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# Joy over charter flights VAT skip

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

The Treasury is planning to extend a value added tax (VAT) exemption on chartered air services have ignited celebration among aviation players.

Captain Maynard Mkumbwa, the board chairman for the Tanzania Air Operators Association (TAOA), told a stakeholders' meeting here at the weekend that the move will help to unlock the potential of aviation and tourism as a whole.

A Bill supplement issued on 20th January 2023, proposes an extension of the VAT exemption on the supply of air charter services to 30th June 2026, effectively repealing the removal of the amnesty executed on 30th December 2022.

Part IX proposes to amend the VAT Act, Cap. 148, whereby item 22 of the schedule is amended to extend the VAT exemption on air charter services to facilitate a growth trajectory in the tourism industry.

The Bill Supplement, the Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 2023, reinstates the exemption and postpones its removal to 1st July, 2026.

Removing the exemption carried serious negative implications on the tourism industry, stakeholders noted,



**The reinstatement of VAT on air charter services was essentially shooting ourselves in the foot**

saying maintaining the status quo offers operators breathing space to grow aviation and tourism services.

Chartered flights and tourism are intimately related, as tourism depends on aviation to bring in visitors while aviation banks on tourism to generate demand.

The TAOA leader commended the move, registering his keen appreciation for the government and especially President Samia Suluhu Hassan for that consideration.

"The reinstatement of VAT on air charter services was essentially shooting ourselves in the foot," said Captain Mkumbwa who is also the Managing Director of Coastal Aviation.

Traditionally, air charter services were treated as exempt supplies as provided under both the VAT Act, 1997 and 2014 version. However, the Fi-

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan has an audience with her Zambian counterpart, Hakaiende Hichilema, at the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa yesterday. Both have been in the Ethiopian capital for the February 18-19 36th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the continental body - the AU Summit. Photo: State House

## Africa set to revamp child vaccine routine

By Guardian Reporter

AFRICAN countries have resolved to revamp routine immunisation across the continent following massive disruptions in the wake of the COVID-19 emergency.

A total of 8.4m children in the region, compared with 18m globally, were left out of immunization services in 2021 as the pandemic thwarted childhood vaccination programmes owing to disrupted deliveries. This observation arose from estimates by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organization (WHO) made available at a high-level event on the sidelines of the 36th ordinary session of the African Union (AU) summit in Addis Ababa. The leaders endorsed a declaration on 'building momentum for routine immunization recovery in Africa,' intended to revitalize the vaccination pace in all countries, urging universal access to immunization to reduce child mortality, morbidity and disability. A statement by the WHO Africa Region office said the move would help member states to

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## TCRA: 0.97m lines cut, 60.4m cleared

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) had verified a total of 60,478,759 SIM cards (98.42 per cent or active lines.

Semu Mwakyanjala, the TCRA principal communication officer, said in a statement at the weekend that those using 970,046 lines (1.58 per cent) not yet verified had started being disconnected.

A total of 61,448,805 SIM cards were connected to the service providers' networks by February 13 at midnight, with suspension of services for lines that had not been verified starting immediately.

The suspension exercise continued until February 14, at nine o'clock, with all service providers suspending services for all lines that were not verified, he stated.

SIM-cards that have terminated services for each service provider are Vodacom (235,413), Halotel (100,627), Airtel (318,756) and Tigo (315,250), where all SIM cards with suspended services will be stored for 90 days to allow users who need to review them to do so as they appear.

"TCRA and service providers continue to work together to facilitate access to the verification service through \*106# for closed phone lines to

enable verification as many as they show up," the statement indicated. Service providers allowed \*106# for lines whose services have been suspended to allow the review of those lines to continue until the evening of February 14.

Repeated statements over radio channels asked users of those lines to verify via \*106# at number 5 to verify the relevant phone line.

TCRA has allowed service providers to continue to allow \*106# for suspended lines, the official said. TCRA was monitoring to take action when challenges arise, with a view to reactivating the use of disconnected lines, he added.

## RPC: Two people killed after killing woman (55)



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By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

TWO people are reported to have died on Thursday night after an enraged crowd armed with machetes and clubs set upon them at Kilimahewa in Katoro town, Geita Region. Those killed had a little

earlier allegedly killed 55-year-old woman Semeni Simon (55) with a machete, according to Geita Regional Police Commander Safia Jongo. The RPC told journalists here at the weekend that one of the two people killed in the second incident was identified as Jackson, but the name of

his "accomplice" was yet to be established. She (RPC Jongo) said Msafiri Renatus, the husband of the woman killed, was injured and is admitted to the Geita Regional Hospital. The RPC said that on the fateful night, Jackson

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## Africa set to revamp child vaccine routine

FROM PAGE 1

achieve health sector sustainable development goals. Ambassador Minata Samate Cessouma, commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development at the AU Secretariat, recalled the Addis Ababa Declaration on Immunization endorsed at the 28th African Union Summit. It said that Africa's leaders hold a mandate to secure sustainable financing toward increasing access to immunization and work with communities to strengthen immunization systems. "We can end vaccine-preventable diseases and save many more lives. This is core to achieving healthy, prosperous communities as premised in the AU Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want," the commissioner noted. Sierra Leone President Dr Julius Maada Bio said that it is possible to achieve the national and global immunization targets, including eradication and elimination goals. Progress in meeting immunization targets is a driver for equitable health outcomes for children, mothers and the population as a whole, he stated, elaborating that the returns on investment for immunization are high for progress towards meeting the SDGs. Dr Matshidiso Moeti, the WHO regional director, said the COVID-19 pandemic had a devastating impact on immunization efforts in Africa and has made it critical for the zone to catch up, recover and get back to normal.

Marie-Pierre Poirier, the UNICEF regional director for West and Central Africa, said children who missed immunization services are more likely to face limited access to health, nutrition, education and other social services.

Across the continent, immunization coverage for many vaccine-preventable diseases is well below the 90-95 percent range needed to keep Africa free of diseases.

In 2021, the median vaccination coverage for measles was 69 percent, while for diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis coverage was 82.5 percent and 81.5 percent for the third dose of the polio vaccine.

The summit also called for countries to act quickly to galvanize support for the last-mile polio eradication efforts and use the lessons learnt from the polio immunization programme to boost routine immunization capacities across the continent.

In Africa vaccine-preventable diseases are responsible for 93 percent of on-going infectious disease outbreaks. Currently vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks are ongoing in 31 African countries, with 17 having more than one vaccine-preventable disease outbreak.

## Joy over charter flights VAT skip

FROM PAGE 1

nance Act, 2022, provided for this exemption to end with effect from 31st December 2022. Aviation players, citing an immediate decline in advance bookings and impact on the tourism industry, raised a furor over the ripple effects of removing the vital exemption.

TAOA chief executive officer, Lathifa Sykes said the move to remove VAT exemption was counterproductive, saying it was adverse to the theme and tone of 'Tanzania: The Royal Tour' documentary which has boosted interest in visiting the country.

Tourism is expected to attract five million visitors by 2025 by current plans, with upwards of \$6bn in potential revenues, while the removal of the VAT exemption on air charter services was countering that growth tendency, she said.

TAOA vice-chairman Mrisho Yassin said the decision would go a long way in driving the charter flights and tourism generally, pointing out that tourism is the country's largest foreign exchange earner.

It contributed an average of \$2.6bn annually, equivalent to 25 percent of all exchange earnings, and 17 percent of the national gross domestic product, with 1.5m jobs dependent on the sector, he added.



Health minister Umy Mwalimu cuts the ribbon at the launch of Stanbic Bank Tanzania's branch in Tanga city at the weekend. The others include Tanga regional commissioner Omary Mgumba, Tanga regional administrative secretary Pili Hassan Mnyema, the bank's head of consumer and high net-worth clients, Omari Mtiga, and the bank's Tanga branch manager, Francis Fundikira. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## RPC: Two people killed after killing woman (55)

FROM PAGE 1

Msafiri went to his father's house accompanied by another person and sought to know whether his step-mother (Semeni) was around at the time. "When they saw her (Semeni) they started

attacking her with machetes and she died on the spot," she said, adding: "The children then inside the house started screaming, whereupon their father and neighbours arrived." "They surrounded the house, thus encircling the

two assailants, hitting them with whatever items they could use as weapons. The assailants died on the spot," the RPC further narrated. She said the reason for Msafiri to organise the attack on his step mother was that his father had

given her some property and but nothing to him. The RPC meanwhile made an impassioned appeal to residents of Geita Region to refrain from taking the law into their hands or risk facing the full wrath of the law. In remarks to The

Guardian, Kilimahewa village chairman Marko Chuma said that a spate of killings has occurred in the area. He cited another incident involving a pregnant woman who was killed by two people who were also, in turn, killed by an angry mob.



Zubeir Ali Maulid (R), Speaker of Zanzibar's House of Representatives, pictured in Zanzibar yesterday receiving books from Zhang Zhisheng, China's Consul General to Zanzibar, for use by the legislative body's reference library. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

## EAC to speed up deployment of monitoring, verification mechanism

By Guardian Reporter

THE East Africa Community (EAC) secretariat is working with officials from partner states and other stakeholders across the region to speed up the deployment of the monitoring and verification mechanism (EAC-MVM), which will play a central role to bring hostilities to an end.

This is after the EAC partner states' chiefs of defence forces decided that the EAC-MVM be constituted and deployed by the EAC secretariat by February, 28 2023, with membership from all

EAC Partner States.

In a statement issued by the EAC secretary general, Dr Peter Mathuki, stated that the decision is the implementation of the directives issued by EAC Heads of State in the 20th extra-ordinary summit held in Bujumbura, Burundi on February, 4 2023, to evaluate the security situation in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

He noted that the Heads of State summit received the security situation update from the facilitator of the EAC-led Nairobi process and the force commander of the EAC regional force.

"After extensive deliberations, the heads of state directed an immediate ceasefire by all parties and the withdrawal of all armed groups from the areas that they currently occupy. The summit was also categorical that the implementation of the immediate ceasefire and withdrawal by armed groups be complemented by dialogue," he said.

Following the heads of state directives, the meeting of the EAC chiefs of defence forces/staffs (CDF/CDS) was convened on 9th February, 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya, to plan the implementation of

the heads of state directives.

Dr Mathuki that during the deliberation on the ceasefire and withdrawal by the armed groups, the EAC partner states' chiefs of defence forces decided that the EAC monitoring and verification mechanism (EAC-MVM) be constituted and deployed by the EAC Secretariat by 28th February, 2023, with membership from all EAC partner states.

"I welcome the decision by the chiefs of defence forces of deploying the EAC-MVM to monitor and verify the ceasefire and withdrawal by all armed groups," he said.

## Mhagama urges flight agency to speed up construction of hangar

By Guardian Reporter

THE Minister of State, in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), Jenista Mhagama, has directed the Tanzania government's Flight Agency (TGFA) to speed up construction of the hangar to facilitate maintenance and safety of leaders' aircraft.

The minister has also urged the agency to prepare itself for the construction of another hangar in Dodoma as well as headquarters office.

She made the directives in Dar es Salaam during the working session with the TGFA leaders which aimed to emphasise on accountability and efficiency of the agency.

"You should start preparing for the agency's headquarters office in Dodoma which should go hand in hand with the construction of another hangar to service aircraft," she said.

Minister Mhagama added that the construction of the TGFA hangar in Dodoma city is aimed to compliment the government's zeal to shift to Dodoma where most of the government's institutions have shifted.

"We have every reason through the Prime Minister's office to request funds for the commencement of the headquarters office and the hangar in Dodoma so as to increase efficiency of work and complement the government zeal of shifting to Dodoma," she insisted.

She added once completed, the construction of the new hangar in Dodoma, will enable the agency to have a safe place to repair aircrafts used to serve national leaders during various tours.

# Kilombero Sugar brings in new machinery for expansion project

By Guardian Correspondent,

Morogoro

ONE of Tanzania's major sugar producers, Kilombero Sugar Company Limited (KSCL) has received machinery for the construction of its new sugar factory in its expansion project that aims to increase sugar production.

The machinery arrived in the country February 17 and the Director of Planning and Research Department from Tanzania Investment centre (TIC), Maftah Bunini represented the Industry and Trade minister, Dr Ashati Kijaji at the plant's reception.

Speaking at the event, Bunini said the government, through the ministry and TIC will con-

tinue to support efforts by investors by putting in place a good investment environment to spur economic growth.

"The government will significantly benefit from this investment as the Company will pay more tax," said Bunini.

Elaborating the type of machinery brought in, Kilombero Sugar Company commercial manager Bruno Daniel said

the machinery are some of the biggest to come to the country and is an important step for the implementation of the envisaged expansion project that is expected to be completed next year. The event was attended by various officials including the Dar es Salaam port director, Mrisho Selemani Mrisho who represented the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) manag-

ing director who said the port has been mobilised in enabling government projects including those of the private sector.

The machinery is part in the implementation of the expansion of the Kilombero Sugar Company project whose completion will enable the government to attain its aim in the country's sugar sufficiency by 2025. The new plant will en-

able the company to increase sugar production from 126,000 tonnes of sugar per year to 271,000 tonnes.

Sugar production in the country is still low as the current production stands at 450,000 tonnes per annum while total production by all sugar factories in the country stands at 350,000 tonnes.

KSCL is the leading sugar

producer in the country with a market share of 35 percent whilst 40 percent of it comes from cane growers from Kilombero and Kilosa districts.



It's anxious moments in Muheza at the weekend as an ambulance readies to rush an injured resident of the town, Christina Ngusi, from Muheza Hospital to Tanga Region's Bombo referral hospital. She is said to have suffered serious injuries after being assaulted by a male suspect who is now in police custody. However, she did not survive the injuries. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

# Stanbic Bank inaugurates new branch in Tanga city

By Guardian Reporter

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has launched its branch in the Tanga region to enhance its presence in the country and provide quality customer service and easy access to its diverse product portfolio.

Tanga Urban MP, Umyy Mwalimu said: "The government acknowledges the contribution the bank has made in financing and supporting various development projects in the country as well as contributing to the national budget. The opening of this Branch is further evidence of the bank's commitment to being a key player in spurring inclusive development."

She also applauded Stanbic Bank for its efforts to enable the community to access financial services that can empower their growth.

Umyy, who is also the Minister for Health, requested the bank to not only provide banking services but also to organise seminars aimed at imparting financial literacy and skills to enable SMEs in the region to tap into investment opportunities and projects, such as the ongoing EACOP.

Omari Mtiga, head of consumer and high net worth clients at Stanbic Bank said: "This launch reflects the bank's continued promise to support the growth of communities and make a positive economic impact across the country, and we are excited to become an integral part of Tanga's development"

He added that as a financial institution, the bank believes its core

values and customer-centric philosophy meets the personal and business banking needs required for thriving commercial and small business enterprises and the community in Tanga.

Given its strategic location, the new branch will be closer to its customers in

Tanga town, ensuring fast and easy access to innovative banking solutions. The branch offers a full range of banking services, including personal and business banking, and investment banking solutions, delivered by a team of experienced banking professionals.



**Umyy, who is also the Minister for Health, requested the bank to not only provide banking services but also to organise seminars aimed at imparting financial literacy and skills to enable SMEs in the region to tap into investment opportunities and projects, such as the ongoing EACOP**

## MARKABLE MEMORY INFINIX CREATE TO THE FANS

Infinix mobile Tz smart phone brand has celebrated Valentine's Day in a unique way by giving its customers a great opportunity to improve their love with their loved ones, enjoy together with others and brand and get gifts for them and their loved ones. This event has taken place in the prestigious five-star Golden Tulip Oyster Bay, where lovers have had the opportunity to play together various fun games with their lovers. During the opening of the event, public relation manager Mr: Erick Mkomoye told the guests The vision and target of the brand (company) over the current market 'that company targets young people in a large percentage' that's the main reason to stay young and celebrate together this Valentine's Day

Stay Connected stay with infinix the future is Now.



