla.

As soon as he starts harvesting crops, it will be another boost of his income, he said. "Farming as a business pays off," he said while explaining that in addition to buying new land, he has also constructed a new house for his family which is equipped with solar panels (100W) for electricity supply.

Knowledge is key to success in

agriculture, he noted while saying that through the USP, he has learned, among other things, agro-ecological technologies which demanded that in order to increase productivity, one has to improve soil fertility through application of compost manure. He also used hybrid planting materials, practices proper spacing of seedlings and manages diseases and pests with botanical plant extracts.

"Organic way of farming is the future! Many of my friends have also adopted agro-ecological farming as it has helped us produce quality commodities in huge quantities while protecting the environment," Mzee Sanda noted saying his success has inspired five farmers in his village to join organic farming.

In December last year, the veteran spices farmer became a founder member of a cooperative society called CHAUWAVIMU where he acts as marketing committee member on zonal level. He expects that through such steps the farmers will find better prices through joint marketing efforts. Currently Sanda and his fellow farmers are preparing for external inspection which will take place in June.



NMB's Northern Zone manager, Aikansia Muro.

## Handeni DC, DED foresee better primary school results with NMB Bank Plc's furniture donation

By Smart Money Reporter

A DONATION of 250 desks and 170 corrugated iron sheets worth 30m/- to public schools in Handeni District and other districts of Tanga Region will help boost morale by pupils sitting for primary school leaving certificate later this year.

Handeni acting District Executive Director, Edna Katalaiya and District Commissioner, Toba Nguvula said last week after receiving the donation of desks and iron sheets from NMB Bank Plc that many public schools are struggling with an extraordinary increase of pupils who are enrolling for primary school.

"We than NMB because the government is overwhelmed by the surge in numbers of pupils hence struggling with essentials such as desks and classrooms," Katalaiya said while noting that a better learning environment encourages pupils to work hard.

In remarks at the same event, DC Nguvula also thanked the bank's leadership for the timely support saying public schools are struggling to accommodate an influx of pupils seeking enrolment following the government's decision to offer universal education to secondary level.

"Your investment in community development shows

that you appreciate the role that the public plays in the success of your business activities," he said while noting that the bank has also supporting farmers and businesses prosper through loan disbursements. "The loans have contributed towards improvement and growth of individuals and communities which also leads to the country's economic growth," the Handeni DC explained.

NMB's Northern Zone Manager, Aikansia Muro said the bank understands well challenges being faced by the state in improving education quality hence decided to support through contribution of desks and iron sheets.

Muro said the bank's community investments are focused in education and health sectors because of their importance in the development of the nation. She said providing relief assistance to communities struck by disasters is also another area which earmarked for support by NMB.

"Education is the foundation of a better future for our children hence NMB deliberately decided to focus in this sector which has a number of challenges," she underlined while stressing that for the past eight years, the country's most profitable bank has allocated one percent of its net profit to support community projects.

## Rwandan private sector optimistic over new EAC Secretary General

KIGALI

Rwanda's private sector players are optimistic of increased intra-regional trade in the East African Community (EAC), following the change of leadership at the bloc's Secretariat, which took office last month.

Speaking during a roundtable dinner for CEOs, organized by the East African Business Council (EABC) on May 7 in Kigali, Rwandan businessman Dennis Karera outlined several issues that upset the smooth flow of trade in the region, and called for action towards addressing them. Karera is also the EABC Vice Chairman.

Among the issues, he mentioned the persistent non-tariff barriers, an uncoordinated approach in handling Covid-19 and unharmonized tax regimes as issues stifling intra-EAC trade which currently stands at about 15%.

Describing Peter Mathuki, the new secretary General of the EAC as "an ardent supporter of the private sector," Karera said he is confident that he will fast-track implementation of the many issues disrupting intra-EAC trade. Before being appointed EAC Secretary-General earlier this year, Mathuki was the executive director of the EABC.

The private sector players are also urging the EAC Secretariat to champion the conclusion of the review of the EAC Common External Tariff (CET), aimed at facilitating industrialization and regional value chains in the East

Africa Community.

Karera called upon the secretariat to engage partner states to commence the actual process of harmonization of domestic taxes. "We urge for the prompt harmonization of excise duties and Value Added Tax (VAT) followed by Income Tax and ultimately, tax incentives," he said.

To resolve persistent non-tariff barriers, the players also called for the finalization of the amendment of EAC Elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers Act, 2017, as well as the activation of the Dispute Resolution Mechanism by operationalizing the EAC Trade Remedies Committee.

It is about 11 years since the EAC Common Market was established, however, restrictions on the movement of services and service providers continue to disrupt the EAC regional integration agenda, and reduce cross-border trade.

Other issues that the private sector is advocating for include: ratification of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Protocol, review of EAC Rules of Origin, 2015, and quick admission of the Democratic Republic of Congo to expand the market for products made in the EAC region.

Besides this, fast-tracking of the creation of the One Regional Air Space for East Africa (Skies) and air cargo liberalization within and out of the EAC region to bring down the cost of air transport in the region is also looked at as a priority for the private



East African Business Council's vice chairman, Rwandan Dennis Karera.

## Bolt to launch car for hire service in drive due to increase revenues

NAIROBI

DIGITAL transport service provider, Bolt has announced plans to launch a car-hiring service in the country for short periods as it diversifies its revenue streams. The service dubbed Bolt Drive will be available on the app allowing customers to scan and book vehicles nearest to them from a fleet company or a private owner.

Bolt is yet to announce the date of its launch and the cost but said the charges will be depended on the selected car model, trip duration, distance driven and fuel prices. The move comes after the firm early this year introduced its food delivery service in Nairobi and plans to expand its network beyond the 16 urban centres it operates to boost revenue growth.

Bolt first launched the car hiring service in Tallinn, Estonia, and said it will invest €20 million (Sh2.58 billion) in launching Bolt Drive in Europe this year. In Estonia, the car rental prices start from € 0.07 (Sh9.03) per minute and € 0.15 per kilometre (Sh19.35), with maximum prices for daily and weekly rental.

For example, for Toyota Yaris, a 15-minute rental for a 5-km trip will cost €1.80 (Sh232.22). The same car for the entire day will be €14.90 (Sh1,922) plus a fee for each kilometre driven. Users will also not have to pay for parking or fuel, meaning it will be included in the trip charges.

## Malawi taps into \$72.4m fund to drive major digital overhaul

LILONGWE

MALAWI'S Public Private Partnership Commission (PPPC) said it has drafted three strategies as part of the Digital Malawi Project developed to help digitise both the public and private sectors.

The Commission said the National Broadband Strategy, Digital Governance Strategy and Cybersecurity Strategy are focused on addressing challenges within the country's telecommunications industry, with affordable internet access representing a major pain point. In addition to making internet accessible and affordable in the country, the intention is to connect all government systems.

It said the Digital Governance Strategy aims at making Malawi a more attractive and competitive place for digital investment and innovation while working to expand ICT across the country.

The strategy will cover ICT regulation, policy development and implementation, as well as digital skills development.

The country's government also plans to establish a special purpose vehicle (SPV) to construct a backbone network between the country's capital, Lilongwe and the city of Nacara in Mozambique. PPPC CEO Patrick Kabambe said the Commission was engaging the Ministry of Information and the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) to officially launch the strategies.

"The Digital Malawi project will require investment. Therefore, we are looking at various components and stakeholders and so we are putting investors in different areas and by the end of the project, there will be a massive transformation of digital technologies," said Kabambe.

# ICT minister says private sector crucial in the country's digital transformation drive

By Smart Money Reporter

IN the quest for national sustainable development, the public and private sectors are driven by a common vision as detailed in the country's five-year development plan. Being a key catalyst of this vision, the role of Information Communication and Technology (ICT) is to prepare the country for the digital economy that exists worldwide.

As a by-product, electronic commerce (e-commerce) will necessitate the digitization of the government thus allowing more transparency and efficiency. Speaking with members of the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOrt) recently, Minister of Communication and Information Technology Dr Faustine Ndugulile expressed government's commitment to move in the direction of the global digital transformation and called upon the private sector to play a significant role.

"Ten years ago, most billionaires were in the manufacturing industry but now with ICT transformation across the world, we are seeing more billionaires in this industry," Dr Ndugulile said adding that his ministry's current focus is digital transformation as stipulated in Tanzania Development Vision (TDV) 2025 plan and the ruling party's manifesto for 2020 elections.

As part of its ICT priorities, the government intends to increase broadband reach from 40 to 80 percent, improve digital literacy nationwide, enable affordability of digital services and review the industry's legal and regulatory framework.

The ICT Minister further pointed out that his ministry is engaging with the CEOrt on how joint collaboration between the public and private sectors can harness Tanzania's transformative development. The CEOrt regularly facilitates dialogue between the sectors through its monthly members' meetings and utilises such engagements to share insights from the business leaders' perspective in relation to the government's overarching vision.

A policy dialogue forum bringing together CEOs of leading companies in the country, the CEOrt's core functions include advocacy and advisory, mostly carried out through member expertise that can influence policy.

Explaining further on his Ministry's priorities, Dr Ndugulile explained that the government's role is that of an enabler and called on the CEOs to be drivers of digital transformation by liaising with investors to bring about affordable digital devices through public-private partnership.

He said the ICT Ministry will also be reviewing policies to attract investment in the sector and hinted at upcoming major institutional and functional reforms that will see the regulatory authority nurture growth of ICT in the country by becoming more of an enabler rather than



Communication and Information Technology minister, Dr Faustine Ndugulile (L) with CEOrt chairman Sanjay Rughani when addressing the media soon after attending a meeting in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo courtesy of CEOrt.

policing the industry.

In his plan to create a think-tank to chart the industry moves forward with the national digital transformation agenda, the ICT Minister encouraged the private sector to act as advisors and share guidance in working with the public sector through training and manufacturing of relevant goods including devices, tower components and fibre optic cables.