By Guardian Report-

er, Kilindi

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has agreed to disburse 6.2bn/- for the construction of water reservoirs for livestock across the country in this financial year.

Livestock and Fisheries deputy minister, Abdallah Ulega said here yesterday when inspecting construction progress of Kwekinkwembe dam located in Kilindi District, Tanga Region.

"President Samia is determined to improve every sector in the country, that's why she agreed to release such a huge amount of money to build dams that will provide water for livestock all over the country," Ulega said. Ulega said that every sector in the country has been affected, including livestock, and that no

## President Samia issues 6.2bn/- for building dams countrywide

one has been left behind, and so pastoralists will also benefit from getting reliable water once the dam construction project is completed. "Under President Samia, no one will be left behind, that's why she has touched farmers with subsidized fertiliser and improved seeds," the deputy minister said.

He however asked the contractor building the Kwekinkwembe dam to make sure he gives information on every step of the construction and left a copy in the district up to the village level where the dam is being built so that the information is clear and asked him to complete the construction on time.

Abel Busalama Kilindi district commissioner has urged the peo-

ple of Kwekinkwembe village to ensure that the dam which is being built at a cost of 504m/- once it is completed, they manage it well so that it benefits them.

He said the leadership of the village of Kwekinkwembe will have to put in place a good system of how to use it and increase its value by also doing various agricultural activities.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Reco Engineering Company Ltd located in Changombe Dar Es Salaam announces to individuals and companies who brought their work to us and have not come to pick it up for a long time despite the several reminder but all ended in vain that they should come to pick up their work within one week from the date of this announcement else the company will not be responsible for the loss of property or any damage arising after this announcement. Kindly note that when you are coming to take your property you have to bring copy of customer order for property verification subsequently the storage cost will be applied.

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

1. The general public is hereby notified that there will be a movement of special load from Dar es salaam Port to Ruvuma, by vehicle with registration number; **T 785 DYL / T 153 CHN**

Of Mainline Carriers Ltd. The journey is scheduled to start on **23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023**

2. Special load dimensions:  
**Length - 18m**  
**Width - 5.55m**  
**Height - 4.80m**

3. Route: **From Dar es salaam Port to Ruvuma via Nangurukuru, Lindi, Masasi, Songea, Ruvuma.** Travelling time will be only day time (06:30 am - 06:00 pm)

We regret for any inconvenience caused.

## AKIBA COMMERCIAL PLC APPOINTS NEW CHAIRPERSON



The Board of Directors of Akiba Commercial Bank Plc (ACB) is pleased to announce the appointment of its new Chairperson, Ms. Catherine N. Kimaryo: a dynamic, solutions-oriented leader passionate about excellence, growth and transformation. Ms. Kimaryo is the founder and Chief Executive of NCL, a boutique advisory firm focused on enhancing the leadership and strategic effectiveness of individuals, teams and organizations

Ms. Kimaryo assumes the role following the retirement of Mr. Ernest S. Massawe who served as Board Chairperson for the past decade during which period ACB grew and cemented its position in the nation's banking sector. Under his unwavering leadership, the Board and Management successfully navigated challenging times including the recent Covid-19 global pandemic.

The incoming Board Chairperson brings with her a wealth of experience having worked for over 20 years in banking and finance across several emerging markets, in Africa and beyond, both as an executive and investment practitioner. Ms. Kimaryo is also a seasoned public speaker, moderator, and dialogue facilitator on a variety of leadership and financing topics.

Today, she serves as a strategic advisor to leaders at the executive and board levels, is a qualified and practicing Executive Coach, a Systemic Team Coach as well as a Leadership Mentor. In addition to the ACB Board, Ms. Kimaryo serves as a Non-Executive Director on other boards in Tanzania and abroad.

We look forward to leveraging Ms. Kimaryo's competence, passion, and commitment for the realization of the bank's vision and strategy with transformation as a key thrust.

Ms. Kimaryo holds an Advance Management Diploma (INSEAD, France); a Master of Business Administration (Wits Business School, South Africa); and a Bachelor of Commerce (McGill University, Canada).

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## INVITATION TO BID

**RFP Title: Provision of Recruitment Services**

**Number: 2023-PACT/02/01**

**Date of Solicitation: February 20, 2023**

**Closing Date and Time: March 07, 2023, 11:00 am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)**

**Questions and Clarifications: Due by March 3, 2023**

### Introduction to Pact and ACHIEVE Project

Pact is an international nonprofit that works in nearly 40 countries building solutions for human development that are evidence-based, data-driven, and owned by the communities we serve. Founded in 1971, Pact works with partners to build resilience, improve accountability, and strengthen knowledge and skills for sustainable social impact. Visit us at [www.pactworld.org](http://www.pactworld.org).

The Adolescents and Children HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination project, or ACHIEVE, is a five-year global effort to reach and sustain HIV epidemic control among pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescents, infants, and children. The project is funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by a Pact-led consortium of top global HIV/AIDS partners, including Palladium, No Means No Worldwide, and WI-HER.

### Objective of the Assignment

Recruitment agents will work with the Pact Tanzania Human Resources Department to provide recruitment services as needed. Under the guidance of the Pact Tanzania Human Resources Department, the contractor will fulfill the responsibilities outlined below.

### Scope of Work

The specific scope of work includes but is not limited to the following:

1. Advertising vacant/open positions as requested and approved by the Pact Tanzania Human Resources Department.
2. Initial screening and shortlisting of the best candidates from the applications received for the Pact Tanzania vacant/open positions advertised.
3. Coordinate the recruitment schedules with the Pact Tanzania Human Resources Department for candidates selected for interview.
4. Conduct aptitude, behavioral, and personality tests of shortlisted candidates for vacant/open positions as guided by the Pact Tanzania Human Resources Department.
5. Preparing the interview report of the candidates interviewed for the vacant/open positions as guided by the Pact Tanzania Human Resources Department.
6. Conducting reference checks for selected candidates for hire as guided by the Pact Tanzania Human Resources Department.
7. Preparing the final recruitment report and handing over details of the best candidate selected to the Pact Tanzania Human Resources Department for further arrangements, such as providing the job offer letter and employment agreement/contract.
8. Support other recruitment duties as requested by the Pact Tanzania Human Resources Department. E.g., support with shortlisting of previously advertised positions, then follow through with tasks # 1-7.

Interested vendors should download the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through this <https://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania/procurement> before **March 06, 2023**.

### Eligibility

To be considered for the award, vendors must currently be legally operating in Tanzania, and the quotation must include all of the following information:

- Ability to meet or exceed the requirements/technical specifications.
- Ability to deliver the items/services specified in Terms of reference no later than the date(s) required.
- Legally registered in Tanzania.

### Submission Instructions

The following information is to be included by a vendor in the proposal:-

1. Organization capacity statement or C.V.s of key personnel.
2. A proposal detailing your understanding of the ToR, methodology for monitoring exercise, and how you plan to execute the assignment.
3. Bidder should have a website where the recruitment process will be done. E.g., Posting the advert, receiving applications, etc.
4. Current company profile.
5. Copies of the registration certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TIN certificates, and Tax clearance certificate for the relevant service area.
6. Recruitment fee rate (in % of the negotiated basic salary of the recruited employee).
7. Confirmation of 100% payment after service delivery.
8. Evidence of similar assignments. Bidder should share copies of contracts and at least two (2) names and addresses of clients served.
9. Vendors who wish to answer this RFP should send their proposals in sealed envelopes to Pact Tanzania Head Office by March 07, 2023, 11:00 am. All sealed envelopes need to be marked as: "Tender for Provision of Recruitment Services."

**Office Address: :**  
**The Tender Committee**  
**Pact Tanzania,**  
**74 Uporoto Street, Victoria**  
**P.O. Box 6348,**  
**Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

10. Pact will open all bids on Tuesday March 07, 2023, at 11.30 am in the presence of Bidder's Representatives who choose to attend.
11. Quotes must be in Tanzanian Shilling and include taxes separately.
12. Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.
13. Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted.

21/2/2023

# Government: We will surely strengthen PR departments

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has pledged to expand and give more legal recognition to its public relations departments so as to ease communications and access to information.

Eng Mathew Kundo, Deputy minister for Information, Communications and Information Technology made the pledge over the weekend at the Public Relations Excellence Awards 2020 ceremony held in Dar es Salaam.

The awards ceremony was marked for the first time in the country under the theme: 'Social inclusive Communication for Sustainable Development in Tanzania'. It brought together public relations officers from the government and its institutions and agencies.

He said PR officers should be part and parcel of all issues relating to ease of access to information instead of being people informed to inform the public.

Kundo said that the government wants to see all Public relations are given priority to implement their duties of easing access to information.

"It is a good idea of having a law that among other give rights legally to implement their duties and recognized like other disciplinary such as procurement and accounts boards," he said.

"Ministry is ready to revamp the process of recognizing legally the public relations departments -public relation officers and information officers to ease access to information," he added.

He said the move should go concurrently with building the capacity of public relations and head of departments to have exposure within and beyond country borders.

Public relations secretary of Tanzania (PRST) Ndege Makura said the aim of the award was to recognise the contribution of the PRs services in the country.

Patricia Ndege, vice president of

the public relations of Kenya (PRSK) said "our difference make us strength to work as sisters and brothers in the terrain."

Daniel Mshana, who was a winner of the long lifesaving award, said that he was proud to be recognised for his outstanding contribution in the sector.

He was the first person to initiate the first PR Association in Tanzania (1994-2012) was also the first out of three Tanzanians to join the international public relations association (IPRA) in London.

Mshana was also the person who branded "LUKU" metres after submitting the management and happily accepted and adopted up to date.

Vicent Mnyanyika from NMB Bank who emerged as the overall winner of the PR excellence awards 2022 said NMB Bank promises to give more quality and good services.

"It was surprise to me, the process was fair and will be a stimulus to work hard to serve the clients," he said.



Expansion of the Iringa Airport runway is well in progress, with China's SinoHYDRO Corporation Limited as the contractor. Sources told The Guardian at the site that the work is scheduled for completion this August. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## YAM embarks on mental health awareness drive

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

THE Youth Agency Mufindi (YAM) project has begun providing psychological education for youth under 25 years living in difficult environments in three wards in Mufindi District.

The 10-day training started at the weekend at Yatima Igoda hall in Mufindi by involving 100 youth from 16 villages of Ihahu, Mdabulo and Luhunga villages.

Addressing the youth at the opening of the training, the chairman of Tanzania psychology services providers association, Dr Heriel Mfangavo said the training is a big opportunity for the youth's transformation and abandoning the negative concept regarding their development.

He said the youth were still young, hence if they do not get early psychological treatment they can cause disaster when they grow up including murder.

He said another group who need psychological assistance are people with disabilities, some of whom live in stress and depression due to their physical statuses.

He called on those who will work in the YAM project in Mufindi district to identify challenges that cause depression among people with disabilities.

He said due to the huge size of the problem to the youth and those with disabilities, the training will be of huge benefits to them in order to do away with dependency.

He said YAM project is a big saviour for the Mufindi community especially in areas surrounding the project.

He said some of the issues that cause people to have depression include the rejection by members of the community and stigma.

For their part, some of the youth from poor families who stopped in their education pursuits due to various challenges including training on mental health.

Speaking on behalf of other training participants, Agnes Kihongole, from Kanig'ombe in Mufindi district, said they reached a point of despair after being denied all education opportunities.

She said personally she was unfortunate to continue with secondary education due to lack of school fees.

Hence, she added, through this training, she believes she will embark in various economic activities.

She further said her and other friends' expectations are to be empowered to realise their life dreams.

YAM Project manager Danford Mkumbo said the project will run for four years and is sponsored by Mufindi District Council in collaboration with the Foxes Community and Wildlife Conservation Trust (FCWCT) project and financed by Finland and is expected to benefit over 770 youth from poor families in 16 villages of Mufindi district.

## Girls called on to take up engineering

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

GIRLS have urged students to study science subjects in order to join the engineering field and increase the number of engineers in the various construction projects in the country.

Eng. Bernard Kavishe, Registrar Engineering Registration Board (ERB) made the remarks here at the weekend at the event for swearing - in six new engineers from the southern highlands zone regions.

Kavishe said there is a small number of women engineers in the country, the challenge of gender's poor foundation in science subjects, necessary for people wanting to take up the field.

He said the few women in the field perform very well when handed over projects and hence called Tanzanians to assist the gender group.

"We will increase our efforts to mobilise women beginning at schools to woo them to take up science subjects to enable them to study engineering," he said.

He said in the southern highlands regions they have sworn in six women engineers but only two are women.

He called on parents and other various stakeholders to work together with the government to mobilise girls to love science subjects.

Swearing in the six engineers, Mbeya Senior Resident Magistrate, Zawadi Lazier appealed to perform their duties according to the dictates of the laws.

She said among the reasons that could make them face legal steps is implementing projects below standard thereby causing loss to the government by collaborating in economic sabotage.

"When you were taking your oath, you mentioned God, make sure you respect your oaths, go and perform your duties both ethically and professionally by avoiding corruption," said magistrate Laizer.

Some of the engineers who witnessed the event advised the new engineers to abide by professional ethics when implementing their duties to avoid bringing their profession to disrepute.

One of them, Joseph Mkisi, a retired engineer from Mbeya University of Science and Technology (MUST) said the field is among sensitive fields that need to be done professionally.

He said there are various development projects being implemented by the group, hence when they violate their professional ethics they can cause problems to the people.

## Mwinyi to award winners of this year's 'Data Journalism Awards'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi is on Saturday expected to award winners of this year's 'Data Journalism Awards' aimed at recognising outstanding reporting in gender and women leadership using statistics in Isles.

The awards have been organized by Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA-Zanzibar) in collaboration with Zanzibar Female Lawyers Association (ZAFELA) and Pemba Environment, Gender and Advocacy Organisation (PEGAO) to advocate for the rights of women using data journalism under the strengthen women in leadership (SWIL) project which is supported by the Norwegian embassy in Tanzania.

Dr Mzuri Issa Ali, TAMWA-Zanzibar director said in a statement issued yesterday that Dr Mwinyi will be the chief guest at the annual event that will bring on board over 150 people.

She said that this year's award is implemented under the theme: "My Pen, my contribution to women development" and that this is among strategies to achieve gender equality in the near future.

"Data journalism is important in achieving our goal to empower women and increase their number in leadership positions," Dr Mzuri said, noting that for the second year, TAMWA-Zanzibar has organised a 'Data Journalism Award' to

recognise outstanding reporting in gender and women leadership using statistics in Zanzibar.

She explained that judges or members of the jury, comprising experts and academics in journalism, have gone through 421 entries for the data journalism awards from newspapers, radio, television and social media and select the best journalists.

According to Mzuri, the submitted works were required to have been released or aired from January 2022 to December 31, 2022 and should have focused on writing skills and the best preparation of programs and articles including creativity, multiple and different sources of information, capable of bringing about change, providing solutions as well as planning for focus on women's figures and leadership.

Twelve winners are expected to be awarded prizes on that special night; the first, second and third winners after being reviewed by a panel of five judges specializing in various issues including newspaper news. The awarding ceremony is expected to be attended by various stakeholders from public institutions, media, universities, political parties, civil organizations and stakeholders of women's issues.

The works of the winners will be announced and displayed with the aim of encouraging journalists and media stakeholders to learn and find ways to strengthen women's work and leadership.



Friends Willy Dunnagan (2nd-R) and Spencer Cathey (R), American nationals from Charlotte, North Carolina, pose for a photo with guides at the highest point of Mount Kilimanjaro (Uhuru Peak - 5,985 metres above sea level) on early Thursday morning. They are on a special expedition organised by the Moshi-based tourism firm ZARA Tours. Photo by Correspondent James Lanka

## AfCHPR marks Judicial Year

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR) is today expected to hold a solemn ceremony to mark the opening of its Judicial Year which is expected to be graced by the Vice President Dr Philip Mpango.