Seconding his boss, Director of Information and Communication Technology, Mulembwa Munaku, said the government has mapped out the skills gap and wants to embark on capacity building to develop skills in collaboration with the private sector by forging a linkage between hiring institutions, the private sector and relevant government institutions.

While welcoming such planned activities, CEOrt members were also cautiously optimistic, citing various challenges to overcome on the road to the country's digital transformation. Vodacom Tanzania Plc's CEO, Hisham Hendi said there is need to extend internet connectivity to the entire country but pointed out that smartphone dependency and higher taxation imposed on the devices, hinders their affordability. Dr Ndugulile suggested however that smartphone subsidies may be a possible solution for telecoms to consider, reiterating the government's commitment to support such initiative.

PwC Country Senior Partner, David Tarimo also commented on the high costs of digital services in relation to the ability of ICT to broaden the tax base and eradicate digital poverty. Tarimo's observation was backed by Martin Warioba, Managing Partner at WS Technology Consulting, who brought up challenges facing innovators in the country which includes recognition.

Responding to CCBRT's CEO, Brenda Msangon possibilities

of government support to healthcare facilities in terms of data storage, Dr Ndugulile affirmed that the state will promote the services available to all relevant parties through its data centers. Addressing an observation by Serengeti Breweries Limited's Managing Director, Mark Ocitti on the importance of data privacy, the ICT Minister stated that the government is working on policies to oversee data privacy and protection which will be formalized after consultation with the private sector.

The CEOrt remains dedicated to working with the government, its development partners and other stakeholders to perpetuate a conducive business environment for ICT development in the country. "Through its members, the CEOrt can greatly contribute towards the nation's ICT competitiveness by bringing the private sector into the equation," said CEOrt's Chairman, Sanjay Rughani.

Rughani emphasised that the government is tapping into connected reflections that are directly linked to the public, adding that, "Together, we can go beyond making a difference and truly accelerate the pace with which we bring about positive changes."

## Sars hones relationship with the rich and the super-rich

PRETORIA

THE South African Revenue Service (Sars) has made considerable progress in identifying South Africa's high wealth individuals (HWIs).

Many of them have already been welcomed into the new HWI club by way of a personal letter signed by Sars Commissioner Edward Kieswetter. The rejuvenated high wealth individual taxpayer unit is more in line with international best practice, says Elle-Sarah Rossato, tax controversy and dispute resolution leader at PwC.

The SA unit has been in existence for many years, and although not completely dismantled during former commissioner Tom Moyane's leadership, has certainly been 'disarmed' to a large extent. It is now being revived, bolstered and expanded, similarly to the Large Business Centre (LBC), which had also been 'disarmed' during the Moyane era.

### Sleuthing

Sars has used information obtained through the automatic exchange of financial information from other tax jurisdictions (offshore assets estimated at R400 billion), the deeds office (the property people own) and eNatis (the vehicles people own). It also has access to aircraft registers and information from banks and other financial institutions.

Rossato, chair of the South African Institute of Tax Professionals' tax administration committee, notes that the "old" unit didn't always operate in line with similar units in other revenue authorities, or with suggestions by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The OECD started looking at "enhanced relationships" with wealthy and super wealthy individuals around 2008. It refers to a report that estimated the wealth held by high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs) to be \$40.7 trillion in 2008. This was obviously before the financial crisis and the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Segmentation of taxpayers

The OECD suggested the segmentation of HNWIs, similar to what a UK bank has done with its clients to determine the appropriate service offerings. The bank - using 2014 figures - classified someone with investible assets of between £0.5 million and £5 million (R9.8 million to R98.2 million at the current exchange rate) as being affluent and someone with investible assets in excess of £20 million (R393 million) as being ultra-rich. This segmentation has already been replicated by the Sars LBC.

The HWI unit replicates this model, however it is unclear how the segmentation is done or how a high net individual is defined since this information has not been shared publicly. Rossato doubts that it will be shared.

Sars's UK unit has specialist teams which include a finance team, a rising stars team (people who have rapidly increasing wealth), a business investment tax relief team, an analysis and intelligence unit, and a dispute resolution team. Many of the international units have between 400 and 600 people operating almost like a mini-Sars, says Rossato.

The Australian Taxation Office has already calculated the net high-wealth income tax gap. The gap ranged between 6.5% and 8.2% during 2012 to 2018. Although the South African unit aims to offer a dedicated service to individuals with complex structures and transactions, it also wants to close the perceived tax gap.

### Complicated structures and transactions

Hugo van Zyl, cross-border tax specialist, says the concentration of skills in the dedicated unit will be beneficial for taxpayers whose affairs are so complex that it is impossible to deal with everything through the eFiling system or call centres. "We need someone on Sars's side who is knowledgeable and who understands the complexities..."

The revived unit has teams who are qualified and have already been alive to some legal inconsistencies. "When one of these senior Sars officials approaches National Treasury for clarity on law they have the necessary clout for treasury to listen."

Some people will obviously not be happy about the unit, because they do not like the attention, says Van Zyl. Many of the taxpayers who have been "targeted" by the new unit have international assets, not for tax purposes, but for estate planning and to balance their portfolios, he remarks.

However, this may be an opportune time for taxpayers whose affairs have not been properly declared to make use of mechanisms such as the voluntary disclosure programme or other mechanisms to ensure their compliance is correct and can be properly verified, adds Rossato.

### Privacy vs secrecy

The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners, an international professional body for advisors who specialise in inheritance and succession planning, says many leading families are jealously guarding their privacy (as opposed to secrecy).

VIEW FROM THE TOP

# Treasury reveals millions for Uhuru's pension ahead of retirement

NAIROBI

THE Treasury has allocated an extra Sh80 million to cater for the monthly pension of retired presidents from July next year, signalling a retirement package for President Uhuru Kenyatta.

Budget estimates tabled in Parliament show that the Treasury has created a new budget vote labelled gratuity for retired presidents from July 2022, which is coinciding with the end of Mr Kenyatta's second and last term in August. The new vote has been allocated Sh72 million for the year starting July next year and will increase to Sh79.2 million in the 2024 financial year.

The Treasury has also increased an allocation for the retired presidents' pension from the current Sh34.4 million, which caters for former President Mwai Kibaki's retirement benefits, to Sh42.42 million starting July next year.

This translates to an additional monthly pension of Sh666,700 that matches the amount that will be due to Mr Kenyatta in line with the Presidential Retirement Benefits Act, 2003. A retired president's once-a-month pension is set at 80 percent of

his pensionable salary, which is equivalent to 60 percent of Sh1.44 million monthly pay offered to the sitting president.

He also has other perks like fuel, house and entertainment allowances, which pushes the overall benefits above the salaries and allowances of top chief executives of State-owned firms like KenGen, Kenya Re and Kenya Power.

The allocation comes amid a raging debate in Kenya's political circle on whether President Kenyatta's term could be extended beyond August 2022. Mr Kenyatta has maintained that he will not extend his term.

The new budget line shows nil allocation for three financial years to the end of June 2022 and it doesn't state directly that the payout is due to Mr Kenyatta. Retired President Mwai Kibaki is set to become the best paid serving and retired public servant, the Treasury documents show.

The Budget estimates that are before Parliament for approval indicate that Mr Kibaki's pension and perks will stand at Sh34.43 million in the financial year ending June. This translates to a monthly average payment of Sh2.86 million.

The current financial year marks the first



President Uhuru Kenyatta.

time Mr Kibaki's own pension is appearing in the Budget estimates given that it has since 2013 been lumped with that of former

President Daniel arap Moi, who died on February 4, 2020. The payment of Mr Moi's pension was discontinued when he died. At Sh2.86 million, Mr Kibaki's average monthly payout is more than double President Kenyatta's official salary of Sh1.44 million.

Retirement benefits of the retired presidents have come under sharp focus, especially in the past couple of years when allocations increased by large margins, even as the government insisted that it had put in place austerity measures to deal with a growing public sector wage bill. In 2015, the High Court stopped the government from paying allowances worth millions of shillings to Mr Moi and Mr Kibaki after finding that they were an unnecessary burden to the taxpayers.

The Attorney-General has since appealed the decision, allowing the two to continue enjoying the high pay. Sections of the law that the court nullified entitled the two to a Sh300,000 house allowance per month, fuel (Sh200,000), entertainment (Sh200,000) and utilities (Sh300,000).

The law also entitles them to two personal assistants, four secretaries, four messengers as well as four drivers and bodyguards,

pushing the office and home workers to 34 under the scheme funded by taxpayers.

Retired presidents are also entitled to four cars, including two limousines, which are replaced every four years. They have full medical cover and fully furnished office. The lavish package has also come under heavy criticism on grounds that some of the retired State officials left office as rich men with property worth billions of shillings and vast business interests.

The Kenyatta family owned a significant stake in Commercial Bank of Africa (CBA) that recently merged with the listed NIC Bank to form NCBA Group - which is listed on the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE).

The Kenyattas control about 13.2 percent of the new entity, valuing their stake at Sh6.5 billion based on the bank's market valuation of Sh40.2 billion at close of trading yesterday. Their other investments are Brookside Dairy and the upmarket hotel chain, Heritage Hotels East Africa. The family is also linked to Media Max Company, which owns K24 TV, Kameme Radio and The People Daily newspaper. It also owns thousands of acres of prime land across Kenya.

## WORLD

## Violence erupts at al-Aqsa mosque as Israel marks Jerusalem Day

ISRAELI police have clashed with Palestinian protesters at a flashpoint at Jerusalem's holy site, the latest in a series of confrontations that are pushing the contested city to the brink of eruption.

Palestinian medics said at least 180 Palestinians were hurt in the violence at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, including 80 who were hospitalised.

Amateur video footage posted on social media showed police firing tear gas and stun grenades, some of them landing inside the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The Palestinian Red Crescent said at least 80 people injured in the skirmishes at the mosque compound required hospitalisation. One was in serious condition.

Police said protesters hurled stones at officers and onto an adjoining roadway near the Western Wall, where thousands of Israeli Jews had gathered to pray.

The latest clashes in the sacred compound came after days of mounting tensions between Palestinians and Israeli authorities in the Old City of Jerusalem, the emotional ground zero of the conflict.