In a statement availed to the media yesterday, President of the Court, Justice Imani Daud About said the event is expected to bring over 200 key human rights stakeholders, including Regional and Sub-Regional Courts, African Union organs with human rights mandate, civil societies, academicians, lawyers and non-government organisations.

This year's theme is: "Integrating the jurisprudence of regional and international human rights mechanisms into national systems".

Representatives of the Diplomatic Corps accredited to Tanzania are also expected to attend the colourful event to start with a solemn procession of Honourable Judges of the African Court at the seat of the Court in Arusha.

"The solemn ceremony is to highlight the African Court's existence and enhance its visibility," he said.

Justice Imani said as part of the ceremony, the African Court will also host an Intergenerational Dialogue to engage with different cadres of legal professions to train them on the work of the Court and a forward-looking legacy/evolution of the African Court.

The AfCHPR is composed of eleven Judges, nationals of Member States of the African Union elected in their individual capacity. The Court meets four times a year in Ordinary Sessions and may hold Extra-Ordinary Sessions.

## 2 Dar residents in jail for possessing leopard skins

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

THE Kisumu Resident Magistrate's Court in Dar es Salaam has sentenced Vicent Mtekela and his colleague Christopher Kipilili to serve 20 years in jail or pay a fine of 80m/- for unlawful possession of a leopard skin which is a government trophy.

Senior Resident Magistrate Evodia Kyarusi imposed the sentence on Friday after the court convicted the accused of the economic crime of possessing the government's trophy worth over 8m/-.

The magistrate sentenced both the accused to pay a fine of 80m/ or go to jail for 20 years.

In her submission, State Attorney Monica Ndekidemi for the prosecution, had requested the court to provide severe punishment to the offenders due to the seriousness of the crime.

According to her, the offence was serious and it is affecting the country's natural resources.

The convicted persons requested for a lenient sentence considering that he had been in remand for about four years. In the court's judgment, Senior Resident Magistrate Kelvin Mhina stated that the evidence produced by four witnesses, led by State Attorneys Elizabeth Mkunde and Tully Telela proved beyond reasonable doubt that they committed the offences.

Mtekela asked the court to have mercy on him because he is old while Kipilili told the court that he has relatives who depend on him and that he is a first offender.

During the trial, the court was told that the offences were committed on November 9, 2015/18 at Mburahati Kisiwani area in Kinondoni District in the city.

The convicts were found in unlawful possession of leopard skin pieces valued at 8,050,000/- and property of the government of the United Republic of Tanzania, without a permit from the Director of Wildlife.



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## US Peace Corps volunteers return to Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

AMERICAN Peace Corps volunteers returned to Tanzania yesterday following an absence of nearly three years.

The 18 volunteers who arrived February 19, at Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam were the first to come to Tanzania since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 which forced the repatriation of more than 7000 volunteers worldwide, including 158 from Tanzania.

Prior to the repatriation, Peace Corps Volunteers had been serving in Tanzania for over six decades. From September 1961 to March 2020, over 3200 Peace Corps volunteers served in Tanzania, working in education, agriculture, and health sectors to address critical development priorities while promoting world peace and friendship.

"Given such deep ties, the return of volunteers to Tanzania following a three-year absence is a cause for celebration," said Peace Corps Tanzania country director Stephanie Joseph de Goes.

"I am grateful to the government of Tanzania, and our community partners, for welcoming the Peace Corps. It is an honour to work with such committed people in this beautiful nation. Since March 2020, Peace Corps staff around the world have worked to strengthen the foundation of the agency. We are now ready to re-launch volunteer services and to meet this histor-

ic moment with our community partners and our Peace Corps Tanzania staff."

After an 11-week training covering Swahili language, Tanzanian culture, and relevant technical skills per sector, the Peace Corps trainees will be sworn in as volunteers to begin their 24-months of service. At the request of the government of Tanzania, the new volunteers will engage in secondary science, technology, education, and Math (STEM) Education, Sustainable Agriculture, and Community Health Education. Additionally, all volunteers will integrate disease prevention—HIV, malaria, and COVID) into their service as well as climate change and youth-centred initiatives.

The Peace Corps is an international service network of volunteers, community members, host country partners and staff who are driven by the agency's mission of world peace and friendship.

At the invitation of governments around the world, Peace Corps volunteers work alongside community members on locally-prioritized projects in the areas of education, health, environment, agriculture, community economic development and youth development.

Through service, members of the Peace Corps network develop transferable skills and hone intercultural competencies that position them to be the next generation of global leaders. Since President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps in 1961, more than 240,000 Americans have served in 142 countries worldwide.



Vodacom Tanzania managing director Philip Besimire (2nd-R, in red cap) pictured at the weekend leading several of his assistants during an inspection tour in Mbeya Region. They are shown visiting a sales point for the firm's goods and services at Kabwe shopping centre in Mbeya city. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



### TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### ONLINE RETURN FILING AND PAYMENT FOR NON-RESIDENT ELECTRONIC SERVICE PROVIDERS/SUPPLIERS

The Government through **The Finance Act, 2022** amended the **Income Tax Act, Cap 332** and the **Value Added Tax (VAT) Act, Cap 148** to accommodate taxation of Non-Resident Electronic Service Providers/Suppliers in Tanzania. Furthermore, the specific Regulations on administration of Non-resident electronic service Providers/Suppliers were enacted namely, **The Income Tax (Registration of Non-resident electronic service providers) Regulations, 2022** and **The Value Added Tax (Registration of Non-Resident Electronic Service Providers) Regulations, 2022**.

Regulation 6(1) of the Income Tax (Registration of non-resident electronic service providers) Regulations, 2022 and Regulation 6(1) of the Value Added Tax (Registration of non-resident electronic service suppliers) Regulations, 2022 respectively, provide for online filing of tax returns.

Accordingly, this Public Notice seeks to inform all registered Non-resident electronic service providers/suppliers that an online simplified return filing and payment portal has been developed and is ready for use. Thus, all registered non-resident electronic service providers/suppliers are required to use this portal to fulfill their return filing and payment obligations. **In case of Digital Service Tax (DST), return filing shall be for every month from the month of July, 2022 onward while in the case of Value Added Tax (VAT), return filing shall commence with the returns for the month of February, 2023 whose due date is on or before 7th March, 2023. Penalty and interest rising from belated returns above shall be waived.**

The online tax return filing portal and a user manual for the same, can be accessed through <https://taxpayerportal.tra.go.tz/#/> and <https://www.tra.go.tz/> respectively.

We look forward to working together in improving service delivery to foster voluntary compliance.

For further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us through;  
Website: [www.tra.go.tz](http://www.tra.go.tz) Toll Free: 0800750075 or 0800780078 WhatsApp: +255 744233333 Email: [service@tra.go.tz](mailto:service@tra.go.tz) or [huduma@tra.go.tz](mailto:huduma@tra.go.tz) Social Media: Facebook: TRA Tanzania Twitter: @tratanzania Instagram: tratanzania

"Together We Build Our Nation"



A.J. Kidata

Commissioner General

## Minister calls upon youth to take advantage of advancements in ICT for employment

By Guardian Reporter

THE Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office for Labour, Employment, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Prof Joyce Ndalichako, has called upon youth to take advantage of advancements in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to employ themselves.

She made the advice over the weekend in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the launch of a book, 'On My Father's Wings' that aims to provide youth and other inspiring entrepreneurs with important life lessons on the value of taking risks.

During the event which was attended by Minister of Education, Science and Technology Prof Adolf Mkenda, she commended the book author—Michael Shirima, founder of Precision Air for coming up with a book to inspire young people to become self-employed.

Prof Ndalichako (pictured) revealed that one of her ministry's objectives is to promote employment by encouraging young people to become self-employed instead of waiting for government or private sector jobs.

She said the author has directly addressed issues in line with the ministry priorities, including: encouraging entrepreneurship among youth and providing them with the techniques to overcome entrepreneurship challenges.

"As the country transitions to an industrial economy, there are many opportunities for self-employment," said Ndalichako, urging young people to explore and take advantage of self-employment opportunities.

Meanwhile, Shirima said he was inspired to write the book to provide youths and other inspiring entrepreneurs with important life lessons on the value of taking risks.

"Before starting Precision Air in 1993, I began my entrepreneurship journey trading coffee and other commodities," said Shirima.

He added: "In this book, I've revealed not only my triumphs, but also my failures, in the hopes that others will learn from them and improve in their entrepreneurship journeys."

Minister for Education who is also a Member of Parliament for Rombo Constituency, Prof Adolf Mkenda Minister of Education, Science and Technology doubling as explained how he was inspired by Shirima's entrepreneurial journey.

The book has also attracted the attention of various companies in Tanzania where I&M Bank took part as main sponsors of the book launch.

Managing Director of I&M Bank Zahid Mustafa said: "We are honoured to be part of this exciting moment to celebrate a man who we consider as a great businessman and an inspiration to many."

The book which is available in various online and offline stores has received favourable reviews by prominent figures such as Zakia Meghji, Former Minister of Finance of Tanzania.

Commenting, Meghji said: "Michael Shirima writes with passion as he takes us through his journey in the aviation industry in Tanzania and his not-so-easy journey in his amazing life."



## Two in Dar court for 6 billion/- tax evasion

By Guardian Reporter

TWO people, Sibtain Murji 43 and Zameen Murji 47, have appeared before Dar es Salaam's Kisutu Resident Magistrate's court allegedly facing three charges including tax evasion amounting to 6bn/-.

The charge sheet read in court on Friday by State Attorneys Sylvia Mitanto assisted by lawyer Emmanuel Medalagini alleged that on an unknown date between January 2021 and December 2022 in Dar es Salaam, the defendants failed to submit the declaration of income of the business registered in the name of Murji Brothers and led to tax evasion of 6,224,341,983.09/-.

It was also alleged that, on that day and at that place, the defendants together deliberately evaded tax through fraud and caused the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) a loss of more than 6bn/-.

In the charge of money laundering,

it is alleged that on that day and place the defendants obtained the amount of 6bn/- while knowing that the money is the product of a prior tax evasion.

However, the defendants were not allowed to answer anything in court because the Kisutu Resident Magistrate's court does not have the authority to hear cases of economic sabotage.

According to the prosecution, the investigation in the case has not yet been completed and the case has been postponed until March 3, 2023.

**In the charge of money laundering, it is alleged that on that day and place the defendants obtained the amount of 6bn/- while knowing that the money is the product**



Ronald Lyatuu (2nd-L), marketing manager for Serengeti Breweries Limited's Lake Victoria zone, pictured in Mwanza city on Saturday overseeing the presentation of prizes to the winners of the firm's Pilsner Lager campaign dubbed 'Kapu la Wana'. Neema Abdallah (L) won a smart TV, Neema Mathias (R) a motorcycle and Hassan Joel (2nd-R) a smartphone. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Media firm distributes books to scale up environmental conservation knowledge

By Guardian Correspondent, Longido

THE Media Aid for Indigenous and Pastoralists Community (Maipac) has started distributing books on natural knowledge in the care of the environment, forests and water sources to various groups if present in schools, to young people and other groups.

The books were launched by the Minister of State in the Vice-President's Office (Union and Environment), Selemani Jafo recently in Arusha.

The books, which are based on the narration of leaders of the Maasai tradition, women and young people have been published as part of the project of conservation and care of the environment with natural knowledge which is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in the small grants program.

About 3000 books are expected to be distributed in Longido, Monduli and Longido districts but also in various government and private institutions inside and outside the country.

Inaugurating the books, minister Jafo said they will be of great help as the society has now begun to forget the original knowledge in various social factors if there is environmental care.

Jafo said the book will be sent to other experts to see in which area it can be used more.

He praised GEF and UNDP for supporting small organizations in environmental projects that directly benefit people.

"I ask UNDP and GEF to continue to help MAIPAC and others in these projects because the state of destruction is bad in the world and great efforts are needed in collaboration with various stakeholders," he said.

Faustine Ninga, GEF coordinator of the environment programme said that the books will help to inherit natural knowledge from current and future generations.

Andrea Ngobole, MAIPAC Administrative Officer said that the media organization in collaboration with the CILAO organisation has also produced long and short video articles on natural knowledge that will be distributed to the media.

"We hope these books will be read by students, youth, women and other groups in society if there are policy makers to help take care of the environment" he said.

Lekishoni Mollel, Olbomba primary school teacher praised MAIPAC for distributing the books, noting: "I have read a little of these books, they are good and we will give them to young people to read these for themselves, natural

knowledge in the conservation of the Environment Inaugurating the books, minister Jafo said they will be of great help as the society has now begun to forget the original knowledge in various social factors if there is environmental care.

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tions.

Lekishoni Mollel, Olbomba primary school teacher extolled the media organisation for distributing the books, noting: "I have read a little of these books, they are good and we will give them to young people to read these for themselves, natural knowledge on environmental conservation."

Olbomba Ward Councillor Ndiono Mollel also lauded MAIPAC for bringing books to the villages.

"These books are very important because our Monduli district has been greatly affected by climate change, so students and young people reading them will help take care of the environment," he said.

Blandina Nkini, Arusha regional community development officer also commended the media organization for having a unique project of environmental conservation with natural knowl-

edge and explained that she is proud of the only organization among 1114 organizations in Arusha region that does a good job of encouraging environmental care with natural knowledge.

Andrea Ngobole, MAIPAC administrative officer said that the MAIPAC organization in collaboration with the Civic and Legal Aid organization (CILAO) has also produced long and short video articles on natural knowledge that will be distributed to the media.

"We hope these books will be read by students, youth, women and other groups in society if there are policy makers to help take care of the environment" he said.

This project of natural knowledge in conservation has also shared the knowledge of Monduli, Longido and Ngorongoro councils in all stages if there is a review of natural knowledge information.



### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MANGROVE HABITAT RESTORATION AND NET GAIN PROGRAMS FOR TANGA REGION. REFERENCE NO. REQ-0000157

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD invites experienced and reputable companies to express their interest in providing **Mangrove Habitat Restoration Services and Net Gain Programs for Tanga Region for the EACOP project.**

The project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda, to the Chongoleani Peninsula near Tanga in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline will be 1,443 km, of which 296 km will be in Uganda and 1,147 km in Tanzania.

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

EACOP's project marine facilities at Chongoleani Peninsula include a Marine Storage Terminal (MST), a 2Km jetty and a load-out facility (LOF). A small area of seagrass habitat will be impacted by the construction and operation of the jetty. A Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) has been prepared. It provides preliminary quantification of the impacted areas. A specialist company/consultancy/organization is needed to undertake design and implementation of a Mangrove Habitat Restoration and Net Gain Program and improve understanding of reasons for die-back in Sigi River estuary, with lessons learnt applicable to all future restoration. The desired approach includes Community Based Ecological Mangrove Restoration (CBEMR), that includes local stakeholders and other groups from the outset, such as local communities, government institutions and civil society organizations. Restoration decisions will be based on scientific data to ensure validity in relation to prevailing social and environmental conditions and predictable future dynamics.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Companies or organizations expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:
- Proof of registration as institutions whose activities are linked with community participatory activities (e.g. Marine Habitat Restoration, etc.) in Tanzania.
  - Brief description of experience and capacity to design and implement mangrove restoration programs, research on mangrove die-offs, working with, and building capacity of coastal communities, establishing mangrove seedling nurseries, conducting experimental research, monitoring and mapping mangrove restoration.
  - Job references that show experience of doing similar work within the last five years.

- Profile of key personnel to be involved in the project, including personal certifications, level of qualifications, experience and capacity to deliver the required services.
- Appropriate licensing, if any, from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (ELSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company Definition.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required, including submission of financial accounts for the past three years.
- Evidence of a QHSE Management system, organization, and process in compliance with applicable local and industry standards for similar works.
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.

Companies with the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest through email, together with the documents stated in the above section, to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com), (max. email size 20Mb) before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT) on 2nd March 2023. Email subject must be: 00000157\_Provision of Design and implementation of a Mangrove Habitat Restoration and Net Gain Programs based on best criteria and methods in the Tanga Bay. Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English.