Violence has occurred almost nightly throughout the Islamic month of Ramadan, beginning when Israel blocked off a popular spot where Muslims traditionally gather each night at the end of their day-long fast.

Israel later removed the restrictions, but clashes quickly resumed amid tensions over the eviction plan in Sheikh Jarrah, an Arab neighbourhood where settlers have waged a

lengthy legal battle to take over properties.

The UN Security Council scheduled closed consultations yesterday on the soaring tensions in Jerusalem. Diplomats said the meeting was requested by Tunisia, the Arab representative on the council.

Earlier, police barred Jews from visiting the Al-Aqsa compound, which Israelis mark as Jerusalem Day with a flag-waving parade through the Old City and its Muslim Quarter. The marchers celebrate Israel's capture and annexation of east Jerusalem in the 1967 Mid-East war.

The police decision to ban Jewish visitors temporarily from the holy site came hours before the start of the Jerusalem Day march, which is widely perceived by Palestinians as a provocative display of Jewish hegemony over the contested city.

Police have allowed the parade to take place despite growing concerns that it could further inflame the tension.

Addressing a special Cabinet meeting ahead of Jerusalem Day, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday (local time) that Israel would "not allow any extremists to destabilise the calm in Jerusalem. We will enforce law and order decisively and responsibly."

"We will continue to maintain freedom of worship for all faiths, but we will not allow violent disturbances," he said.

At the same time, he said: "We emphatically reject the pressures not to build in Jerusalem."



Israeli security forces deploy next to the Dome of the Rock mosque amid clashes with Palestinian protesters at the Al Aqsa mosque compound in Jerusalem on Friday.

## Deferment of court hearing over evictions

Earlier, Israel's Attorney-General secured a deferment of a court hearing on planned evictions of Palestinians in Jerusalem, a session that had threatened to stoke more violence in the holy city and heighten international concern.

The Israeli Supreme Court had been due to hear appeals against the planned evictions of several Palestinian families from the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, an area captured by Israel in a 1967 war.

A lower court had found in favour of Jewish settlers' claim to the land on which the Palestinians' homes are located, a decision seen by Palestinians as a bid by Israel to drive them from contested Jerusalem.

But in a last-minute legal move, the appellants asked the court to seek a legal opinion from Attorney-General Avichai Mandelblit, opening the way for Monday's session to be postponed and the possibility he could argue against the evictions.

A spokesman for Mr Mandelblit said the court agreed to receive a future submission from the Attorney-General and that a new session would be scheduled within 30 days.

"I'm very optimistic because of the court's decision," said Nabil al-Kurd, 77, one of the Palestinians facing eviction.

"We are sitting here in our country, in our land. We will not give up."

Confrontations broke out between Palestinians and Israeli police in parts of East Jerusalem on Sunday, including in Sheikh Jarrah and outside the walled Old City, as well as in Haifa, a mixed Arab-Jewish city in northern Israel.

Protesters threw stones and lit fires as police officers on horseback and in riot gear used stun grenades to repel them.

Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired at least four rockets into Israel, the Israeli military said, with one of them being intercepted and others falling short or in open areas. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

The Israeli government has played down any state involvement in the Sheikh Jarrah controversy, which the Foreign Ministry cast as a "real estate dispute between private parties".

The flare-up in hostilities comes at a crucial point in Israel's political crisis after longtime leader Mr Netanyahu failed to form a governing coalition.

Agencies

## NEW DELHI

## Modi takes hit amid COVID-19 surge

INDIA'S Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his ruling party has suffered defeats in state polls recently as the country struggles to contain a surge in coronavirus cases.

Kerala, in the country's south, is one of the states that Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party, or BJP, was unable to win.

Relatively effective responses to the pandemic in Kerala have stood out and helped Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan secure a record-breaking second term in polls, experts said.

"This time the people of Kerala have given us a huge mandate after completing a five-year term," said Vijayan in a telephone interview, who is a member of the politburo of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), or CPI(Marxist).

"Despite being under tremendous attack from the na-

tional ruling party, the BJP, and India's former ruling party, the Indian National Congress, the left has managed to ensure its victory."

The Left Democratic Front, or LDF, led by the CPI (Marxist) won 99 seats in the 140-member Kerala assembly when results of elections were announced a week ago. The win was also historic for Kerala, with a ruling party coalition retaining power for the first time.

"The LDF government handled the COVID situation far better than other states," said Paul Zacharia, a Kerala writer. "The awareness level even in rural areas is much more impressive. Healthcare facilities throughout the state with necessary infrastructure helped to contain the virus."

The ruling LDF kept power largely due to the moves it



took in the past 18 months to tackle COVID-19, according to a survey by a news channel in Kerala and political experts.

More than 64 percent of voters had a positive response to the LDF government's COVID-19 control measures, the survey found. "We have won the trust of the people by being continuously with them and unleashing a plethora of welfare and development measures," Vijayan said. "People have realized that the Left Front led by the CPI (Marxist)

can be trusted."

"Vijayan managed the pandemic relatively well," said Sanjay Rao Ayde, head of the political science department of St Stephen's College, New Delhi. The LDF's performance over five years had been almost unblemished, he said.

The success of Kerala in dealing with the pandemic was evident last year when Delhi recorded 93 deaths on June 16 and its neighboring state Tamil Nadu crossed the 2,000 cases daily mark on

June 17, as Kerala reported just 75 cases.

Massive investment in infrastructure is also being credited with helping the LDF win, said M A Baby, a former Kerala education minister.

Despite the state's successes in battling COVID-19, Vijayan said in the state capital, Thiruvananthapuram, last Monday, that "the fight against coronavirus will continue".

As the second wave surges in India, he put the entire state under lockdown from May 8 to 16. The federal government has ruled out a complete lockdown.

India's COVID-19 tally passed 22 million on Sunday, reaching 22,296,414, as 403,738 new cases were registered in the past 24 hours period, the health ministry said, and 242,362 have died of the virus.

Agencies

## Egypt to produce China's Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine in June

## CAIRO

EGYPTIAN Health Minister Hala Zayed said on Sunday that Egypt will start locally producing China's Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine in June.

During a press conference in Cairo, the minister said that the first 2 million doses will be produced in June at the plants

of the Egyptian Holding Company for Biological Products and Vaccines (VACSERA). "We will receive the first shipment of the raw materials needed to manufacture the vaccine on May 18," Zayed told reporters, adding that 40 million doses will be produced in the first year.

Zayed noted that two agree-

ments were signed between Sinovac and the VACSERA in April, with the first one enabling the Egyptian side to obtain the expertise and technical assistance to produce the vaccine, while the second giving the VACSERA the license to manufacture and pack the vaccine in its factories.

The Sinovac vaccine to

be produced in Egypt will be dubbed Sinovac-Vacsera, the minister revealed. Egypt started in late January vaccinating the medical staff of governmental hospitals with a COVID-19 vaccine made by another leading Chinese drugmaker, Sinopharm, the first-approved vaccine by the Egyptian Drug Authority.

In early March, the most populous Arab country began vaccinating the elderly people and patients with chronic diseases against the highly infectious coronavirus. So far, Egypt has reported 236,272 COVID-19 cases, including 13,845 deaths and 176,363 recoveries.

Xinhua

## Russia, Israel united against attempts to rewrite WWII's outcome, says Kremlin

## MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu exchanged congratulations over the 76th anniversary of the USSR's Victory over Nazism in World War II, the Kremlin press service said Friday, adding that the conversation took place at Israel's initiative.

"Considering that Victory Day is also officially celebrated in Israel, the Russian President asked to convey his wishes of good health and well-being to the [World War II] veterans living there.

It is important that Russia and Israel together counter attempts to rewrite the outcome of World War II, and [fight] the glorification of Nazism and Holocaust denial," the press service said.

In January 2020, Putin took part in the World Holocaust Forum in Jerusalem, as well as other events, dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the infamous Auschwitz death camp.

In turn, the Israeli Prime Minister participated in the 2018 Victory Parade on Red Square and in the Immortal Regiment march.

Agencies

## South Africa's Ramaphosa warns against 'vaccine apartheid'

## HAVANA / SAO PAULO / BUENOS AIRES

VACCINES need to be viewed as a global public good and the intellectual property, knowledge, technology and data related to COVID-19 vaccines should be available to all, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa said in his weekly letter.

South Africa and India have recently submitted proposals on the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights that would allow for a temporary waiver of certain aspects of TRIPS. This would mean wider access to the technologies needed to produce vaccines and medicines.

"A situation in which the populations of advanced, rich countries are safely inoculated while millions in poorer countries die in the queue would be tantamount to vaccine apartheid," Ramaphosa said. "It will set a devastating precedent in our quest to realize a more egalitarian world and our ability to handle future pandemics."

## EU

The European Union has not made any new orders for AstraZeneca vaccines beyond June when their contract ends, European Internal Market Commissioner Thierry Breton said on Sunday, after the EU signed a deal with Pfizer-BioNTech.

Breton also said he expected the costs of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines to be higher than the earlier versions.

The Commission last month launched legal action against AstraZeneca for not respecting its contract for the supply of COVID-19 vaccines and for not having a "reliable" plan to ensure timely deliveries.

"We did not renew the order after June. We'll see what happens," Breton told France Inter radio. He did not rule out a potential renewal at a later stage.

Concerns have risen on potential side-effects of the Anglo-Swedish COVID-19 vaccine.

Europe's medicines regulator said on Friday it is reviewing reports of a rare nerve-degenerating disorder in people who received the shots, a move that comes after it found the vaccine may have caused very rare blood clotting cases.

While the regulator has maintained that the benefits of the AstraZeneca vaccine outweigh any risks, several European countries have limited use to older age groups or suspended use altogether.

Agencies

## Suicide bombing by Somalia's al Shabaab group kills six

## MOGADISHU

A SUICIDE bomber killed six police officers in front of a district police station in the Somali capital Mogadishu late on Sunday, police said, in an attack claimed by the al Shabaab Islamist group.

"Six police officers including the commander of the Waberi (district) police were confirmed dead and six others were injured in the blast," Somali police spokesman Major Sadiq Aden Ali Doodishe told a news conference.

Al Shabaab claimed responsibility for the assault but said they had killed five police personnel.

"Our target was to kill police commanders and we killed five police (personnel) including the commander of the Waberi police station," Abdiasis Abu Musab, al Shabaab's military operations spokesman, told Reuters yesterday.

The al Shabaab insurgency has battled since 2008 to overthrow Somalia's internationally-backed central government and establish its own rule based on a harsh interpretation of Islamic law.

It carries out regular gun and bomb attacks in Mogadishu and elsewhere in Somalia.

Xinhua

## McCarthy backs Stefanik to be No 3 House Republican

## WASHINGTON

US House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy confirmed on Sunday that he supports Elise Stefanik to replace House Republican Conference Chair Congresswoman Liz Cheney, the third-ranking Republican in the House and one of the few in her party who refuses to march in lockstep with former President Donald Trump.

"Yes, I do," McCarthy told Fox News. Stefanik, a con-

gresswoman from New York, thanked McCarthy for his support in a tweet later on Sunday.

"We want to be united and looking -- moving forward and I think that's what will take place," McCarthy said.

Steve Scalise, the No 2 role of House Republican leadership, publicly endorsed Stefanik for replacing Cheney on Tuesday.

Trump also endorsed Stefanik, saying in a statement earlier this month that she

"is a far superior choice, and she has my COMPLETE and TOTAL Endorsement for GOP Conference Chair."

Cheney, who faces a vote to oust her from the influential GOP leadership post as early as Wednesday, said last week she would continue to speak out against Trump's "cult of personality" regardless of the political consequences she might face.

"The Republican Party is at a turning point," said Cheney, who was among the 10 House



Elise Stefanik

Republicans having voted to impeach Trump for inciting the Jan. 6 Capitol riot which left five people dead. Cheney's fate is widely thought to underscore Trump's massive and continuing importance in the Republican Party.

The GOP's move to oust Cheney, daughter of former Vice President Dick Cheney, from her No. 3 leadership post was recently precipitated when she greeted US President Joe Biden at the Capitol and tweeted that Biden won

the election fair and square, countering Trump's narrative of a stolen election.

"I don't know if it means (Trump) is an active player, but he's still a massive presence in the party," Christopher Galdieri, assistant professor at Saint Anselm College, told Xinhua.

A CNBC poll in February found that 74 percent of Republicans wanted Trump to stay active in the party, and nearly half wanted him to remain head of the GOP.

# Xi points way out of global climate crisis

BEIJING

THROUGH a slew of powerful policy manifestations led by President Xi Jinping over the past month, China has shown its enhanced commitment to and ambition for better tackling climate change and preserving the environment.

In particular, the fresh Chinese policy wisdom for handling thorny environmental problems is epitomized by Xi's recent calling on the world for building a community of life for man and nature.

All these newly unveiled policy ideas mark China's evolving theory, vision and great sense of duty as a major developing country in the post-pandemic era when it seeks justice and equality in the environmental agenda and speaks out for other developing countries, experts and officials said.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has dampened hopes for economic growth across the globe while climate change, biodiversity loss and desertification are worsening.

The United Nations Environment Programme warned late last month that the "three planetary crises" of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution are reinforcing each other and driving further damage to the environment and to the health of mankind.

Meanwhile, the past 30 days have witnessed a packed schedule of China's engagement in the global agenda regarding environment and climate change.

On April 15 and 16, China's Special Envoy for Climate Change Xie Zhenhua and United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry talked in Shanghai.

Then Xi engaged in a video summit on April 16 with French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel on topics including cooperation in coping with climate change, and he said eliminating greenhouse gases should not be a bargaining chip for geopolitics, a target for attacking other

countries or an excuse for trade barriers. On April 18, Washington and Beijing issued a joint statement on handling climate change.

When delivering a speech via video link at the Leaders Summit on Climate on April 22, Xi proposed the concept of a community of life for man and nature.

Xi called for countries' commitment to six areas: harmony between man and nature, green development, systemic governance, a people-centered approach, multilateralism and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

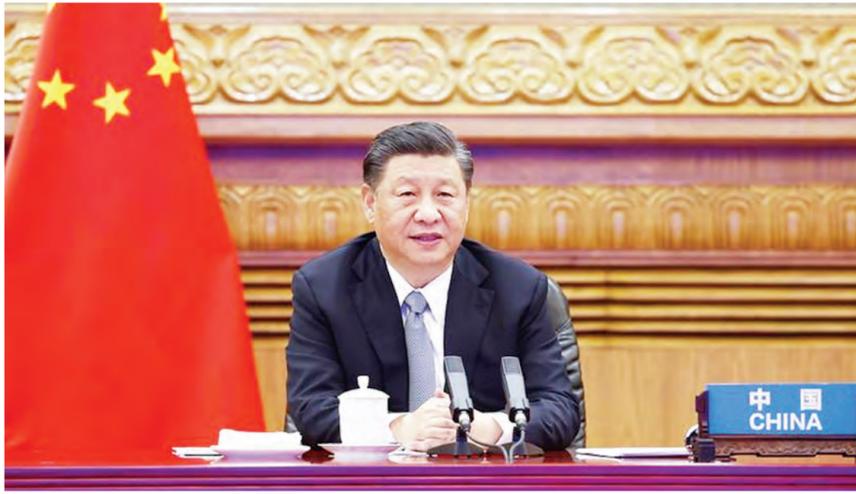
Xu Huaqing, director-general of the National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation, said the six areas Xi named are based on China's successful practices in ecological matters as well as the country's vision in global climate governance, and they constitute a "China solution" for building a global ecological response.

Ronnie Lins, director of the China-Brazil Center for Research and Business, said Xi's speech plays a leading role in the global fight against climate change.

The international community should stick to multilateralism and the principle of common but differentiated responsibility when coping with issues regarding climate change, he told Xinhua News Agency.

On April 30, Xi, who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, presided over a study session of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee on advancing the building of an ecological response, and he said that economic policy planning must align with the need to peak carbon emissions and pursue sustainable growth.

Xi's comments show that "China not only honors its national strategy of actively dealing with climate change and promoting green development and low-carbon transformation, but it is also consistently helping and supporting other developing countries within its capa-



President Xi Jinping

bilities in these matters," said Wang Jinnan, chief engineer of the Chinese Academy for Environmental Planning.

Yoav Yair, dean of the School of Sustainability at Israel's Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya, said what China has already done to defeat climate change is impressive, given that the country is "looking at all the options available in order to curb carbon emissions, and they're making good progress".

China is "making an enormous effort in renewable energies", and environmental legislation in China has "proved very effective and showed significant improvement in air quality in major cities", Yair told Xinhua.

At a recent event in Beijing celebrating China's aid to other countries over 70 years, State Councilor and Foreign Minis-

ter Wang Yi said China is committed to helping countries that are receiving assistance to build a resource-saving and environmentally friendly society as well as building a community of life for man and nature.

China will further carry out in-depth cooperation projects on new energy, environmental protection and handling climate change, share experiences in green development and jointly build a green Silk Road, he said.

"When it comes to climate change, the actions of some countries disregard the future of all mankind as they seek their own short-term interests and act mainly out of political considerations," said Su Xiaohui, deputy director of the Department for American Studies at the China Institute of International Studies.

"It will be very difficult to form a joint force if there are no globally recognized ideas for guidance and the direction of joint efforts is not made

clear," Su added.

In a broader view of its environmental policy timeline, China, led by Xi, is on course to create a series of fresh, inspiring initiatives for making the planet greener.

In September, Xi first announced that China will strive to peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060 when addressing the General Debate of the 75th Session of the UN General Assembly.

At the Climate Ambition Summit in December, Xi announced some further commitments for 2030, such as the goal that China will lower its carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP by over 65 percent from the level in 2005.

In October, China will host the 15th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity in an effort to improve global governance on biodiversity.

Xinhua

## Sputnik V refutes Bild's reports about dead end in talks on vaccine supplies to Germany

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Sputnik V coronavirus vaccine may be supplied to Germany in June, with talks on that matter continuing, the Russian Direct Investment Fund said on Sunday on Sputnik V's Telegram channel.

"Talks with Germany on purchased of the vaccine continue. The Sputnik V vaccine may be supplied to Germany this June, and not to the prejudice to supplies to other countries," it said.

Germany's Bild reported earlier on Sunday that talks on Germany's possible purchase of the Russian vaccine had allegedly come to a dead end. The Russian Direct Investment Fund refuted these reports as untrue.

"Bild's reports are not true and can be seen as an example of a disinformation campaign geared to bar the Russian and other similar vaccines from entering the European and other markets. In the recent time, the Bild newspaper has published more than 15 such articles attacking the Sputnik V vaccine that contain wrong facts based on information from anonymous sources," it said.

Germany repeatedly expressed its principled readiness to use vaccines developed outside the European Union, in particular Russia's Sputnik V.

Both German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Health Minister Jens Spahn said that a vaccine could be used in Germany only after being certified by the European Medicines Agency (EMA).

Spahn said earlier that Germany planned to hold bilateral talks with Russia on possible supplies of Sputnik V in case of its registration in the European Union.

Agencies

## Boyfriend kills 6 people and himself at Colorado birthday party

A man fatally shot six people including his girlfriend before turning the gun on himself early on Sunday at a birthday party in Colorado Springs, Colorado, but did not fire on traumatized children who were present inside a trailer at a mobile home park.

Police arrived to find six people dead plus a seventh who was seriously wounded and died after being taken to a hospital, according to a police statement.

"The suspect, a boyfriend of one of the female victims, drove to the residence, walked inside and began shooting people at the party before taking his own life," read the statement released by the Colorado Springs Police Department.

"Friends, family, and children were gathered inside the trailer to celebrate when the shooting occurred," read the statement.