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



### Advertisement of Business Opportunities

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
Reference no: 0001/NCA/2023  
Subject: Supply of Goods and Services  
Contracting Authority: Norwegian Church Aid - Tanzania Office  
Deadline for submission of letter of interest: 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023

#### Background

Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) is a Norwegian Non-Governmental organization working with local Faith-based partners (FBOs) to promote Social Justice, Human Rights and Economic Justice for poor communities. NCA has its foundations based in the congregation of Churches in Norway, whose efforts are dedicated towards eradicating poverty, its causes and social deprivation.

Norwegian Church Aid invites qualified suppliers of one or several of the following goods and services to respond to this advertisement. Suppliers who have responded to this advertisement and provides the required information may be invited to participate in the procurement procedure for the relevant lot(s).

#### Goods and services needed:

- Hotel conference and accommodation services
- Stationery and office consumables
- Air ticket services.
- Internet Service Provider and IT support services (software and hardware).
- Designing and Printing services
- Micro Investment Consultancy Services
- Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Consultancy services.
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) Consultancy Services.
- Professional events facilitation services
- Training and capacity building services
- Programme assessment, review, and evaluation consultancy services.
- Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) services
- Solar equipment supply and installation.
- Insurance Services.
- Editorial and translation services.
- Vehicle service and maintenance.
- Clearing and forwarding services.
- Development Project Communication; Visual and Print documentation of projects.
- Socio-economic Research Study

The interested supplier shall provide the following information to the Contracting Authority using the contact details below:

- Indicate which supplies or service you are interested in supplying.
- Provide the following information preferably in **one** page:
  - the company's name and contact details.
  - contact person.
  - brief description of the company's background and main line of work; and
  - experience with this kind of supply/service.

This is purely information on business opportunities and **does not** constitute a commitment to purchase or any other form of contractual commitment with the Contracting Authority.

Information should be provided to the following address by hand or by email:

Country Director,  
Norwegian Church Aid  
Plot 436, Mikocheni II Mwai Kibaki Rd,  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania+255 22 277 1650  
E-mail : [procurement.tanzania@nca.no](mailto:procurement.tanzania@nca.no)

# The Guardian

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MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2023

**Taking A New Look  
At The News**  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Teaching format has to change if the government can't employ

WHILE there is often heated discussion on failings in many subjects in secondary school, the level of staffing isn't quite at issue, and for that reason things may look serene or normal from the outside. But inside the picture is different, that of biting shortages for most staffing needs, with the possible exception of History and Kiswahili teachers.

Given the fact that the government is stretched to the limit just to create sufficient learning space (classrooms) for quasi-universal secondary school, expecting staffing to rapidly improve is faulty. We need other methods.

For once, what looks like huge understaffing is in part a technological problem of lesson delivery rather than the number of students in a classroom or lecture hall. The big problem leading to negative performance is said to be the large number of students in a class, apart from the lack of specialised teachers in one subject or another.

There is another problem, of being allowed to drop physics and chemistry, not mathematics, history, civics, literature or other, apparently because each student has to be amply filled with nostalgia for the past, and its exploits.

If the second problem is sorted out, as people learn of where they are by their social environments, not what they learn in school. Classrooms prepare young people to know what they want to do in life, and thus not everyone needs to know everything that political leaders want them to know.

The human mind has a way of filtering things it needs and those it doesn't, so putting students

under nine subjects regime isn't helpful.

Both the teaching staff and the learners are burdened, and the productivity level attained is minimal with the bulk of students getting 'F' grade.

Stories of this sort can be repeated endlessly as in the Civics subject nationwide, the lack of teachers was almost total, as they borrow teachers from Kiswahili, History and elsewhere, or really anyone, to teach the subject. That plainly isn't serious but the solution isn't to scream to the government to employ sufficient numbers of teachers to improve staffing or make it sufficient. It is to change the method of delivery to obtain better results even with the same number of teachers.

The most significant aspect in teaching is audibility of the teacher, so there is a need to place small loudspeakers in classes, as usually the 45 students limit isn't observed.

This needs to be backed up by ensuring that all students sit on benches and can use tables, not sit on the floor or under a tree.

Some populists prize such learning, but in the final analysis telling stories under a tree builds momentary excitement rather than lasting memories, unless they are anecdotic in character.

At the same time, there is a need to seek auxiliary facilities for exceptionally large classes where there are no tutors or teachers, so long as they are adorned with good equipment to enhance audibility and ensure that there is sitting space. Some private sector involvement makes such facilities available on a mobile basis, for a small fee.

## EU-Tanzania business forum a test of policy cohesion, efficacy

THIS coming week is likely to be memorable for a breadth of business practitioners and administrators in the country and among member states of the

European Union. It is a large gathering of more than 200 big companies from the EU zone and in Tanzania, and definitely regional firms operating in the country, or perhaps just curious to know what will transpire. Slated for Thursday and Friday, organisers expect the signing of scores of investment deals to expand the country's trade with the EU. That means creating additional employment, pushing growth.

Officials say that the level of success of the business forum will largely hinge on deals that will be signed with local partners, as part of current efforts to attract investments into the country. There is also a list of preferences in relation to where

Investments need to be directed, namely renewable energy, mining of critical minerals, sustainable agriculture. While the tension isn't visible, strategic minerals are a bone of contention in a cold war kind of format as they are a key factor for future distribution of power, just like oil has been a strategic factor for decades.

Starting from 2019 when the doing business blueprint was adopted up to the moment, there is a policy seesaw that is at times visible and often hidden. For instance, how far is the climate of doing business propitious enough for most expectations of the public authorities with regard to the forum to be realised? Even more poignantly, will public officials be giving the same signals on investments, and will these moods be synchronised with feelings in the local private sector?

For once, the EU sees this conference as part of its own proactive

outreach effort in which case participating companies know what to expect and how to go about it, which would predictably be a different matter without visible EU interest that it succeeds. On that basis it is possible to succeed on a broad range of initiatives, but a lot of things seem like they will be resolved on the spot, especially with regard to capacities of the local private sector. It seems to be the case for credit availability to bring in capital to a joint venture as equity purchase has usually been limited/

One drawback on prospects of the forum is that the talk is still with regard to uplifting the trade volume between Tanzania and the EU, where officials say it had by 2021 grown to 2.1trn/- of imports from the EU and 1.1trn/- in exports to the bloc. From a strict analytical view enhancing our capacity for exports isn't a goal that can bring upwards of 100 major companies to Dar es Salaam, but alternatively, to figure out opportunities of a growing internal market. This is what business executives will seek to find out from their local counterparts, if there is a chance for sustainable high levels of growth, so that they can share in the growing market.

As an EU diplomat said, it is vital to leverage public sector efforts by increasing private sector investments in strategic sectors for sustainable development. It is true that achieving the sustainable development goals is improbable with only public funds, but what the private sector adds isn't just funds. First the EU as our leading trade partner had to wait for an inclination towards a competitive economy for wide ranging investment designs. The Global Gateway, the EU's positive offer to boost investments globally can be rolled out, but boosting equity inroads is vital.

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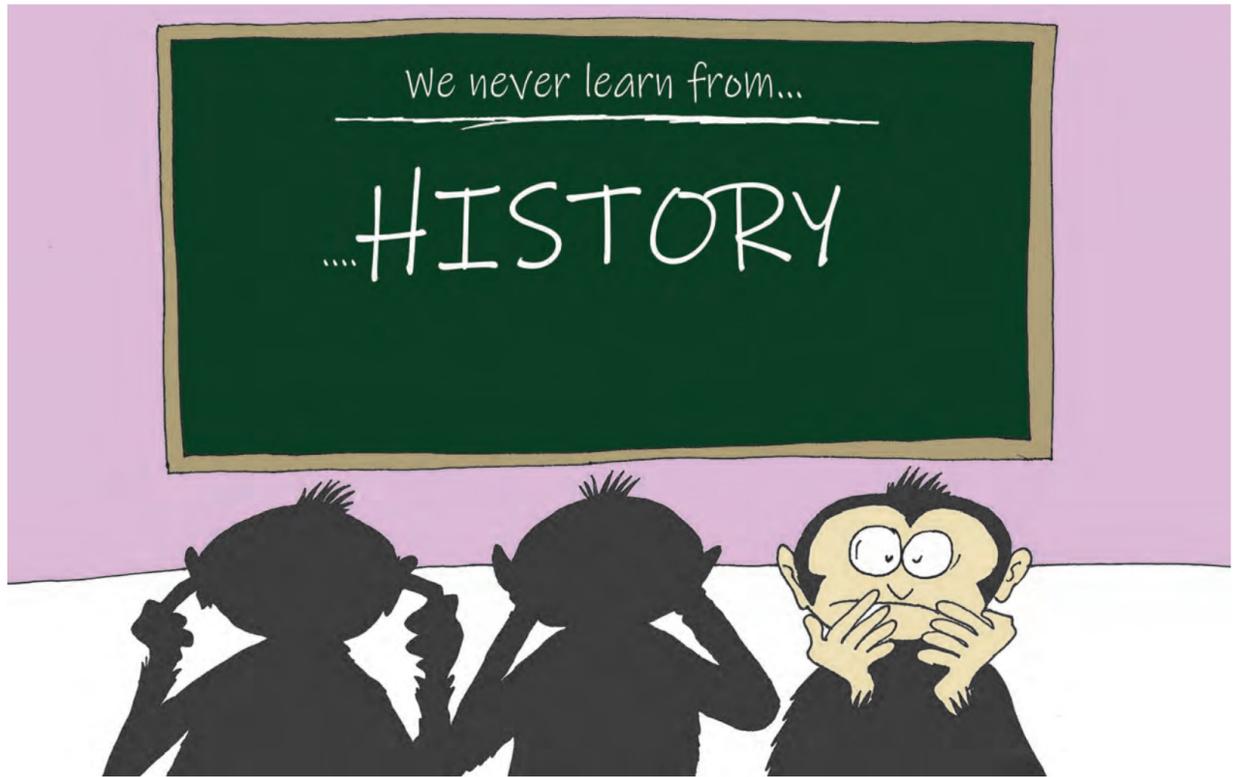
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## Africa is winning the war against neglected tropical diseases

By Monique Wasunna

RESEARCH is yielding better drugs, and governments and Big Pharma have been pushed into action. The elimination of once-killer diseases is in sight.

As I began my career as a medical researcher, Luke Kanyengareng' was a 14-year old boy in Kenya who got infected with visceral leishmaniasis (VL), a neglected tropical disease (NTD) caused by a bite of a female sand-fly. After malaria, VL (also known as kala-azar) is the second deadliest parasitic killer. If left untreated, it will kill 95 per cent of its victims. When Luke fell ill, it took almost five months to get him an accurate diagnosis. When he finally started the treatment that could save his life, it was a harrowing experience of daily painful injections for 30 days with a potentially toxic drug.

I did not know Luke then, but my passion to find better treatments for patients affected by this deadly disease was the reason our paths would cross years later. To alleviate the suffering of people affected by NTDs, such as Luke, I decided to dedicate my life to developing new, better drugs.

Luke's story is not unique. 1.7 billion people around the world are affected by NTDs and Africa accounts for nearly 40 per cent of this global burden. These diseases can be devastating. They can cause loss of life, severe pain, disabilities, disfigurement, malnutrition, and stunted growth. What these diseases have in common is that they don't feature enough on the global health agenda, receive little funding, and have historically been ignored by pharmaceutical research.

I eventually met Luke when the organisation I work for, the Drugs for Neglected Tropical Diseases (DNDi), started conducting research in his hometown of Kacheliba, West Pokot, Kenya. By that time, Luke had beaten incredible odds by surviving VL. The encounter with the doctors and nurses who saved his life made such a strong impression on the young man that he decided to study nursing. He became a nurse at the Kacheliba sub-County hospital, taking care of patients affected by leishmaniasis and other infectious diseases.

Because we need better, safer treatments for people like Luke, DNDi has worked with many partners in East Africa and across the globe, to find and develop new drugs for NTDs, conducting clinical trials in endemic countries and forming partnerships with Ministries of Health, communities, and research institutions.

We are making progress. Last year, we demonstrated that a new,



shorter, better treatment is effective against VL. New treatments for VL are in the pipeline, including an all-oral drug that will hopefully dispense with the need for hospitalisation. From using arsenic that killed 5 per cent of sleeping sickness patients 20 years ago, we have also been able to show that a single-dose oral treatment is effective in treating sleeping sickness.

With these advancements, and more in the pipeline, and partners joining the fight against neglected diseases, the impact of our collective efforts has started to become visible.

The World Health Organisation notes that 47 African countries have already eliminated at least one NTD as a public health problem. Key milestones in 2022 include Togo, which became the first country to eliminate four NTDs, namely Guinea-worm disease, elephantiasis, sleeping sickness, and trachoma. In the same year, trachoma was eliminated in Malawi, and Guinea-worm disease in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

However, more still needs to be done to reach the last mile of elimination of NTDs. Health workers in Africa continue to face glaring challenges that include inadequate tools to test and treat NTDs, low integration of NTDs into national health programmes, unpredictable and inadequate funding, and impact of

the Covid-19 pandemic on already overburdened health systems. The continent can - and must - do more to provide solutions for patients like Luke and eliminate neglected diseases.

In the past two years, as we fought the Covid-19 pandemic, we have felt the energy, renewed hope and commitment from governments, health-care workers, researchers, and community advocates in the continent. The Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention brought together member states and stakeholders in the region and beyond to tackle the pandemic. We in the NTD community have learned a lot of lessons from this response.

Great strides to stay on course to tackle NTDs can be seen in the efforts made during the London Declaration (2012), and the Kigali Summit on Malaria and NTDs a decade later, which marked the launch of the Kigali Declaration on NTDs (2022) that has galvanised the political will, country ownership, and commitments (including financial ones) to attain the targets set in the WHO's 2021 - 2030 NTD road map.

The African Union's Continental framework and Common Position on NTDs and Africa's New Public Health Order calls on strengthening efforts towards health security. The year has started on a good note: last week, WHO in collaboration

with its partners held a stakeholders meeting to develop a strategic plan for the elimination of leishmaniasis in East Africa.

This is the first time that the elimination of VL in Eastern Africa has been discussed. These are conversations I only dreamed would be had in my lifetime.

All these efforts confirm that the basic structures and strategies to eliminate NTDs already exist and we now need to build on them so that we can reach that last mile of elimination. We can eliminate NTDs through the power of partnerships and sustained investment in financing for medical research and programmes.

30 January marked the fourth World NTD Day, which is observed annually to raise awareness on NTDs, celebrate milestones, highlight the gaps, and accelerate the response in the fight against NTDs. I am happy to say that with community voices such as Luke's, partnerships with key stakeholders such as NTD National Control Programmes, governments, pharmaceutical companies, and investments at continental, national and local levels, we can act now and act together to eliminate neglected diseases once and for all.

**Dr Monique Wasunna is the Eastern Africa Regional Director of the Drugs for Neglected Diseases**

# As our homes become more violent, children suffer as collateral damage

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi



DOMESTIC violence remains one of the stubborn challenges we face as a nation. The recent Tanzania Gender Assessment Report 2022 shows that 40 per cent of all women aged between 15 and 49 have experienced physical violence.

However, our country is gaining some notoriety because of intimate partner violence or spousal violence which has been resulting in serious injuries and even deaths in recent years. The aforementioned report says it is more prevalent in rural areas, accounting for 52 per cent, while it averages 45 per cent in urban areas.

There are legal frameworks as well as all manner of activism to protect couples from their violent partners. But little discussed is the devastating impact of domestic violence on children who end up as collateral damage.

For, experts warn that children who witness domestic violence or are victims of abuse themselves are at serious risk for long-term physical and mental health problems. Children who witness violence between parents may also be at greater risk of being violent in their future relationships.

It is against this backdrop that parents are being called upon to desist from domestic violence to prevent their children from experiencing mental health challenges and spare the nation cycles of violent generations which are naturally less productive.

The call was made in Moshi Municipality, Kilimanjaro Region, recently by Dr Aloyce Ambokile, an expert in mental health and psychology with the Moshi-based Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) Zonal Referral Hospital when presenting a paper during the 2023 International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

“Traumatic situations children face at home like family turmoil, open disagreements between couples, violence at home, divorce and other marital challenges expose children to mental health issues and thus destroy their future,” he said.

“When children see that there is no harmony between their parents, they find themselves in high levels of stress and when there is no one to explain things to them at the right time, they end up with serious mental health issues.”

Dr Ambokile said that teachers who spend most of the time with children have a role to play to shield

their pupils living in violent homes from the devastating impact of domestic violence by reaching out to cooperative parents after noticing abnormal behavior in a child.

But he was quick to note that there are mentally healthy pupils with dyslexia (a common learning difficulty that mainly causes problems in reading, writing and spelling) who only need extra help from teachers to catch up in class.

“It happens that when a pupil has the challenge of dyslexia, the parent, the teacher or both, start yelling at them, insult or use other depressing languages; this leads to stress and eventually serious mental health issues,” he said.

Presenting another paper during the occasion themed ‘Digital Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality’, the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College (KCMUCo) lecturer Dr Sabina Mtwewe said there is a need for a special national strategic plan for protection children from domestic violence and

the resultant mental health issues.

“Girls are often victims of violence directly or indirectly which force many to drop out of school. Therefore, it is important to put in place mechanisms to help them early so that they stay in school and complete their education,” she said.

“We have seen different types of technologies to report distress at the press of a button; these should be made available in schools including higher learning institutions for the safety and security of our children.”

Regarding the celebration which was organized and coordinated by the Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute (KCRI) and which drew participants including women and female pupils from various secondary schools in Kilimanjaro Region, Dr Mtwewe challenged female learners to focus on their studies and avoid temptations that can disrupt them from the same.

“You girls who have decided to get involved in science, my advice to you is that to succeed you must be patient and focused so that you understand the subjects because unlike before, science and technology are always changing nowadays,” she said.

In her opening remarks, Prof Irene Kiwelu, KCRI Principal Research Scientist said the 2023 celebration aimed at reflecting on how the situation for women working in the fields of science and technology.

## Climate crisis is child crisis and climate-resilient children, teachers and schools must become top international agenda

By Joyce Chimbi

FROM southern Ethiopia to northern Kenya and Somalia, the most severe drought in the last 40 years is unfolding. It is simply too hot to go to school on an empty stomach, and close to 3 million children are out of school, with an additional 4 million at risk of dropping out entirely across the Horn of Africa.

Further afield, months after unprecedented floods and landslides ravaged Pakistan, villages remain underwater, and millions of children still need lifesaving support. More recently, while children were sleeping, a most devastating earthquake intruded, and an estimated 2.5 million children in Syria and 4.6 million children in Turkey were affected.

Today, child delegates from Nigeria and Colombia told the world that climate change is ruining their childhood and the world must act now, for 222 million dreams are at stake. They were speaking at the Education Cannot Wait High-Level Financing Conference held in Geneva.

“I am a girl champion with Save the Children and a member of the children’s parliament in Nigeria. Children are least responsible for the climate crisis, yet we bear the heaviest burden of its impact, now and in the future. Climate emergency is a child’s rights crisis, and suffering wears the face of a child,” said Nafisa.

In the spirit of listening to the most affected, most at risk, Pedro further spoke about Colombia’s vulnerability to climate change and the impact on children, and more so those in indigenous communities and those living with a disability, such as his 13-year-old cousin.

Pedro and Nafisa stressed that children must play a central role in responding to the climate crisis in every corner of the world. They said climate change affects education, and in turn, education has an important role.

This particular session was organized in partnership with the Geneva Global Hub for Education in Emergencies, Save the Children, and Plan International, in the backdrop of the first-ever High-Level Financing Conference organized in close collaboration with the Governments of Colombia, Germany, Niger, Norway, and South Sudan, ECW and Switzerland.

Birgitte Lange, CEO of Save the

Children Norway, stressed that climate change is not only a threat to the future, “for the world’s 2.4 billion children, the climate crisis is a global emergency crisis today that is disrupting children and their education. Climate change contributes to, increases, and deepens the existing crisis of which children are carrying the burden.”

“Last year, Save the Children held our biggest-ever dialogue, where we heard from at least 54,000 children in 41 countries around the world. They shared their thoughts on climate change and its consequences for them. Keeping children in school amidst a climate crisis is critical to the children’s well-being and their learning. Education plays a lifesaving role.”

Rana Tanveer Hussain, Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training in Pakistan, spoke of the severe impact of the floods on the country’s education system, “more than 34,000 public education institutions have been damaged or destroyed. At least 2.6 million students are affected. As many as 1 million children are at risk of dropping out of school altogether.”

“During this crisis, ECW quickly came forward with great support, extending a grant of USD 5 million through the First Emergency Response Program in the floods-affected districts in September and October 2022, targeting 19,000 children thus far. In addition, the ECW multiyear resilience program has also been leveraged to contribute to these great efforts. But the need is still great.”

Gregorius Yoris, a young leader representing Youth for Education in Emergencies in Indonesia, said despite children being at the forefront of the climate crisis, they have been furthest left behind in finding solutions to climate change.

With one billion children, or nearly half of the world’s children living in countries at extremely high risk of climate change and environmental hazards, Dr Heike Kuhn, Head of Division, Education at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in Germany, told participants it is time to raise climate resilient children.

“Weather-related disasters are growing, and young people are the most affected; we need three things

in place: climate resilient schools, climate resilient teachers, and climate resilient students. We need climate-smart schools to stay safe when disaster strikes,” she explained.

“We must never forget about the teachers, for they must be agents of change, and teach children to use resources such as water and energy in a sustainable way. Children must also be taught how to behave during extreme weather changes such as earthquakes without leaving behind the most vulnerable children.”

As curtains fell on the landmark two-day conference, Yasmine Sherif, the Director of Education Cannot Wait, told participants, “The greatest feeling comes from the fact that all ECW’s stakeholders are here and we have raised these resources together, governments, civil society, UN agencies, private sector, Foundations.”

“When I watched the panels and the engagements, I felt that everyone has that sense of ownership. Education Cannot Wait is yours. The success of this conference is a historic milestone for education in emergencies and protracted crises.”

In all, 17 donors announced pledges to ECW, including five contributions from new donors - a historic milestone for education in emergencies and protracted crises and ECW. Just over one month into the multi-lateral Fund’s new 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, these landmark commitments already amount to more than half of the USD 1.5 billion required to deliver on the Fund’s four-year Strategic Plan. On the way forward, Sherif said ECW is already up and running, but with the additional USD 826 million, the Fund was getting a big leap forward toward the 20 million children and adolescents that will be supported with holistic child-centered education. This is in line with the new Strategic Plan, whose top priorities include localization, working with local organizations at grassroots levels, youths, and getting the children involved as well.

“We can no longer look at climate-induced disasters and education in silos. Conflict creates disruptions in education, so does climate-induced disasters and then the destiny of children and adolescents having to flee their home countries as refugees or forcefully displaced in-country,” she emphasized.

IPS UN Bureau Report

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### INVITATION TO BID

**RFP Title: Supply of Education Subsidies**  
**Number: 2023- BAKAID/01/01**  
**Date of Solicitation: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023**  
**Closing Date and Time: 05<sup>th</sup> March 2023, 05:00 pm (Simiyu, Tanzania)**  
**Questions and Clarifications: Due by 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023.**

#### Introduction to BAKAID and ACHIEVE Project

BAK-AIDS established in 2004 under The National Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA) which was registered in 1968 under the Societies Ordinance, 1954 with Reg. No SO.NO.5512, to join the national efforts in response to social economic development and emerging health issues. In this initiative BAK-AIDS coordinated the strategic plan, training, implementation and evaluation of all community service interventions throughout Tanzania. According to the amendments to the Non-Governmental Organization Act, No. 24 of 2002 (the NGO Act), as introduced by the written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 3) Act 2019 (the Miscellaneous Amendments Act), BAKWATA registered BAKAID Tanzania as a Non-Governmental Organization under the Non-Governmental Organizations Act, No. 24 of 2002 in 2021 with registration number 00NGO/R/1805. Visit us at [www.bakaid.or.tz](http://www.bakaid.or.tz)

ACHIEVE is a five-year, USAID-funded global cooperative agreement with the objective of attaining and sustaining HIV epidemic control among at-risk and hard to reach pregnant and breastfeeding (PBF) women, infants, children, and youth, as well as to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS and prevent HIV transmission among these populations.

#### Objectives of the Assignment

The overall objective of this assignment is to procure and distribute education subsidies to 829 in school OVC aged 14-17 in councils listed below. Delivery will be at our offices located in Bariadi, Simiyu and Kigoma Ujiji, Kigoma.

BAKAID now invites quotes from eligible, registered companies to supply Education Subsidies for OVCs. Below are the requirements:

Item	Description of Item	Number of Items per Kit for 829 in-school Children aged 6-14
School bag	Backpack – Water proof (14.5-17-inch length)	1
Mathematical set	Mathematical set including the geometry set i.e pencil, ruler, sharpener, eraser, stencil, compass, protractor, set square, timetable	1
Ball Pens	Type: Ball pen Material: Plastic Color: Blue/Black Length: 14.5cm	5
HB Pencils	621 HB Pencil, Material: Wood-Superial hb bonded lead resists breakages Clear and sharp writing Material: Wood, Dimension: 17.5 x 0.5 x 0.8cm, Point type: Fine	5
Eraser	Dimension: 4.3 x 2 x 1cm, Colour: White	5
A4 Exercise books	100 pages	5

Interested vendors should download the full Term of Reference (ToR) through [www.bakaid.or.tz](http://www.bakaid.or.tz)

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to [procurement@bakaid.or.tz](mailto:procurement@bakaid.or.tz) with the subject line “Request for Clarification: Supply of Education Subsidies” before CoB 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

#### Scope of Work

Specific scope of work includes but should not be limited to the following:

1. Provide sample prior to procurement.
2. Deliver Education Subsidies at our offices as instructed
3. Do an inventory with Program Manager to match the Education Subsidies procured with the request that was provided prior procurement process

Submit to BAKAID a report on the delivery of Education Subsidies and a signed delivery forms per delivery, highlighting number of items delivered.

#### A. Eligibility

To be considered for the award, vendors must currently be legally operating in Tanzania, and the quotation must be including all of the following information:

- Ability to meet or exceed the requirements/technical specifications.
- Ability to deliver the items/services specified in Terms of Reference no later than the date(s) required.
- Legally registered in Tanzania.

#### B. Evaluation Criteria

- Price
- Financial capability
- Experience
- Quality of items to be supplied (Short listed applicants will be required to submit samples)
- Delivery

#### Submission Instructions

Interest suppliers must submit the following information to

#### BAKAID Tanzania:

1. Draft inception report detailing the methodology for supplying and distributing education subsidies kits, including tentative work plan, for review and approval by BAKAID.
2. Quote, valid for at least 60 days
3. Current company profile
4. Copies of the registration certificates and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TIN certificates, and Tax clearance certificate.
5. Items specifications are fully addressed in the quotation.
6. Current audited financial statement for two consecutive years.
7. Delivery time must be clearly specified.
8. Payment must be done after delivery (100%)
9. Evidence of experiences of similar assignment at least two (2) names and addresses of clients served
10. Shortlisted Vendors will be required to submit sample of backpack to BAKAID Simiyu Office similar to or close to the sample provided.

All interested vendors who wish to answer this Request for Proposal (RFP) should send their proposals in a sealed envelope to BAKAID Tanzania Simiyu Office by 05<sup>th</sup> March 2023 04:00 PM. All sealed envelopes needed to be marked as: “TENDER FOR DELIVERY OF EDUCATION SUBSIDIES FOR OVC”

#### Office Address

The Tender Committee of BAKAID Tanzania  
Bariadi Town Council, Somanda ward, House number 15  
P.O. Box 526, Simiyu, Tanzania.

BAKAID will open all bids on **Monday 06<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 09.00 AM** in the presence of Bidder’s representatives who choose to attend.

Quotes must be in Tanzania shillings and include taxes separately.  
• Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.

Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted

# Hate speech loads the gun, misinformation pulls the trigger - And it is profitable!

By Baher Kamal

**I**N this world of wars, massive weapons production, sales and use; of sharpening inequalities and deadly climate emergencies, hate speech and its inhumane impact, is being amplified at 'unprecedented scale' by new technologies.

Hate speech has now reached dangerous records, fuelling discrimination, racism, xenophobia and staggering human rights violations.

It mainly targets whoever is not "like us" i.e ethnic minorities, black, 'coloured,' and Asian peoples; and Muslims worldwide through widespread Islamophobia, let alone the millions of migrants, and the billions of poor. In short, the most vulnerable human beings, let alone the world's girls and women.

The UN reports that the new communications technologies are one of the most common ways of spreading divisive rhetoric on a global scale, threatening peace around the world.

A new UN Podcasts series, UNiting Against Hate, explains how this dangerous phenomenon is being tackled worldwide.

## Online hate speech on staggering rise

According to a leading international human rights organisation, Minority Rights Group, one analysis records a 400-fold increase in the use of hate terms online in Pakistan between 2011 and 2021.

Being able to monitor hate speech can provide valuable information for authorities to predict future crimes or to take measures afterwards.

There is concern amongst human rights experts and activists that hate speech is becoming more prevalent, with views once perceived as fringe and extreme, moving into the mainstream.

An episode of UNiting Against Hate features Tendayi Achiume, the outgoing UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, and Jaroslav Valch, who is the project manager for fact-checking and news literacy, at Prague-based media development organisation "Transitions".

## 'Hate speech is profitable'

For Tendayi Achiume, a former independent UN human rights expert, more attention needs to be paid to the business models of social media companies.

"A lot of the time people want to talk about content moderation, what should be allowed on these platforms, without paying close attention to the political economy of these social media platforms. And it turns out hate speech is profitable".

## Hate speech and misinformation, closely related

Christopher Tuckwood, the executive director of the Sentinel Project warns that hate speech and misinformation are closely related: "Hate speech loads the gun, misinformation pulls the trigger."

"And that's the kind of the relationship that we've come to understand over the years".

It's now theoretically possible for any human being who can access an Internet connection to become a producer of that sort of content. And so that really does change things, and with a global reach, adds Tuckerwood.

The Sentinel Project is a Canadian non-profit organisation who's Hatebase initiative monitors the trigger words that appear on various platforms and risk morphing into real-world violence.

Tuckwood describes it as an "early warning indicator that can help us to identify an increased risk of violence."

It works by monitoring online spaces, especially Twitter, looking for certain keywords, in several different languages, and then applying certain contextual rules to determine what was or was not most likely to be actually hateful content.

## In the Balkans

Another organisation doing a similar kind of hate speech mapping is the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network.

The Network monitors every single trial related to war crime atrocities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and amounts to 700 open cases.

In mapping hate it looks out for four different aspects; "hateful narratives by politicians, discriminatory language, atrocity denial and actual incidents on the ground where minority groups have been attacked."

## Politicians fuelling hatred

According to Dennis Gillick, the executive director and editor of their branch in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the primary drivers of hate narratives in the country are populist, ethno-nationalist politicians.

"The idea behind the entire mapping process is to prove the correlation between political statements and political drivers of hate and the actual atrocities that take place."

The Network also wants to prove that "there is a lack of systematic prosecution of hate crimes and that the hateful language allows for this perpetuating cycle of violence, with more discriminatory language by politicians and fewer prosecutions."

As a result of hate speech, we have seen a rising number of far-right groups being mobilised, explains Gillick.



Hate speech loads the gun, misinformation pulls the trigger - And that's the kind of the relationship that we've come to understand over the years. Credit: Shutterstock.

## Fake humanitarian groups spreading hateful language

"We are seeing fake NGOs or fake humanitarian groups being mobilised to spread hateful or discriminatory language, in order to expand this gap between the three different ethnic and religious groups in this country."