A motive has yet to be determined. The shooting happened within the Canterbury Manufactured Home Community, a mobile home park of some 470 trailers and largely Latino residents on the south-east side of town, near the Colorado Springs airport, about 110 km south of Denver.

Police blocked off the area, where a mobile crime lab was



A Colorado Springs police officer goes to help a person who was in a different mobile home to be able to get to her car from behind the crime tape in Colorado Springs, Colorado, on Sunday. (AP)

parked near the home. A small group of adults stood nearby, some of them audibly sobbing, along with a small child.

Freddie Marquez, 33, said his mother-in-law was one of the victims and that he was at the party but left around 10:30 pm on Saturday.

Some time after midnight, he received a call from the son of one of the women at the party, who was crying on the phone. "Somebody came in and shot everybody," Marquez said, relating what he had been told on the phone.

The Denver Post quoted neighbor Yenifer Reyes as saying she was awakened by the

sound of gunfire.

"I thought it was a thunderstorm. Then I started hearing sirens," Reyes told the newspaper. She said she saw police take children out of the trailer and put them into a squad car.

"They were crying hysterically," Reyes said.

Spate of mass shootings

The massacre was the latest in a resurgence of mass shootings in the United States after such occurrences seemed to recede during the height of coronavirus pandemic restrictions.

Among the incidents this year was one in Boulder, Colorado, where a 21-year-old man

has been charged with killing 10 people in a March 22 shooting spree at a supermarket about 50 km northwest of Denver. read more That came less than a week after another 21-year-old gunman was accused of killing eight people at three Atlanta-area day spas.

Colorado was also the state where two other deadly rampages took place, both in the Denver area: the 1999 shooting at Columbine High School that killed 15 people including the two perpetrators, and the 2012 shooting in an Aurora movie theater that killed 12 people and wounded about 70.

Agencies

## Iran confirms talks with Saudi Arabia, promises best efforts

DUBAI

IRAN confirmed publicly for the first time yesterday that it is in talks with its regional arch rival Saudi Arabia, saying it would do what it could to resolve issues between them.

"De-escalation of tensions between the two Muslim countries in the Persian Gulf region is in the interest of both nations and the region," foreign ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said in a televised weekly news conference.

Iran was waiting for the outcome of the talks, he said: "We welcome resolving of the issues that have existed between the two countries ... We will use our best efforts in this regard."

Ambassador Rayed Krimly, head of policy planning at Saudi Arabia's foreign ministry, last week told Reuters that talks between Saudi Arabia and Iran were aimed at reducing regional tensions. He said it was too early to judge the outcome and Riyadh wanted to see "verifiable deeds".

Iran and Saudi Arabia have been locked in a rivalry that has played out in proxy conflicts across the region, from Yemen to Syria



Iran-backed Houthis take part in a mass funeral for fighters killed in battles with Saudi-backed government troops, in Yemen's capital Sanaa on April 8, 2021. (AFP)

to Iraq.

The two countries cut diplomatic ties in 2016. Middle East officials and sources said last month that they had held two rounds of talks.

The arrival of President Joe Biden in the United States has altered the diplomatic calculus across the Middle East.

Washington aims to restart a nuclear deal with Iran that Biden's predecessor Donald Trump abandoned, and has called for Saudi Arabia to end a war against Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi

forces.

Some sources told Reuters last month that Tehran had promised to use its influence to halt Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia, in return asking Riyadh to support the nuclear talks.

Nuclear talks in Vienna between Tehran and world powers aim to bring Washington and Iran back into full compliance with the nuclear deal.

In retaliation for sanctions reimposed since 2018 by Trump, Iran has breached nuclear restrictions under the pact.

Agencies

## China-Russia relationship under two presidents' guidance a global model

BEIJING

ON May 9, 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping attended a grand military parade held in Moscow's Red Square to mark the 70th anniversary of the victory of the Great Patriotic War, Russia's term for WWII, during which Chinese and Russian soldiers have fought on the same side. Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted Xi and let him take up the most distinguished position on the right hand side.

The world has entered a period full of turbulent changes since six years ago, while China-Russia relations have become even more mature, stable and resilient under the joint guidance of the two heads of state.

MODEL FOR HARMONIOUS

### COEXISTENCE BETWEEN MAJOR COUNTRIES

In June 2019, China and Russia agreed to upgrade their relations to a comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era, reaching a milestone for the development of bilateral ties.

Russia was the destination of Xi's first foreign trip after he took office as China's president in March 2013. It was during the visit, Xi put forward a major global concept in his speech at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations, calling for joint efforts to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Over the past eight years, the two heads of state have maintained frequent exchanges of visits and have met on various international and multilateral occasions. All those interactions have built up confidence and momentum for the two countries to cope with the changes rarely seen in a century, setting a global model for harmonious coexistence between major countries.

Together the two presidents rode China's high-speed train and cruised on Russia's Neva River. They have, side by side, watched an ice hockey race between Chinese and Russian kids,

and cooked traditional Chinese and Russian pancakes. Those pictures have brought back great memories to both Chinese and Russian people.

Under their guidance, China-Russia practical cooperation in various fields has yielded fruitful results, cultural and people-to-people exchanges have been rich and colorful, and public support for their friendship has been increasingly solid.

China has been Russia's largest trading partner for 11 consecutive years, while Russia is China's 10th largest trading partner. Major programs, including a second line for the China-Russia oil pipeline

and the China-Russia east-route natural gas pipeline, were successfully put into production. The two countries have also signed a memorandum of understanding on jointly building an international scientific research station on the moon.

### ANTI-EPIDEMIC COOPERATION

On Feb. 9, 2020, a huge IL-76 transport plane carrying 23 tons of urgently-needed medical aid arrived in the Chinese city of Wuhan from Moscow.

In the face of the once-in-a-century pandemic, China and Russia have united as

one and worked together closely. Russia was the first country to send a delegation of anti-epidemic experts to China, and China has continued to provide Russia with anti-epidemic materials.

Even at the height of the epidemic, air routes between the two countries were unimpeded and cross-border freight transport was never interrupted. Moreover, governments, medical institutions, research institutes and businesses of the two countries have been regularly exchanging and sharing experience in fighting the virus.

"Today, as we did in World War II, China and Russia are

fighting a common enemy hand-in-hand," Russian Ambassador to China Andrey Denisov said in April last year.

As Zhong Nanshan, a leading Chinese respiratory disease expert, has pointed out, by upholding the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind, China and Russia have cooperated in fields including epidemic prevention and control, patient treatment and drug research and development, which has become a model of global anti-epidemic cooperation.

In the face of the surging "political virus" amid the ravaging pandemic, China and Russia are firmly on the right side of history against the practices of politicizing and stigmatizing the epidemic.

Xinhua

# SPORT



Boomplay Tanzania's General Manager, Natasha Stambuli (R), thanks Mwananyamala Hospital's nursing officers after handing over medical supplies to the hospital in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Boomplay company marked this year's Mother's Day celebrations by donating medical supplies to support the hospital's efforts to facilitate safe and reliable maternal health in the country. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Music company marks Mothers' Day with donation to Mwananyamala Hospital

By Guardian Reporter

BOOMPLAY, the largest music streaming and download service in Africa, marked this year's Mother's Day celebrations by donating medical supplies to Dar es Salaam's Mwananyamala Hospital, to support the hospital's efforts overseeing of safe and reliable maternal health in the country.

The hospital, which is a major referral hospital in the city, caters to an average of 900-1400 expectant mothers monthly.

Speaking during the handover ceremony held at the hospital premises over the weekend, Boomplay Tanzania General Manager, Natasha Stambuli, said the donation is part of an on-going rollout of sustainable initiatives aimed at supporting the local communities.

She pointed out: "We are happy to serve our community especially on Mother's Day. We do understand the contribution and the hardship that mothers go through during motherhood in the community."

"To celebrate them, we are happy to donate and we hope to do more in the community in future," Natasha said.

Her sentiments were echoed by Mwananyamala Hospital's Medical Officer in charge, Zavery Benela, who lauded the company for its support, adding that it came at a crucial time when the world is grappling with a healthcare crisis.

"On behalf of the entire hospital, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Boomplay for the sentimental donation. We are certain that their contribution will go a long way in ensuring our maternal services remain uninterrupted," Benela said. "I encourage other companies to emulate this noble gesture, to complement our efforts in ensuring that mothers and their newborns receive the utmost care and treatment," he stated.

The initiative is the beginning of many other community projects that Boomplay intends on launching in the near future.

"As a company, we remain committed to playing our part in the society, with the aim of creating impact and leaving a mark in the lives of many," Natasha concluded.

## Africa Kabaddi Championship's preparations in top gear

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Kabaddi Association's leadership has stated preparations for the Africa championships, slated to take place in the country from June 29-July 5, are going on very well.

Abdallah Nyoni, the association's Chairman, disclosed all players are attending training on a non-residential basis.

According to him, Kenya, Cameroon, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Ghana and Mauritius have confirmed to compete in the showpiece.

"Everything is going on as planned, the players are attending the training in readiness for the championship which we will host next month in Dar es Salaam," he said.

The Africa championship was initially slated for March 9-14 but it was pushed back to April and later to June 29-July 5.

The decision to postpone the championship was announced by the Africa Kabaddi Association in consultation with competing nations.

Nyoni said the approach was reached after evaluation of the new phases of coronavirus which has hit some of the countries which will compete at the championship.

However, he said this time around, they have not received any communication on the same, a situation he says indicates that the championship will go on as planned.

He also disclosed that the Africa Kabaddi Championship and other activities which his association is undertaking in the country are part of their five-year plan.

He also disclosed that the Kabaddi coaches from India, who were to train the national team, will come into the country depending on the cases of coronavirus in the Asian country.

The Indian coaches will be in the country courtesy of the World Kabaddi Federation.

Nyoni is also first vice-president of Africa Kabaddi Association and the founder of Dar es Salaam-based Buffalo Kabaddi Sports Club.

Dar es Salaam is organizing the Africa championship and he asked the region's residents and other parts of the country to prepare to welcome more than 350 visitors who will come for the championship.