The real-life consequences reported by the Network have included defacing or vandalising mosques, or churches, depending on where a specific faith group is in the minority, and open calls to violence.

According to Gillick, this is fuelling the agenda of ethno-nationalist parties who want to cause divisions.

## Need to create counter narratives

The way to combat this toxic environment, according to Gillick, is to create counter-narratives, disseminating accurate, factual information and stories that promote unity rather than division.

## However, he acknowledges that this is a big ask.

"It is difficult to counter public broadcasters, big media outlets with several hundred journalists

and reporters with thousands of flights a day, with a group of 10 to 15 journalists who are trying to write about very specific topics, in a different way, and to do the analytical and investigative reporting."

## Minorities under attack

Another organisation that is trying to create counter-narratives is Kirkuk Now, an independent media outlet in Iraq, which is trying to produce objective and quality content on these groups and share it on social media platforms.

"Our focus is on minorities, internally displaced people, women and children and, of course, freedom of expression," says editor-in-chief of Kirkuk Now, Salaam Omer.

"We see very little content [about them] in the Iraqi media mainstream. And if they are actually depicted, they are depicted as problems."

## Social media moguls urged to change

The heads of many of the world's biggest social media platforms were urged to change their business models and become more accountable in the battle against rising hate speech online.

In a detailed statement, more

than two dozen UN-appointed independent human rights experts - including representatives from three different working groups and multiple Special Rapporteurs - called out chief executives by name.

They said that the companies they lead "must urgently address posts and activities that advocate hatred, and constitute incitement to discrimination, in line with international standards for freedom of expression."

They also said the new tech billionaire owner of Twitter, Elon Musk, Meta's Mark Zuckerberg, Sundar Pichai, who heads Google's parent company Alphabet, Apple's Tim Cook, "and CEOs of other social media platforms", should "centre human rights, racial justice, accountability, transparency, corporate social responsibility and ethics, in their business model."

And they reminded that being accountable as businesses for racial justice and human rights, "is a core social responsibility, advising that "respecting human rights is in the long-term interest of these companies, and their shareholders."

The human rights experts underlined that the International

Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the UN's Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights provide a clear path forward on how this can be done.

## Corporate failure

"We urge all CEOs and leaders of social media to fully assume their responsibility to respect human rights and address racial hatred."

As evidence of the corporate failure to get a grip on hate speech, the Human Rights Council-appointed independent experts pointed to a "sharp increase in the use of the racist 'N' word on Twitter", following its recent acquisition by Tesla boss Elon Musk.

This showed the urgent need for social media companies to be more accountable "over the expression of hatred towards people of African descent, they argued.

Soon after Mr. Musk took over, the Network Contagion Research Institute of Rutgers University in the US, highlighted that the use of the N-word on the platform "increased by almost 500 per cent within a 12-hour period," compared to the previous average, the human rights experts said.

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

## Bridging the digital divide indeed making technology accessible to more in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

IN Tanzania, Y9 microfinance has launched an innovative initiative to address the issue of digital and financial inclusion by offering affordable smartphone financing to its customers. The goal of this move is to enable more people to access the internet and connect to the 4G network, which is crucial for participating in the digital economy.

Tanzania is a country with a fast-growing economy that has been increasingly driven by technology and the internet. Unfortunately, the lack of access to finance has been a significant challenge for many Tanzanians, particularly in rural areas. In addition, the high cost of smartphones, which can be as much as 60% of a person's monthly income, has made it difficult for people to purchase these devices and take advantage of the digital economy.

Y9 microfinance is a regulated Tanzanian microfinance company that provides a wide range of financial products and services to its customers. The company has now launched an affordable smartphone financing programme that aims to provide its customers with access to high-quality smartphones at an affordable cost. By offering these smartphones at lower prices, Y9 microfinance is helping more people access the internet and connect to the 4G network.

According to data from the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), the number of mobile phone subscribers in Tanzania has grown to over 54 million. This is equivalent to a penetration rate of approximately 80%. While this is

an impressive figure, it is essential to note that many people still do not have access to smartphones and the internet.

The Y9 microfinance smartphone financing programme is aimed at addressing this gap by providing affordable smartphones to people who would otherwise not be able to afford them. This programme is helping more people to participate in the digital economy, which is essential for the economic growth of Tanzania.

In an interview, the CEO of Y9 microfinance, Faith Pella, spoke about the programme, saying that "Our goal is to make it easier for more people to be a part of the digital economy and participate in the economic growth of our country. By offering affordable smartphone financing, we are enabling more people to have access to the internet, which is vital for participating in the digital economy."

The smartphone financing programme is also helping to address the gender gap in access to technology. Women especially in the rural areas are typically underrepresented in the technology sector, and many women in Tanzania do not have access to a smartphone or the internet. Y9 microfinance is working to address this issue by offering affordable smartphone financing and other financial services to women in Tanzania.

According to the CEO of Y9 microfinance, "We believe that by providing women with access to smartphones, we are empowering them to participate in the digital economy and make a positive contribution to our country's economic growth."

The Y9 microfinance smartphone financing programme is helping to connect



Y9 chief executive officer Faith Pella

more people to the 4G network, which is essential for participating in the digital economy. By providing affordable smartphones to more people, Y9 microfinance is enabling more people to access the internet, which is vital for education, communication, productivity and economic growth.

The programme is also helping entrepreneurs and small business owners in Tanzania to access the digital economy. With access to the internet, these business owners can

market their products and services online, which can lead to more sales and increased revenue.

The Y9 microfinance smartphone financing programme is already yielding positive results. Many people who would not have been able to afford smartphones are now purchasing them and connecting to the internet. This is not only improving access to information and communication but is also opening up new opportunities for businesses and entrepreneurs.

One of the beneficiaries of the programme is a small business owner in Tanzania who was struggling to access the internet. After purchasing a smartphone through the Y9 microfinance smartphone financing programme, he was able to connect to the internet and market his products online. As a result, his sales have increased, and he has been able to grow his business.



**We believe that by providing women with access to smartphones, we are empowering them to participate in the digital economy and make a positive contribution to our country's economic growth**

## Free trade, armed conflict dominate African Union summit in Addis Ababa

ADDIS ABABA

AFRICAN leaders met Saturday to discuss a slew of challenges facing the continent as UN chief Antonio Guterres urged them to do more to bring peace to conflict-hit regions.

Africa is reeling from a record drought in the Horn and deadly violence in the Sahel region and the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), with the two-day African Union summit aiming to address these issues and jumpstart a faltering free trade pact.

Most of the sessions are being held behind closed doors at the AU headquarters in the Ethiopian capital Addis Aba-

ba, with more than 30 presidents and prime ministers in attendance.

But eyes will be on the bloc to see if it can achieve ceasefires in the Sahel and the eastern DRC, where the M23 militia has seized swathes of territory and sparked a diplomatic row between Kinshasa and Rwanda's government, which is accused of backing the rebels.

Guterres called for Africa to take "action for peace", adding that the continent of 1.4 billion people faced "enormous tests... on virtually every front".

"I am deeply concerned about the recent rise in violence by armed groups in the eastern Democratic Republic

of the Congo and the rise of terrorist groups in the Sahel and elsewhere," he told the gathering.

"The mechanisms for peace are faltering," the UN secretary-general warned. Nevertheless, he urged the bloc to "continue to battle for peace".

At a mini-summit on Friday, leaders of the seven-nation East African Community pushed for all armed groups to withdraw from occupied areas in the eastern DRC by the end of next month.

Guterres met with several African leaders on Friday, including Rwandan President Paul Kagame, to discuss in particular the crisis in the Congo.

Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, host of the summit, lauded the bloc for its role in mediating a peace deal between his government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) in November to end a brutal two-year year in northern Ethiopia.

Junta-ruled Mali, Burkina Faso and Guinea, which have been suspended from the AU, cannot participate in this weekend's summit, but have sent diplomats to Addis Ababa to lobby for readmission.

Moussa Faki Mahamat, head of the African Union Commission, told the meeting the bloc needed to come up with new strategies to counter the backsliding of democracy on the continent.

He said "sanctions imposed on member states following unconstitutional changes of government... do not seem to produce the expected results".

"It seems necessary to reconsider the system of resistance to the unconstitutional changes in order to make it more effective," Faki added.

The summit will also aim to accelerate implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) launched in 2020.

The deal is billed as the biggest in the world in terms of population, gathering 54 out of 55 African countries, with Eritrea the only holdout.

African nations currently trade only about 15 percent of their goods and services with

each other, and the AfCFTA aims to boost that by 60 percent by 2034 by eliminating almost all tariffs.

But implementation has fallen well short of that goal, running into hurdles including disagreements over tariff reductions and border closures caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The African leaders are also expected to discuss the food crises rocking a continent hit hard by the worst drought in four decades and the knock-on effects of the war in Ukraine that have pushed up the cost of basic goods.

Created in 2002 following the disbanding of the Organisation of African Unity, the AU comprises all 55 African coun-

tries, with a population of 1.4 billion people.

While the bloc has been credited with taking a stand against coups, it has long been criticised as ineffectual.

Kagame, who has been urging the AU to implement major changes for years, is due to present a report on the reform of the bloc's institutions.

The Rwandan leader has called for the AU to take steps towards financial independence, with the bloc largely dependent on foreign donors.

Comoros President Azali Assoumani, leader of the small Indian Ocean archipelago of almost 900,000 people, took over the one-year rotating AU chairmanship from Senegal's Macky Sall.

## USAid, Taha collaboration has massive impact on horticulture

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE private sector-led approach used by US Agency for International Development (USAID)'s has paid windfall dividends in unlocking the potential of horticulture, it has been learnt.

Taking a private sector institutional capacity building approach, the USAID horticultural support activities focused on understanding and amplifying the underlying processes of Tanzania's horticultural production to market system to make it more efficient and inclusive.

Briefing the Mission Director for USAID Tanzania, Veeraya Kate Somvongsiri on her maiden official tour to Arusha horticultural farmers to get a glimpse of experience first-hand, TAHA CEO, Dr Jacqueline Mkindi said the industry had witnessed tremendous productivity and income upsurge for the critical mass of smallholder farmers in the country, thanks to the 17-year USAID support.

TAHA has, through the USAID support, provided the smallholder growers with climate smart technologies like greenhouses, drip irrigation, solar energy, water harvesting systems, training in best agricultural practices and inputs such as hybrid seeds and fertilizers to improve crops production

and meet both local and export demands.

"TAHA has partnered with USAID for close to 17 years, developing the horticulture sub-sector in Tanzania. Through the USAID financial and technical support, the group has transformed into a vibrant lobbying and advocacy institution, and has, in turn, spiralled into achieving tremendous growth results in the industry," Dr Mkindi explained.

It is understood, through direct contractual agreements and sub-grantee arrangements from USAID, the horticulture playing field has changed, with specialised services being introduced into the industry.

The Tanzania Airfreight Project (TAP) was designed 'to create a sustainably and commercially viable airfreight solution' to horticultural export requirements and a TAHA's commercial wing.

With support from USAID-TAP, TAHA had established the country's first logistical services firm dubbed TAHA Fresh Handling Ltd to facilitate shipments to export markets through air and sea freighting, trucking, clearing and forwarding and insurance, Dr Mkindi noted.

"The USAID support has been instrumental in strengthening TAHA advocacy roles for the industry nationally and internationally,"

she said, adding that the group had professionally and holistically tackled a number of policy-related issues that were creating unfriendly business environments for investors and farmers across the horticultural value chain.

The partnership has also enabled TAHA to improve access to markets and to facilitate farmers to increase horticultural productivity, competitiveness and investment.

The USAID support also empowered TAHA to promote nutrition and gender equity and to encourage youth and women to engage in horticultural farming.

"As a result, horticulture has grown from a nascent occupation to a multi-million-dollar industry, winning significant recognition and accolades from the government and other national and international agencies," Dr Mkindi said.

Official data speaks volumes on the growth of the industry over the past 17 years of USAID and TAHA Group's partnership, growing from barely 50 horticultural farmers countrywide in 2006, with insignificant production volumes for both local consumption and export, to over 6.5 million farmers engaged in both large and small-scale farming.

The growth in the farmer numbers translates to an annual growth rate of 11 percent compared to Tan-



Mission director for USAID Tanzania, Veeraya Kate Somvongsiri (2nd R) on her maiden official tour at the Mlangarini chill farm over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

zania's entire agricultural sector's average growth of 4 percent per annum. Horticulture's input to the overall agrarian export value has grown tremendously and is poised to grow leaps and bounds in the coming years.

The sub-sector earns the economy nearly \$800 million annually, up from around \$100 million in 2006, a trend that has USAID marks on it. On her maiden official tour to some horticultural growers

in Arusha, the Mission Director for the USAID Tanzania, Veeraya Kate Somvongsiri, said she was pleased to see the massive impact of the USAID and TAHA Group's partnership.

"We've worked together for a long time, USAID, TAHA Group and I'm personally so pleased today, I had an opportunity to see the impact of this work on the ground. It's so amazing to see young women engaging in horticultural farming,

so we bring the youth into the industry, we unlock the potential for different types of products Tanzania has in store," Kate said.

She added: "We are really trying to build up the economic capacity and the livelihood opportunities for youth and young women, such a wonderful collaboration. From the USAID perspective, we're really pleased to see what is really happening in Tanzania's horticultural industry."



## BUSINESS



## StanChart joins tree planting programme

By Francis Kajubi

STANDARD Chartered Bank Tanzania has facilitated Shukuru Kawambwa primary school to plant 1,000 trees in Bagamoyo district in the Coast region as part of mitigating climate change impacts.

Speaking at a special event to plant the trees held last Saturday, the bank's CEO Herman Kasekende said Standard Chartered considered climate change as one of the greatest environmental challenges facing the world today, given its widespread and proven impacts on the physical environment and human health and potential to adversely impact economic growth.

"As the leading bank in environment issues, we aim to tackle climate change by supporting the net zero transition, adapting to physical climate impacts, and providing sustainable finance products in emerging markets that are the most vulnerable to climate change," said Kasekende.

According to him, planting trees reduces emissions produced from humans and financing in line with the Paris Agreement, which aims to tackle the worst effects of global warming. "Planting of trees reduces environmental degradation. For more than 10 years, we have been planting trees in various primary schools. Today, we are planting 1,000 trees at this school as part of our commitment to fight climate change," he said.

He asserted that the bank is on target to meet and surpass our commitment to plant 3,000 trees before the end of the year. The goal will be achieved purely based on the bank's employee volunteering program where staff commits to giving up some of their time to activities that directly impact the communities.

"I'm proud to be part of an organization that encourages staff members to be part of supporting our communities through environmental activities. I am

delighted to see how our staff members are living our brand promise here for good," said Kasekende.

Halima Okash, Bagamoyo District Commissioner said that the government is placing emphasis on tree planting as climate

"Climate change is inevitable. We need to act now. Tree planting is one of the ways to fight climate change," said Okash.

Earlier in 2022, a campaign dubbed 'Soma na Mti' literally translated as learn with a tree was developed by Suleman Jafo, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office, Union and Environment that had given directives involving every school in the country to plant trees.

It was estimated by the ministry that if every student from a primary school, secondary school and university plants a tree then the country will have a total of 14.5 million new trees.

"The government targets at building a culture of students to take care of the environment while they are still young. I commend Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania for leading the way in championing tree planting exercise in primary schools especially in Bagamoyo district," said Okash.

Fatuma Kisimbo, Shukuru Kawambwa primary school headmistress said that the school was established in January 2019 as a temporary school that received students from Kiroromo primary school.

The school started with 141 students for standard one, two and three of which 77 were boys and 64 girls. The school started with four teachers of which three are women. The schools started with four classrooms.

"Today the school has 432 students of which 214 boys are 214. The school has 15 teachers of which two are men. The school now has six classrooms. The school needs a photocopy machine. This is the first year that the school has standard seven students," said Kisimbo.

## Dollar bounces back as US economy defies doubters

NEW YORK

The dollar has rebounded from a 10-month low as investors push up their forecasts for US interest rates after signs of stubborn inflation and unexpectedly strong economic activity.

The world's most important reserve currency rose to a 20-year high in September but tumbled 11.2 per cent over the following four months as US inflation declined from a multi-decade peak, allowing the Federal Reserve to slow the pace at which it raised interest rates towards the end of 2022.

Tamer rate rises and the prospect of steady or even falling rates in 2023 removed one of the currency's key supports.

However, February has begun with a flurry of economic data suggesting the world's biggest economy remains in rude health, pushing the dollar back up by 3 per cent against a basket of six other leading currencies since the start of the month and erasing January's decline.

The US last month added more than half a million jobs, almost triple the

consensus forecast, while inflation fell to 6.4 per cent, a smaller decrease than expected.

"The inflation report has ruined markets' nice little disinflationary plan," said Florian Ielpo, multi-asset portfolio manager at Lombard Odier, with central banks likely to maintain their upward pressure on rates as a result.

Jordan Rochester, a foreign exchange strategist at Nomura, said February began "with everyone in the macroeconomic community assuming the dollar would sell off against the euro and the yen. Since then almost every single US data point has come in stronger than expected, and markets have slowly come around to what the Fed has been saying for a long time, that rates have further to go and will be kept on hold for a while."

Benchmark US interest rates stand in a range of 4.5 per cent to 4.75 per cent. At the start of February, futures markets were pricing in a rates peak close to 4.9 per cent, with two cuts in the second half of the year taking borrowing costs to about 4.4 per cent heading into 2024.

## Absa now offers 100pc mortgage financing

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzanians can now access full mortgage financing, through Absa Bank Tanzania, after the bank launched a new proposition which allows those who want to buy homes to get 100 percent finance, if covered with insurance policy.

This is different from current mortgage arrangements, whereby buyers, builders or property owners who want to renovate their houses are being subjected to a down payment of up to 20 percent of the value of the mortgage.

The Bank managing director Abdi Mohamed said during the launching of the new proposition over the weekend that a journey to revamp its mortgage proposition back in March 2021 to ensure that it meets and exceed its customer current and future need.

"We have turned it from a standardized loan product into a home ownership solution for all Tanzanians," he said when signing a partnership agreement with National Housing Corporation (NHC), the largest property developer in Tanzania.

Through pre-sale mortgage agreement, all Absa's current and potential customers can now receive finance from Absa for purchase of house units sold by NHC.

Amongst the key improvements include reduction of the costs associated with the product to make it more affordable.

By reducing the required down-payment towards a house purchase from 20 percent to 10 percent - the Absa Mortgage has been made affordable for an average Tanzanian.

"To make the product even more affordable, we will also be partnering with an Insurance Service Provider through the Collateral Replacement Indemnity (CRI) to offer 100 percent mortgage towards a property purchase facility meaning the customer will not be required to deposit any down-payment," he said.

"Also, our flexibility in credit assessments has also meant that



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister, Dr. Angeline Mabula (C), Absa Bank Tanzania Managing Director, Abdi Mohamed (L) and National Housing Corporation Director General, Nehemia Mchechu display a placard soon after the signing of MoU between NHC and Absa Bank. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

our customers will be able to include any verifiable additional incomes to be added into their disposable monthly income as a basis for the bank to determine loan amount eligibility."

Another notable enhancement is the revision of the maximum loan size which has been revised upward from 500mn/- to 1bn/-.

This change removes the loan size limitations for customers and enables those with higher incomes to be able to purchase high-end house units that they previously would have not been able to.

To address the challenge of unavailability of quality affordable houses on sale, the bank has embarked on MoU signing with reputable property developers for the bank to be able to finance the individual purchase of housing units sold by these developers on a pre-sale basis.

This means that Absa customers now will be able to

purchase house units from these property developers either before construction starts, during construction, or when newly completed.

The bank has also expanded its mortgage market base to accommodate other regions outside of Dar es Salaam including Arusha, Moshi, Mwanza, Mbeya, Tanga, Morogoro, Dodoma, Iringa, and Zanzibar.

Absa has also opened up its mortgage solution to the Diaspora.

Through its "Diaspora Mortgage", Absa now offers home loan solutions to Tanzanians residing abroad who wish to invest in real estate back home.

Dr Angeline Mabula, the minister for lands, housing and human settlements, who was the guest of honour during the signing of agreement between NHC and Absa Bank said is a huge development that's a win-win to two parties and the customers. She said the demand for

housing in Tanzania has reached nearly 400,000 annually, in accordance with the 2022 census.

The minister called for developers to start using simple technology to build many houses in short period as the government is continuing to improve business environment.

Ndabu Swere, the head of retail banking at Absa Bank T, said "We wish to enable all Tanzanians, whether residing here or abroad, to obtain a mortgage loan at an affordable rate and with minimal requirements. Our Diaspora Mortgage will be offered in USD and loan seekers will be able to obtain either a property purchase, equity mortgage or property renovation facility."

NHC director general Nehemia Mchechu said the corporation has so far partnered with 20 banks.

Mchechu said NHC is currently developing properties targeting middle and low middle income markets.

## Vodacom offers the deaf inclusive care service

By Guardian Reporter

Vodacom Tanzania Plc has introduced an inclusive care service for the hearing impaired Tanzania.

The meeting also aimed at helping the company to better understand the needs and requirements of the deaf customers, so that they build focused products and services to suit their real needs.

Speaking yesterday at the meeting held at the company's headquarters, Vodacom's Managing Director Mr Philip Besimire welcomed the Tanzania deaf society members and introduced solutions that the company have, which are dedicated to them.

"As a company we are committed to ensuring that we serve all our customers by first understanding all their needs and adequately addressing them," he said.

Besimire noted that this in line with the company commitment to achieving the sustainable development goals especially SDG 10 that aims to reduce inequalities by empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

He explained that Vodacom Tanzania is driven by its purpose pillar to ensure digital inclusion and that all members of society are able to benefit from being part of a digital society.

Vodacom is a signatory to the Global System for Mobile Communication Association's (GSMA's) principles for driving digital inclusion of persons with disabilities.

"For people with disabilities



Vodacom managing director Mr Philip Besimire

to realize technology's transformative potential, they too must be included in the digital society. According to numerous studies and research, persons with disabilities cannot reap the benefits of digital technology because of a lack of "digital accessibility". Vodacom has put together a plan to address this issue in our industry," Besimire said.

The company launched its inclusive desk last year at 7 of its flagship stores across the country to prioritize serving customers with special needs.

83 Vodacom stores across the country now have wheelchair ramps and the company continues to work with its partners to ensure all their shops have inclusive designs.

The company had previously launched "sautipass"-a voice biometrics tool designed to help customers who cannot use cellphone keypads to secure their M-Pesa accounts with voice biometrics that has over 200,000 users.

"As a company that believes in the inclusive power of technology, we are keen to adopt the

best emerging technologies in the market to meet our individual customer needs and help the country to realise its SDG target no 10 to reduce inequalities." Philip concluded. On his part Rajabu Mrope, chairman of the deaf association of Tanzania (CHAVITA) said expressed his gratitude to Vodacom Tanzania on this move, saying that it's crucial to include everyone on the digital life.

"We are happy that for now we can get services from the company, regardless of our disability," he added.

# NCBA Bank plans to invest heavily in digital innovation

By Getrude Mbago

NCBA Bank Tanzania has announced its plans for expansion into key sectors of the economy by investing heavily in digital innovation to meet the evolving needs of its customers and driving economic growth in Tanzania and beyond.

Speaking at a customer appreciation dinner in Dar es Salaam last week, Group managing director John Gachora said the bank will expand into the key economic sectors including transportation, energy, and manufacturing serving the areas with innovative and digitized products.

"We have realized that Tanzania's growth is tied to the growth of these key economic sectors and we want to be part of that growth." He also reiterated that NCBA Bank is well-positioned to facilitate the growth of businesses across borders with its regional presence in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and the Ivory Coast," he said.

He said that despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, NCBA Bank Tanzania has continued to thrive, thanks to its launch of



Dr Charles Mamwaja (L), the Commissioner for Financial Sector Development in the Ministry of Finance and Planning exchanges greetings with Claver Serumaga (C), the newly appointed CEO and MD for NCBA Tanzania, as John Gachora Group managing director (R) looks on. Photo by Getrude Mbago

the NCBA brand in multiple markets and the expansion of its digital products, including M-Pawa, which has served nearly 7 million customers.

The bank is dedicated to providing financial services to the unbanked population, and its efforts have been recognized with the best digital bank award in the country.

"NCBA Bank Tanzania is committed to serving its customers and going greater together. The bank recently received an additional 40bn/- in capital injection from group shareholders, providing the necessary resources to see through its strategic growth plan," he said.

Dr Charles Mwanjwa, the com-

missioner for financial sector development at the Ministry of Finance and Planning supported NCBA Bank Tanzania's vision for the future.

"The merger between CBA and NIC has proved to be the progressive version of the bank, and as the government, we were satisfied that it met the required threshold that would act as a catalyst for growth within the banking industry. We were also satisfied that the merger would promote healthy competition within the financial sector," he noted.

He added: "And to this day, I can attest that NCBA has proved beyond reasonable doubt that they are in

business to change the way business is done. They have assisted small businesses to grow through their products and when small businesses grow, the economy grows."

He acknowledged the fact that NCBA is well positioned to offer banking services to large corporates and day-to-day running capital to SMEs to foster their growth and expansion.

This capability is necessary for our business ecosystem as it paves the way to a growing, stable, and even stronger economy. As a ministry, we are proud of the existence of this bank.

Innovative products like M-pawa

which we just heard serves close to 7m/-Tanzanians with a capital base of 15bn/-, help the government in bringing about financial inclusivity to the unbanked population in Tanzania.

He also congratulated the bank for winning the best digital bank award which they surely, vividly deserve, and I want to say, we won't stop acknowledging all the innovative deeds done by banks and financial entities and their efforts in moving our country's economy to even greater heights.

The commissioner said the government, through the office of the Minister for Finance and Planning, is committed to supporting a stable and healthy financial system that supports a broader economy.

At the same time, the bank also welcomed its new managing director and CEO, Claver Semuranga to lead the way into the future.

Semuranga assured customers and the Tanzania population that the bank will continue investing in innovative products to meet the current consumer banking demands.

He said that digital innovation remains a key driver in the banking industry to access new markets and increase the consumer base.

# Firm starts to locally produce chocolate

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

Tanzania will now no need to import chocolate, after Tasty Chocolate Products started producing locally, good new to cocoa producer in the country.

Speaking with this paper in an exclusive interview in Moshi recently Baraka Mageche, Tasty Chocolate Products Company's managing director said demand for chocolates is huge.

"Our vision is centered on quality and technology innovation, the following are points the society and government is going to benefit as a whole with us," he explained.

He further explained that the company is a startup Tanzanian chocolate manufacturing firm, aimed at producing chocolates bars, exporting Tanzania made chocolates at International markets.

Mageche said their future plan is to become a leading international chocolatier in Africa, by creating the highest quality chocolate products with spirit of innovation.

"We are passionate about the art of chocolate-making and we are continuously striving to create perfect premium chocolate products that will put a smile on our customers' face. We will continue to use nothing but the finest quality ingredients to ensure that the products we produce are perfect," Mageche explained.

He added that, his firm was laying down strategies that would help cocoa farmers benefit more from the crop due to its significant economic importance for both farmers and manufacturers in the confectionery industrial sector.

"The new investment is also aimed to ensure the sustainability of local chocolate manufacturing by empowering cocoa farmers, while at the same time involving the youth so that they could consider cocoa farming as a viable business of choice", he said.

He continued saying, "This will also be another avenue of curbing the unemployment challenge; we want to make cocoa farming in the country a more viable source of income and therefore attract more farmers, especially the youth, a move which will improve their economic well-being in general".

He also said the company has been working with higher learning institutions' students in creating marketing awareness trainings; a move to enable students to build up skills and confidence in marketing as well as sales initiatives to promote self-employment.

Mageche said the new investment will also be used in boosting the tourism sector through its product packages advertising Tanzania as the best tourist destination.

"There will be chocolate packages promoting Mount Kilimanjaro, Serengeti National Park and Ngorongoro and will be distributed in souvenir shops, supermarkets and other local shops whereby tourists can buy them for consumption as well as sending them as souvenirs back in their respective countries," he noted.

He also explained that, his company's management has put the environmental protection issues in its plans, whereby it has introduced special packages which when used, won't pollute the environment.

"We are also in the process of introducing the first Automated Chocolate Vending Machines (Chocolate ATMs) whereby clients will be able to buy chocolates using modern technology.

# Extension officers told to properly use working tools

By Friday Simbaya, Iringa

The chairmen of Mufindi and Iringa district councils in Iringa region have asked the extension officers in ward and villages to properly use the agricultural tools provided by development stakeholders.

They said at different occasion in the event of handing over various working tools to more than 42 auxiliary extension workers in 12 villages of Mufindi district and 9 villages in Iringa district, through the project of Savings Group for Food Security and Ecosystems Sustainability.

The three-year project is implemented in partnership with Care International and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) through the CARE-WWF Alliance Tanzania.

The Chairman of the Mufindi District Council, Festo Mgina said the tool like a bicycle will help facilitate transportation for the auxiliary extension officers to reach the farmers at the same time in their groups.

Maximilian Chalila, an assistant extension officer from Mapogoro Village in Mufindi district, said the working tools given to them such as bicycles, mobile phones and backpack spraying pumps will help in serving the farmers more easily.

He said that the bikes will allow them to reach many farmers at the same time in their groups as



A group of assistant extension officers who benefited from the project implemented in partnership with Care International and the World Wildlife Fund. Photo by Correspondent Friday Simbaya

well as giving training to farmers at demonstration plots with different crops.

Chalila added that devices like phones will help collect various information from farmers and deliver it to the relevant place more quickly.

Lucy Nyalu, the Agricultural Officer of Iringa District, said that the presence of extension officers will reduce the existing gap in the council.

Dr. Abubakary Kijoji, CARE-WWF Alliance manager said the

project is implemented in 12 villages of Mufindi District and nine villages in Iringa District in rural areas.

Dr. Kijoji said that this project with a value of US\$ 1.5 million (3.4bn/-) is funded by the development partners from Switzerland through WWF USA.

"The overall goals of this project are to strengthen food security and household income and strengthen the services of the Great Ruaha River Ecological Systems and reduce the environmen-

tal effects resulting from unsustainable agriculture, and reduce the damage to forests and water sources," he said.

During the 18 months of project implementation, CARE-WWF Alliance in collaboration with various departments of Mufindi District Council and Iringa District Council has successfully implemented the following:

In protecting and conserving land, forest and water resources, the project has succeeded in organizing Village Land Use Plan-

ning (VLUPs) in a total of eight villages.

Care International has been for over 75 years fighting poverty and inequality across the globe, seeking to implement gender responsive, locally-led and economically efficient programs in six impact areas.

These include, gender equality, humanitarian action, right to food, water and nutrition, women's economic justice, right to health and climate justice.

# Bolt to invest 500 million euro in Africa



Bolt has over 47 million customers and 900,000 drivers on the platform File Photo

By Guardian Correspondent, Nairobi

Bolt, the largest mobility app in Africa, has announced plans to invest €500 million in its operations on the continent over the next two years.

The funds will be used to expand Bolt services in Africa and create opportunities for over 300,000 new drivers and couriers to join the platform in 2023.

Bolt has also announced that it has surpassed 1 billion rides in Africa in just seven years and expects the number of drivers on the platform to hit over 1 mil-

lion in the next six months. Markus Villig, Founder and CEO, said: "Over the past seven years, we have built a strong team of 500 people in Africa and we remain committed to investing into local communities for the long-term."

He noted: "At a time when many countries are facing economic challenges, we will continue to grow our presence in Africa through this new investment which offers massive potential to create new jobs and income opportunities for drivers and couriers."