Wikipedia describes Kabaddi as popular sport in India and other surrounding Asian countries.

It is a contact team sport played between two teams of seven players.

The objective of the game is for a single player on offence, referred to as a 'raider', to run into the opposing team's half of a court, tag out as many of their defenders as possible, and return to their own half of the court, all without being tackled by the defenders, and in a single breath.

Points are scored for each player tagged by the raider, while the opposing team earns a point for stopping the raider.

Players are taken out of the game if they are tagged or tackled, but are brought back in for each point scored by their team from a tag or tackle.

The sport appears in the histories of ancient India the game was popularized as a competitive sport in the 20th century.

## SPORTS

## The Olympics: what lies in store for us

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

FOLLOWING the enormously billed and much-touted meeting between Simba SC and Yanga that never was, attention should now be shifted to our medal prospects at this year's Olympic Games, which are looming large on the horizon.

At the moment, our domestic sportsmen are fiercely fighting to qualify for their respective events at the Games, with the fantastically talented marathoner Alphonse Simbu being one of a distinctly paltry number of domestic athletes who have successfully sealed their qualification for the quadrennial Olympic Games.

Indeed, the fact that only precious few local athletes have qualified for the Olympics paints an extremely discouraging picture of the sad state of affairs in the realm of local sports.

It also raises a very troubling question: how on earth do we expect our athletes to put their best foot forward at the Olympics when they are finding it frighteningly daunting to qualify for the said Games in the first place?

These disturbing ruminations seem to lay bare the urgency of redressing and wholly overhauling the modus operandi of how we prepare for the Olympics lest we keep coming up against an immovable brick wall where our medal prospects are concerned.

Doubtless, we seem to possess a deeply frustrating obstinacy in our failure to understand the indispensability of meticulous, and lengthy preparations for the Games.

Our flawed idea of just when our Olympics preps should commence has been unfailingly and self-destructively only several months before the start of the grand sporting spectacular.



Tanzanian marathoner, Alphonse Simbu.

This has sadly been the case for many, many years. For some unfathomable reason, we seem almost incapable of grasping a time-honored truth in sports: satisfactory preparations entail years and not merely a matter of months, which is akin to one heading onto the battlefield without any armor and weapons, just relying foolhardily on one's wits.

Let us now redirect our gaze to deliberate upon the matter of analytics in sports, which are increasingly proving to be fundamental to the success of numerous teams across the gamut of sports worldwide.

Simply put, the term analytics can be defined as the analysis of data.

Interestingly though, a curious question then arises: how can the compilation of various types of data influence or more appropriately, enhance performance in sports, particularly domestic sports?

Well, let us adopt football as a hopefully illuminating example. In football, a team of data scientists can compile data on how many shots were on target and by whom: the strikers or midfielders?

Naturally, if the midfielders have more shots on target than the strikers, then it suggests that a team possesses a powder-puff forward-line which is in dire need of sharpening.

In addition, data can be compiled on the number of attacks that emerge from both the right and left flanks during a football encounter.

Again, if much more offensives emerge from the right flank compared to the left, then it is patently obvious that the left flank is the weak link in a team's attack and that it needs to be strengthened.

As it can be seen, various types of data can be compiled and analyzed with a view to enhancing a football team's performance. Granted, data analytics are not a cast-iron guarantee or a magic spell which automatically assures that a haul of trophies will be won.

Despite that, though, data analytics remain an extremely useful aid to improving performance and one hopes that our aristocratic sides like Simba SC, Yanga and Azam FC coupled with the rest of the Mainland Premier League can warmly embrace their efficacy.

## FIFA Foundation, Adidas donate soccer balls to Tanzania's NGO

By Guardian Reporter

THE FIFA Foundation and Adidas have donated 108 soccer balls worthy 16m/- to the Kagera-based NGO, Jambo for Development.

Speaking after receiving the consignment from FIFA Foundation and Adidas, Jambo For Development Communication Officer, Lameck Kiula, said the foundation has been working with the NGO since 2019 by supporting life skills games and other related activities.

He said: "Since 2019, FIFA Foundation has been working with us, supporting our life skills games project (sports bonanza) which is a sports competition that brings together primary school students from across Kagera region, located in the north-western corner of Tanzania with an approximation population of 2,458,023 people."

"By the end of 2019, FIFA Foundation

donated US\$17,955 to support the life skills games and sports activities in Kagera through Jambo for Development" he disclosed.

Kiula said this year, FIFA Foundation, in collaboration with Adidas, have donated 108 footballs worthy of 16m/-.

He pointed out: "We would like to thank FIFA Foundation, Adidas and other stakeholders for continuing to support our programs which aim at giving children and youths a conducive environment for them to learn and realize their dreams through improving infrastructure in schools such as building classrooms, teachers' offices, building toilets and private rooms for girls, water tanks, drilling wells, provision of computers and photocopier machines."

"This means a lot to children in Kagera and the education sector in general", he added.

He pointed out: "Through this donation of 108 soccer balls, Kagera, which has about 599,595 primary school pupils, will benefit from direct and indirect from it as it will be used in all matters that will bring a better future to the children in the region through our organization and other sectoral stakeholders."

He disclosed: "The donated soccer balls will be used in the competitions starting in October this year in all eight districts of Kagera, with 1,440 pupils participating."

Jambo for Development is a Tanzanian NGO working in Tanzania Mainland and it was registered in 2019 with head office located in Bukoba, Kagera.

The organization uses life skills games as a tool for bringing stakeholders together to corporate for overseeing quality education, better health, and gender equality.

## Coach Da Rosa disappointed by Dar Derby cancellation

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC's head coach Didier Gomes Da Rosa was surprised after a Vodacom Premier League clash between the outfit and age-old rivals, Yanga, dubbed 'Dar Derby', did not take place at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday.

The game was scheduled to kick off at 17.00, but the Tanzania Football Federation pushed it forward by two hours owing to logistical issues as communicated by the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports and local authorities.

However, Yanga were unimpressed and they opted not to abide by the new kick-off time.

The match was eventually cancelled and the disappointed fans and football supporters had to return home.

"I am very sad for Simba fans, sad for football lovers and I hope we will find a good solution," Da Rosa said afterwards.

He said: "We prepared very well and we were ready to fight and play a very good match. Dynamically we were good as well, we were ready, we were confident. But I am very surprised because we really wanted to play this match."

He noted: "The team received the same letter from the federation at the same time but we took it positively, it was not a problem for us."

The next assignment for Simba will be an away trip to South Africa for the first leg of the CAF Champions League quarterfinal



Coach Da Rosa disappointed by Dar Derby cancellation

against Kaizer Chiefs.

The Frenchman is now focused on the continental assignment and he has confirmed they will be leaving the country early so that they can acclimatise to the conditions and prepare well for the match.

"We are very sad because we were very committed and very motivated to play before we go to South Africa to play Kaizer Chiefs in the quarter-final," Da Rosa stated.

He pointed out: "So we accept [the match cancellation] but it is difficult to understand the situation."

"We will have to keep the players with us because we are leaving Tanzania on Monday evening and it is important for us now to start focusing on the forthcoming match."

The 21-time Tanzania Mainland League champions finished top of CAF Champions League's Group A with 13 points from four wins, a draw, and a loss.

They are aiming at going all the way and reach the semi-finals for the first time in their history.



Dar es Salaam is organizing the Africa championship and he asked the region's residents and other parts of the country to prepare to welcome more than 350 visitors who will come for the championship.

## 'Angry' Zidane howls over VAR as Real Madrid slip

MADRID

ZINEDINE Zidane has said he's "very angry" after Sevilla FC were awarded a controversial handball penalty in a 2-2 draw that left Real Madrid trailing leaders Atletico Madrid by two points at the top of the La Liga table.

The teams were level at 1-1 when referee Juan Martinez Munuera initially gave Madrid a penalty for a foul by goalkeeper Bono on forward Karim Benzema -- only for the VAR to intervene after spotting an earlier handball by defender Eder Militao at the other end.

Ivan Rakitic converted that spot kick, before Eden Hazard deflected a Toni Kroos shot past Bono in the 95th minute to earn Madrid a draw.

"I'm very angry. You'll have to explain the handball rules to me," Zidane told Movistar after the match. "I spoke to the referee and I asked for an explanation. He said it was handball by Militao, but the other one [an earlier handball appeal against Joan Jordan] wasn't... I don't like to talk about referees but today the feeling isn't good."

"If there's a handball inside the box, you give it both ways," he added. "The game is over now, but today we can be annoyed... I don't understand at all. If there was a handball from Militao, there was one from Sevilla too. I wasn't convinced by what [the referee] said."

"We can talk now, but it won't be cleared up, that's what annoys me... Today I saw a handball from

Sevilla and another from Real Madrid and he only gave one. That's the reality."

The draw at the Alfredo Di Stefano stadium came a day after Barcelona and Atletico played out a 0-0 stalemate at Camp Nou.

The results leave Real Madrid relying on Atletico to drop points in their three remaining games, with Diego Simeone's team leaders on 77 points, and Madrid and Barca both chasing on 75.

"We still don't understand how the handball rule works," goal scorer Marco Asensio said. "The referee was close, he didn't give it, play continued and we won a clear penalty, then the VAR intervened and decided to give them a penalty."

"I haven't seen the replay yet but Militao isn't even looking at the ball," Asensio said. "It touches his arm without him wanting to. We're annoyed because it changes not just the game, but our chances of winning the league."

Fernando Reyes had opened the scoring in a first half dominated by Sevilla, and Asensio levelled off the bench midway through the second half before the late penalty drama.

"I think we dropped two points today because we did everything to win the game," midfielder Luka Modric said. "We played quite well, above all in the second half, we created a lot of chances. We had a penalty, and [the referee] gave a penalty the other way... It's bad luck."

(Agencies)

## Defiant Pirlo draws line in sand, won't quit Juve

TURIN, Italy

JUVENTUS coach Andrea Pirlo said he will not resign after seeing his side slip out of the Champions League qualification places in Serie A following a 3-0 home defeat by AC Milan on Sunday, insisting he can do better.

Last weekend, two late goals from Cristiano Ronaldo earned Juve a dramatic victory at Udinese to give them confidence going into the crucial clash with Milan who, like the Turin side, have stuttered in recent matches.

But the hosts never really looked like earning victory on Sunday, with the loss leaving Pirlo's outfit fifth in the standings with three games to go, as doubts linger over the rookie's managerial capabilities.

"Step aside? No," Pirlo told Sky Sport Italia. "I have undertaken this job with a lot of enthusiasm, there are difficulties but my work goes on and I am available."

"I think I can do better and be able to get out of it, together with the team. We have to look forward, I will continue to do my job as long

as I am allowed.

"We had actually started fairly well in the match, but we lost our way and this was the final result. It's difficult to explain now. There were many components that didn't work."

Milan led the way for much of the season but could not keep pace with Inter Milan, who are the newly-crowned champions.

Sunday's win, however, thanks to goals by Brahim Diaz, Ante Rebic and Fikayo Tomori, helped Milan climb to third spot, three points clear of Juve, and put them in a strong position to return to the Champions League next term.

"I have always thought that there are no perfect matches but tonight we came close in terms of attention, spirit and quality," coach Stefano Pioli said.

"It was a very important match and the victory I want to dedicate to the fans who have given us an exciting charge."

"This win could be a turning point [in the top four race] if we manage to continue this path on Wednesday against Torino."

(Agencies)

## Lewandowski eyes 49-year-old Mueller record after hat-trick heroics

BERLIN

BAYERN Munich may have wrapped up a record-breaking ninth straight Bundesliga title on Saturday, but sharpshooter Robert Lewandowski still has one more historic target in his sights.

The Polish striker scored a hat-trick in Bayern's 6-0 thrashing of Borussia Mönchengladbach this weekend, leaving him just one goal short of Gerd Mueller's 49-year-old record of 40 goals in a single Bundesliga season.

Lewandowski, whose tally this term stands at 39, has two more games to equal and break the mark set by Bayern and Germany legend Mueller back in 1972.

"I have to be honest, I am astonished. I thought Mueller's record would last forever and never be broken," Bayern CEO Karl-Heinz Rummenigge told Sky on Saturday.

"Robert now has two games to equal or even surpass it. It's clear that he will go down in the history of this club."

With 275 goals in 348 games for Bayern and Dortmund, Lewandowski is already the second-most successful striker in Bundesliga history after Mueller,

Last season, the Pole's 34 goals were the fourth most in a Bundesliga season. The top three places all occupied by Mueller, the legendary poacher of the 1960s and 1970s.

Nicknamed the "Bomber of the Nation", Mueller scored 40 goals in 1971-72, 38 in 1969-70 and 36 in 1972-73, ending his Bundesliga career with 365 goals in 427 games.

Lewandowski may never break that record, but he is within touching distance of Mueller's 40-goal mark.

"Gerd Mueller was my idol when I was young, but what Gerd Mueller was in my youth, Lewandowski is today," said Bayern coach Hansi Flick on Saturday.

"If he manages the record, it will have been more than deserved."

Flick also warned that Lewandowski "will need to be careful" as he chases the record, as he risks missing the last game of the season at home to Augsburg if he picks up a yellow card against Freiburg next week.

Yet team mate Thomas Mueller backed his side to help Lewandowski over the line: "If he puts away the chances we provide for him, then it will work out," said the 31-year-old, who has 19 assists to his name this season.

# Mason Greenwood eclipses Ronaldo, Rooney in Man United history books

BIRMINGHAM, England

MASON Greenwood was so promising as a schoolboy at Manchester United that Sir Alex Ferguson would tell people of the "special" talent that would one day break into the first team. After the 19-year-old eclipsed Wayne Rooney and Cristiano Ronaldo in the club's record books with a crucial goal in Sunday's 3-1 win at Aston Villa, Ferguson was shown to be right.

In truth, Greenwood's precocious ability has been well known to the football world since he broke into Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's team as a 17-year-old in 2019, but his goal at Villa Park, which put United 2-1 ahead after a Bruno Fernandes penalty had levelled Bertrand Traore's opener, confirmed just how big of a future he has at Old Trafford. The left-footed strike from just inside the Villa penalty area, having turned Tyrone Mings with embarrassing ease, was Greenwood's 16th league goal for United, making him the highest-scoring teenager in the club's Premier League history -- more than Rooney, Ronaldo, Marcus Rashford and Ryan Giggs.

That is an illustrious group of star names that Greenwood now stands at the top of, and his surge of form in recent weeks is even better than the goal glut that accompanied his end to the 2019-20 season. Greenwood has now hit seven goals in his past 10 games in all competitions -- he has 11 in total this season -- having ended last year's pandemic-interrupted campaign with five goals in 10 appearances.

That form earned Greenwood a place in Gareth Southgate's England squad for the Nations League clash with Iceland at the start of this season -- a call-up that ended in controversy when he and Manchester City's Phil Foden were sent home for breaching COVID-19 protocols -- but while Foden has since been brought back into the international fold, Greenwood has remained on the outside. Although with UEFA now expanding squad sizes from 23 to 26 for Euro 2020, Greenwood's form is making it in-



Mason Greenwood and Edinson Cavani scored second-half goals that secured Manchester United's win at Aston Villa on Sunday. (Agencies)

creasingly difficult for Southgate to overlook his claims as a late wildcard selection.

Greenwood's pace and direct style down the right flank of Solskjaer's team is also giving the United manager a dilemma, with Borussia Dortmund's Jadon Sancho once again likely to be high on the club's summer wanted list. But with Dortmund expected to hold out for a fee in the region of £80 million for the England winger, Greenwood's accelerated development might just save United a fortune and enable them to invest that money elsewhere in the team. By outstripping the likes of Rooney and Ronaldo in terms of goals at his young age, Greenwood can surely only get better, but his game time would be impacted by the signing of Sancho.

There is a view within United that, once he has reached physical maturity, Greenwood will move into a more central role in the team. He has been compared to former United striker Robin van Persie, in terms of his movement and eye for goal, so such a progression is not beyond the realms of possibilities.

United can buy themselves time with Greenwood's development as a centre-forward thanks to Edinson Cavani's ageless performances

for the team. The 34-year-old, a free transfer arrival from Paris Saint-Germain last October, took his recent tally to eight goals in seven games by scoring a late header to make it 3-1 against Villa.

Cavani has yet to commit to a new contract beyond the end of this season, but his contribution to Solskjaer's team has been outstanding. If he stays, he will enable Greenwood to continue his learning of the game out wide, at the same time as tapping into the Uruguayan international's knowledge and experience.

By scoring his goal at Villa Park, Cavani equalled the club record of Solskjaer and Javier Hernandez by registering five league goals as a substitute in a single season. With four games still to play, Cavani could yet claim that milestone for himself.

Having secured the win that guarantees a top-four finish and Champions League qualification, United are now almost certain to play out their final four games with Solskjaer rotating his squad in order to keep them fit and fresh for the Europa League final against Villarreal in Gdansk, Poland, on May 26.

Solskjaer had complained about

United having to play four games in eight days, starting with last Thursday's Europa League semifinal against AS Roma, due to the postponed clash against Liverpool being rescheduled for this Thursday, but with United's top-four place secure, he is now likely to make wholesale changes against Leicester City at Old Trafford on Tuesday. Such a move could have a direct impact on the race for the top four, with Leicester needing points to see off pressure from West Ham and Liverpool, but Solskjaer is unlikely to risk injuries to his players by forcing them to play three league games in the space of five days -- especially after Harry Maguire was forced off with an ankle injury, one the manager said could cause him to miss "a few weeks."

"I think everyone is capable of doing Thursday-Sunday," Solskjaer said. "But then to put Tuesday in as well is adding too much, and then Thursday, is physically impossible."

"So now I have to prevent the risk of getting injuries. The boys who played Thursday night and today will not play 90 minutes on Tuesday, that is for sure. It is the sports science guys, they do the jobs. We will sit down on Tuesday afternoon and see who is ready."

## Bayern's 'missing' rivals in Bundesliga causing concern

BERLIN

MUNICH police issued a missing person's notice for Bayern Munich's Bundesliga challengers on Saturday.

Local law enforcement celebrated Bayern's record-extending ninth consecutive German title by joking on Twitter that they were looking for its missing rivals over the past nine years.

Bayern's latest title had an air of inevitability after Hansi Flick's team began the season with an 8-0 demolition of Schalke. It celebrated clinching the league on Saturday with a 6-0 rout of Borussia Mönchengladbach.

"It's a huge task every year, and a lot of heart and soul goes into it. But, of course, we have a great team every year," said Thomas Müller, who along with teammate David Alaba has won 10 league titles with Bayern.

Bayern's long-established domestic dominance was never in doubt all season, though its weakened squad compared to the season before, and the improvement of second-placed Leipzig in Julian Nagelsmann's second year as coach gave neutrals some hope of a title race.

It didn't last long.

Bayern defeated Leipzig 1-0 on April 3, stretching its lead to seven points with seven rounds remaining. Other challengers simply failed to materialize.

Borussia Dortmund's title bid fizzled out early on under coach Lucien Favre, who was fired in December and replaced with Edin Terzic.

Gladbach fell into disarray in February when the club announced that coach Marco Rose was leaving to take over Dortmund next season.

Bayern Leverkusen was unbeaten and leading the Bundesliga until the 13th round when Bayern took over with a late 2-1 win in Leverkusen. Robert Lewandowski scored the



Bayern's Robert Lewandowski, left, Bayern's Thomas Müller, centre, and Bayern's goalkeeper Manuel Neuer celebrate at the end of the German Bundesliga soccer match between Bayern Munich and Borussia Mönchengladbach at the Allianz Arena stadium in Munich, Germany, Saturday, May 8, 2021. (AP)

winner in injury time.

It was to become a recurring theme; Bayern digging in and doing enough when it mattered most.

Bayern has a 10-point lead over Leipzig with two rounds remaining. It has dropped points only nine times in 32 games so far. Its goal difference (plus-52) is almost twice as good as any of its rivals. Leipzig is next with plus-29.

Flick complained last month that his squad wasn't as strong as it was last season when he led Bayern to a

trophy treble of Champions League, Bundesliga and German Cup.

Ultimately, the outgoing coach was proven right as his team went on to be knocked out in the quarterfinals of the Champions League by last year's beaten finalist Paris Saint-Germain. Bayern was already knocked out in the second round of the German Cup by second-division Holstein Kiel in January.

Despite Flick's misgivings, Bayern still had enough quality to trump its domestic rivals.

Not even Lewandowski's knee injury toward the end of the season dented the team's campaign. Lewandowski recovered and raised his tally to 39 goals with a hat-trick in Bayern's rout of Gladbach -- just one off Bayern great Gerd Müller's all-time record from the 1971-72 season.

The Poland star still has games against Freiburg and Augsburg to match or break Müller's record, but that will do little to ease concern over Bayern's dominance, which looks set to continue.

Flick is leaving voluntarily after the season to be replaced by Nagelsmann, the coach of the team that pushed Bayern hardest this season.

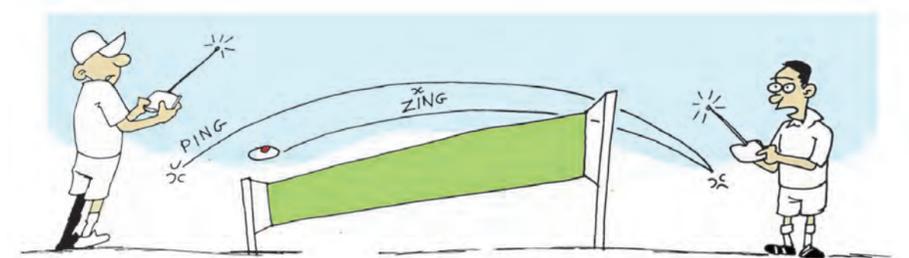
Bayern has won 30 of the 58 Bundesliga titles since the league was formed in 1963.

Bundesliga chief executive Christian Seifert warned in 2017 that it would be a problem "if Bayern Munich wins the title 10 or 15 times in a row."

But it seems there's no one to stop the Bavarian powerhouse. Police in Mönchengladbach responded to their Munich colleagues' appeal by saying their search had failed to yield any results.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

**Courtois finally feeling at home  
ahead of awkward return to Chelsea**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Prominent Tanzanian actor, Abdallah Makumbila alias 'Muhogo Mchungu' (4th L), cracks jokes with actress, Nicole Berry 'Kichuna', when the duo and fellow members of the domestic film industry attended a function organized by MultiChoice Tanzania in Dodoma last weekend. The firm used the event to detail the success it has had and its contribution in Tanzanians' growth last year. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Coach: Namungo FC ought to improve in finishing

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

NAMUNGO FC's head coach, Hemed Suleiman, is happy with the level shown by his players against Dar es Salaam's Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC in a Vodacom Premier League assignment played at the Majaliwa Stadium in Ruangwa on Sunday.

"The hosts came into the match as favourites but despite the numerous chances created, they ended sharing the spoils with a 0-0 draw.

Suleiman, the experienced tactician, further lauded the opponents for the way they played.

"It was a tough game, but I am happy with the way we played and took a point," Suleiman said.

He stated: "They came into the game and really pushed us, KMC FC has a good coach and they were doing well tactically. But at some point, we dominated them but would not break their defense despite creating several chances."

He said: "We take a point and focus on the next game hoping to improve."

In the Sunday game, Namungo FC striker Stephen Sey had about three clear chances to convert but he failed to capitalise on them.

"I must admit scoring has been a problem for the team in recent matches," Suleiman noted.

He pointed out: "It is the department I want to focus on in training because to win matches, we have no alternative, we must score."

Habib Kondo, KMC FC's assistant coach, conceded the game was tough but he was happy their tactics worked.

"Playing a team like Namungo FC is never easy, it is all about coming up with effective tactics," Kondo stated.

He pointed out: "Every team had a game plan, and I am happy ours worked and we are happy with the result. We attacked in the first 15 minutes then contained them, and we used the same tactic after the break and frustrated them."

At some point, the KMC FC technical bench looked unsatisfied with the way the game was being officiated and Kondo has shed light on the issue.

He noted: "That is football, you cannot be satisfied with every decision that is made, but there was nothing extraordinary. It is over, and now we are focusing on our next game."

After the draw, KMC FC is placed fifth on the table with 41 points from 28 matches while Namungo FC sits 11th with 32 points from 24 games.

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"They came into the game and really pushed us, KMC FC has a good coach and they were doing well tactically. But at some point, we dominated them but would not break their defense despite creating several chances

## CRDB Bank International Marathon 2021 launched

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MORE than 5000 runners are expected to take part in this year's edition of the CRDB Bank International Marathon which will be held in Dar es Salaam in August, organizers announced yesterday.

The CRDB Bank's Director of Corporate Affairs and Public Relations, Tully Esther Mwambapa, said the marathon is aimed at raising more than 500m/- for noble causes in the society. Tully noted the race will be held at The Green in the city on August 15 and it will also involve cycling events.

She said money raised will be used for treatment of children at Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute and build a call center at Ocean Road cancer hospital.

"This year's CRDB Bank International Marathon will be held at The Green in Dar es Salaam on August 15, it will involve cycling events, we expect more than 5000 local and international athletes to compete at the event which is happening for the second time in a row," she said.

She said unlike last year's edition, this time around the marathon will be run in a professional way as it has been registered with the International Marathon Federation, who will send their experts to help in preparing for the event.

"Race measurement experts from South Africa were in the country to measure the routes to be used and they will also come next month, this year's edition promises to be more competitive and entertaining as many international athletes are expected to compete at the event," she said.

Tully noted the marathon, which will involve 42km, 21km and Fun Run of 10 and 5 kilometers, will also be used as a platform for promoting local athletes.

"This year's edition will attract many international media houses and I'm sure some of our local athletes who will perform well at the event will attract the eye of international athletics companies who can offer them deals," he said.

She said top performing athletes will be awarded handsomely, but she stopped short of disclosing the prizes. According to her, the CRDB Bank's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and race's partners will announce the prizes soon.

Athletics Tanzania (AT) Acting Secretary General, Ombeni Zavalla, thanked the bank for hosting the marathon, saying it is one of the events whose proceeds go to the needy in the society. She, however, asked CRDB Bank to engage her association for any advice.

"We really thank CRDB Bank for the marathon, this is one of the events whose earnings go straight to the needy in the society."

"We are ready to work hand in hand with the bank to make the event successful," she said.



Director of Corporate Affairs and Public Relations at CRDB Bank, Tully Esther Mwambapa (5th L), pictured with members of Dar es Salaam's Matambuu Cycling Club at a function for launching 2021 CRDB Bank Marathon in the city yesterday. Others are Tanzania Cycling Association's vice-chairman, Hussein Ally (R), and Athletics Tanzania (AT)'s Acting Secretary General, Ombeni Zavalla (3rd L). PHOTO: SELEMANI MPOCHI

## Government directs TFF to issue reasons for Dar Derby cancellation



Some of Yanga's fans pictured after Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) had announced cancellation their side's Vodacom Premier League clash against age-old rivals, Simba SC, which was slated for Saturday at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE government has directed the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) to disclose what led to the postponement of a Vodacom Premier League match involving rivals, Simba SC and Yanga, which had been slated for Saturday at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday directed that TFF should make public the cause of the postponement of the match, nicknamed 'Dar Derby'.

"I'm directing that TFF should come out quickly and announce what led to the postponement of the match between Simba SC and Yanga, the nation wants to know the truth about this," he said.

He asked football loving people in the country to be patient while waiting for TFF to announce the cause of the postponement of the match.

The PM remarks comes after the government, through officials in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, distanced itself from the postponement of the game.

The TFF had, on Saturday, issued a media statement, saying the federation has directed Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) to come up with a complete report on what led to the postponement of the match.

The TFF also called for patience among soccer lovers as they are working hard to establish the root cause of the postponement of the match and the body also said they will engage Simba SC and Yanga to have their views.

The anxiously awaited 'Dar Derby' was expected to be a battle of tactical superiority.

Simba SC and Yanga are separated by four points at the top of the 18-team league's table.

Simba SC is placed at the summit with 61 points from 25 matches, while Yanga are placed second with 57 points from 27 matches.

The TPLB, on Monday, said it followed all the procedures before communicating to all clubs on the shifting of the game's kick off from 5pm to 7pm and the concerned clubs accepted the change.

"After being satisfied that all stakeholders have information on the change of time, we used our platforms to inform all stakeholders of the change," said part of TPLB's statement.

Simba SC on Sunday evening issued the outfit's statement, saying they followed all the procedures and they were saddened to see the game being postponed.

The club advised its supporters,

fans and football lovers to remain patient during this period.

Simba SC moreover advised TFF to impose strict punishment on Yanga (including relegating the outfit to Regional Champions League) for failing to honour decisions by TFF and the government.

Former Simba SC's Chairman Ismail Aden Rage, who is also a respected lawyer, said TFF leadership was at liberty to shift the game's starting time, depending on circumstances, given the federation is mandated by the country's laws to run football in the country.

He said section 15(10) of league regulations says any change of matches' kick off should be made at least 24 hours before the kickoff but he issued his advice that many are not leading the other following sections.

He noted: "After the section 15(10) which many people are quoting, there is another section which gives TFF the power to either cancel or postpone any match, in the case of Saturday game, I'm not sure, but maybe TFF has a valid reason for postponing the match, the only problem is that the federation did not make the reason for changing the tie's kick off public," he said.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

WHAT'S MY TAKE IN THIS 'MOTHER'S DAY' THING?



**EATV TUESDAY**

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**NIRVANA**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 MPYA  
12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)  
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi  
14:30 Bball Kings Highlights (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 5SPORTS (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 5SELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music/Soap  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)

*Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.*

**eastafrika RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**