Markus' comments came as he arrived in Africa with

Bolt's global leadership team where they are visiting local Bolt teams in South Africa and Kenya and meeting with senior government stakeholders including the South African Deputy Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition.

Speaking after meeting with Bolt, Deputy Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition Nomalungelo Gina said: "I am particularly excited by the commitment to increase the women drivers for women riders' category so women have an option to choose a female driver for their trips. The level of abuse against

women in South Africa is exponentially high and e-hailing services must be safe spaces for them to use."

In 2021, Bolt introduced a new service which allowed female riders to choose a female driver for their journey. This new category not only increased safety for both drivers and riders in South Africa, but also provided women with a way to explore new earnings opportunities.

Following the success of the 'women-only' category in South Africa it was also launched in Nairobi and Mombasa, Kenya.

Takura Malaba, Regional Manager - East and Southern Africa, said: "While many companies are scaling back investments given the macroeconomic environment, we recognise the transformational effect platforms like Bolt can have in Africa."

"We operate in markets where unemployment is often high and by continuing to expand our services we will offer people new opportunities to earn a good living by being a driver, as well as providing millions of customers with a safe, reliable and affordable way of moving around their city."

# Luxury resort opens doors to investors in Zanzibar

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

Developers of Nungwi East in Zanzibar, which is now under construction, are inviting investors, both locals and foreigners, to claim a stake in the project worth over US\$100 million (about 236bn/-).

With an initial investment of just US\$50,000 (118mn/-), an investor can become part owner of the grand project, The Ocean Pearl Zanzibar, which is slated to become one of its kind in the Isles upon completion of the first phase come January 2025.

In a statement to the media issued by the developers of the project, Squid Limited Zanzibar, the company's managing director, George Alexandru, said that the construction of the resort commenced in December 2022 with the excavation of the site and that the first phase will consist of 238 units.

The project which is registered by the Zanzibar Investment Promotion Agency (ZIPA) and certified as a 105 million US dollars undertaking which is to be completed within 36 months, which now affords both Zanzibar and non-Zanzibar residents to purchase unit(s) in a condo-property.

According to the act, upon successful purchase, the buyer will be granted a title deed/lease agreement for 99 years. The lease term is normally granted for phases of 33 years each.

Those investing in the luxury resort stand to gain from tax and residency benefits along with an estimated 12 percent return on investment annually in a payback period of seven years, according to the developer.

"After investing in The Ocean Pearl Zanzibar, be it a studio, duplex or luxury villa, the investor has the option to rent it out as a serviced holiday or corporate stay space through our on-site hospitality management company," the managing



The Ocean Pearl Zanzibar

director said.

The facility also offers a unique combination of water, sandy beaches, culinary experiences, adventure and trips to nearby islands, history and culture, everything gathered in one place.

The five-star resort and residence facility will have a number of amenities including several restaurants along with a flagship restaurant, a bar along with a jetty bar, a nightclub, a chocolate shop, a spa and fitness area, and infinity pools.

"We have partnered with a renowned architect, ASCO Construction and PVP Hospitality GmbH as a consultant to undertake the project and we will employ sustainable green technologies," he added.

## Tanzania starts inviting global mining investors

By Guardian Correspondent

The Ministry of Minerals in collaboration with DMG events and Ocean Business Partners Tanzania has announced the next edition of the Tanzania Mining & Investment Forum that will be hosted in Dar es Salaam on 25 and 26 October 2023 at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre.

The Forum is proudly held under the Patronage of Doto Biteko (MP), Minister for Minerals, with government representation at the highest level.

Over the last decade, East Africa has been experiencing a rapid expansion in its mineral sector.

In Tanzania, the mining sector's contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has been increasing yearly.

In the year 2020/2021 the mineral sector contribution to GDP rose to 7.2 percent from 6.7 percent in 2019/2020. Following the notable development, the sector became the economy's leading foreign exchange earner.

Under the leadership of President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the government has been focusing on ensuring the mining sector contributes at least 10 percent of the GDP by 2025.

Engagement with the international community to mobilize capital and investment in the mining sector is prerequisite to materializing this ambition.

The Tanzania Mining & Investment Forum 2023 theme 'Unlocking Tanzania's Future Mining Potential' will once again connect the Tanzanian, African, and global mining community with global Ministers, CEOs, policymakers and industry leaders in Dar es Salaam to meet in person and discuss cooperation strategies to unlock and advance the opportunities for development in this vital sector.

The Forum is expected to attract over 2,000 global attendees from over 25 countries, will include a world-class conference with over 100 speakers, with more than 20 sessions, keynote addresses and presentations which will run alongside a large-scale technology and innovation exhibition.

This year's Forum will have a strong focus on global mining investments, including new projects and partnerships, technologies, regulations and financing. In addition, new topical subjects such as environmental, social and governance policies, strategic mineral developments, sustainable mining, and local content will also be at the centre of the discussion.

Dr. Biteko (MP), Minister for Minerals, said, "I'm inviting all mining stakeholders in Tanzania, from across Africa, and around the globe to participate in the Tanzania Mining & Investment Forum. We look forward to making ground-breaking announcements, hosting bilateral and investor meetings, showcasing project development opportunities and working with our national and global partners to unlock the full potential of Tanzania's mining sector. We look forward to meeting you in Dar es Salaam as Tanzania is now placed in the high ranking African groups in attracting foreign direct investment."

Over the past three editions the Tanzania Mining & Investment Forum has attracted over 4,500 global attendees with participation from over 15 countries, included a world-class conference alongside a technology showcase exhibition, and the award ceremony for mining companies and individuals who have excelled in various aspects of their activities via the Madini Gala Night.

## Boeing offers CEO \$5.3 million incentive to stay through recovery

VIRGINIA

Boeing on Friday awarded Chief Executive Dave Calhoun an incentive worth approximately \$5.29 million to induce him to stay throughout the company's recovery from the twin crises of the COVID-19 pandemic and two deadly 737 MAX crashes that led to the fleet's grounding.

Boeing's board of directors on Feb. 16 approved giving 25,000 in restricted stock units to Calhoun, which will vest in two installments on the first and second anniversary of the grant, according to regulatory filings by the company published on Friday.

The move suggests Boeing's current board of directors may not seek to replace Calhoun with a new CEO until at least the mid 2020s, when the company is expected to return to pre-pandemic production rates.

"This retention grant reflects the Board's continued confidence in Dave's leadership and the direction of the company as we make important progress toward restoring our operational and financial strength, guided by our focus on safety, quality and transparency," Boeing said.

Boeing shares, which have risen by nearly 70% since early October, were down 55 cents to close at \$211.66 on Friday before the announcement.

Calhoun was Boeing chairman and then became CEO in January 2020 after the board fired Dennis Muilenburg. Calhoun had total compensation of \$21.1 million in both 2020 and 2021. In 2021, the board approved a long-term incentive award target of \$16 million.

In April 2021, Boeing extended its required retirement age of 65 to 70 to allow Calhoun to stay in the top job. Calhoun turns 66 in April.



I TV		CAPITAL			
<b>MONDAY 26 Dec</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 DWTV Journal 9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon 10:00 Watoto wetu 11:00 The Base rpt 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jungu Kuu 13:00 Mjue Zaidi 13:40 Art and Lifestyle rpt 14:10 Soap rpt: Rebeca 14:40 Mapishi 15:00 Bongo Movie: 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 18:30 DW: Afrimaxx 19:00 Aya ya Jamii 19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 22:00 Kipindi Maalum: Watumishi Housing 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 The Base 00:00 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV	7:30 HABARI 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 DWTV Journal 9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:25 Kipindi maalum: TARURA rpt 11:00 The Base rpt 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Our Earth rpt 13:00 Dakika 45 rpt 14:00 Kipindi maalum: NSSF rpt 14:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt 18:30 Jungu Kuu rpt 19:00 Jarida la wanawake 19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon 20:00 Habari 21:05 Abu Yako 21:10 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco 21:40 Kipindi maalum: Pesa Fasta 22:00 Ripoti maalum 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 The Base 00:00 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV	12:30 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco rpt 13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt 13:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ 14:30 DW: Afrimaxx rpt 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base (DJ Show) 17:30 Kisiam 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 18:30 Uchumi Wetu 19:00 Shamba lulu 19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima Joto 23:00 The Base 00:00 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV	02:05 Al Jazeera  <b>Thurs 22 Dec</b> 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Club 101 rpt 11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Spots gazette 12:00 Innovation  <b>Mon 26 Dec</b> 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Club 101 rpt 11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Business edition 12:00 Out and About 12:30 Our earth 13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws of love 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Tomorrow Today 16:30 EcoAfrica 17:00 Dw News Africa rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 The Décor rpt 19:30 Shamba lulu 20:00 Innovation Rpt 20:45 The Monday Agenda 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Kipima Joto 00:00 Al Jazeera	16:30 Culinary delight rpt 17:00 Innovation rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Sports Gazette 19:30 Chetu ni chetu 20:00 Monday Agenda Rpt 20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Dakika 45: 22:45 The Décor 23:15 Al Jazeera  <b>Thurs 29 Dec</b> 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Club 101 rpt 11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Spots gazette 12:00 Innovation 12:30 Culinary 13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Tomorrow Today 16:30 Business edition rpt 17:00 In good shape 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Out & About Rpt 19:30 Tanzania yetu 20:00 Our Earth Rpt 20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Capchat rpt 23:00 Al Jazeera  <b>Frid 30 Dec</b> 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Club 101 rpt 11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Capchat 12:30 Décor 13:00 Telenovela rpt Laws Of love 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Dw News Africa rpt 16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Rev 19:Out & About Rpt 20:00 Abu Yako 20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition 20:45 Telenovela Laws Of love 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt 00:00 Al Jazeera  <b>Sat 31 Dec</b> 08:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Rev rpt 09:30 Jagina rpt 10:00 Culinary delight rpt 10:30 Innovation rpt 11:00 Out n/about rpt 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt 12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt 12:30 Our Earth rpt 13:00 Business edition rpt 13:30 Aljazeera 14:30 Telenovela rpt Laws Of love 17:15
<b>TUESDAY 27 Dec</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 DWTV Journal 9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:25 Jagina rpt 11:00 The Base rpt 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Aya ya jamii 13:00 Ripoti Maalum 13:35 Shikabamba 14:05 Igizo rpt: Rebeca 14:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Jagina 19:00 Usafiri Wako 19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon 20:00 Habari 21:05 Malumbano ya hoja 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV	7:30 HABARI 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 DWTV Journal 9:30 Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Shamba lulu 11:00 The Base rpt 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt 13:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt 13:30 Shamsam za pwani rpt 14:30 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Jagina 19:00 Usafiri Wako 19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon 20:00 Habari 21:05 Malumbano ya hoja 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV	12:30 Kipindi maalum: Tatu Mzuka 12:15 Igizo: Rebeca 13:00 Art and Lifestyle 14:40 Art and Lifestyle 15:00 Usafiri wako 16:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 16:30 Igizo: Rebeca 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 ITV Top 10 rpt 19:00 Jungu Kuu 19:30 Shika Bamba 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka 21:15 Igizo: Rebeca 21:40 Art and Lifestyle 22:10 ITV Top 10 22:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo 23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt 01:15 DWTV	16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Our Earth 20:00 Décor Rpt 20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Jagina rpt 22:30 EcoAfrica 23:00 Al Jazeera	
<b>WEDNESDAY 28 Dec</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 DWTV Journal 9:30 Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Usafiri Wako 11:00 The Base rpt 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:00 DWTV	12:30 Kipindi maalum: Reflexology 12:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 12:30 Mjue Zaidi 12:15 Bongo movie: 23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	<b>Wed 28 Dec</b> 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Club 101 rpt 11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt 12:00 Dw News Africa rpt 12:30 Our Earth 13:00 Telenovela rpt Laws Of love 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Business Edition Rpt	

## WORLD

## Senior Israeli diplomat ejected from AU summit as row escalates

ADDIS ABABA

A SENIOR Israeli diplomat on Saturday was removed from the African Union's annual summit in Ethiopia, as a dispute over Israel's accreditation to the bloc escalated.



Images posted online showed AU security personnel confronting the diplomat during the opening ceremony of the summit, before she left the auditorium.

"Israel looks harshly upon the incident in which the deputy director for Africa, Ambassador Sharon Bar-Li (pictured), was removed from the African Union hall despite her status as an accredited observer with entrance badges," the foreign ministry said.

Ebba Kalondo, the spokesperson for the African Union's commission chairman, said the diplomat had been removed because she was not the duly

accredited Israeli ambassador to Ethiopia, the official who was expected. But Israel blamed the incident on South Africa and Algeria, two key nations in the 55-country bloc, saying they were holding the AU hostage and were driven by "hate".

Israel's Foreign Ministry said the charge d'affaires at South Africa's embassy would be summoned for a reprimand.

"The attempt to cancel Israel's observer status has no basis in the organization's laws," the ministry said.

South Africa rejected the claim, saying Israel's application for observer status at the AU has not been decided



The African Union Conference Center and Office Complex (AUCC), located in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, is the new headquarters of the African Union. It is the Chinese government's largest assistance project for Africa after Tanzania-Zambia Railway (TAZARA). (Photo/CFP)

upon by the bloc.

"Until the AU takes a decision on whether to grant Israel observer status, you cannot have the country sitting and observing," Clayton Monyela, head of public diplomacy in South Africa's department of international relations, told Reuters.

"So, it's not about South Africa or Algeria, it's an issue of principle."

South Africa's ruling party has historically been a strong supporter of the Palestinian cause.

The Algerian delegation at the summit was not immediately available for a comment.

Xinhua

## Biden says US communities being torn apart by gun violence

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden said in a statement on Friday that American communities are "being torn apart by gun violence."

The statement was issued hours after six people were shot and killed in a rural Mississippi town.

"Thoughts and prayers aren't enough," Biden said. "Gun violence is an epidemic and Congress must act now."

He asked for what he called commonsense gun law reforms, including, among other things, requiring background checks on all gun sales and banning assault weapons.

However, it is unlikely that the US Congress would pass those proposals with Republicans controlling the House of Representatives this term and advocating for the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms.

A shooter – identified as Richard Dale Crum – was taken into custody on Friday afternoon after reportedly opening fire on his ex-wife and potentially other family members at three different locations in Arkabutla, a small town in Mississippi's Tate County.

Crum, 52, faces charges of first-degree murder in connection with the rampage, according to the Tate County Sheriff's Office.

Additional charges, for each of the other victims, will be filed in the coming days. Crum is being held without bond in the Tate County Jail.

"Our hearts are heavy as we learned about the tragic event that happened in Arkabutla," the Tate County Government wrote in a Facebook post on Friday night.

Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves said on Friday afternoon that he has been briefed



This handout photo provided by the Tate County Sheriff's Office shows the mugshot of Richard Dale Crum, the suspect in a shooting that killed six people in Mississippi. Six people were killed Friday February 17, 2023, in a shooting rampage in a rural area of the southern US state of Mississippi, local media reported. Memphis-based TV station Action News 5 identified the alleged shooter as Richard Dale Crum, 52. No motive was given by authorities for the shootings. AFP

on the series of shootings in Tate County.

"We believe he acted alone. His motive is not yet known," Reeves said in a statement,

adding that the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation has been asked to assist in the investigation.

The United States has lost

more than 5,500 lives to gun violence so far this year, according to the Gun Violence Archive.

Xinhua

## US justifies exacerbating Ukrainian conflict by taking about Russia's crimes – ambassador

WASHINGTON

THE United States administration is attempting to excuse its own activities in escalating the crisis in Ukraine with allegations of crimes against humanity attributed to Russia, according to Russian Ambassador to Washington Anatoly Antonov.

"We consider such insinuations as an attempt, unprecedented in terms of its cynicism, to demonize Russia in the course of a hybrid war, unleashed against us. There is no doubt that the purpose of such attacks is to justify Washington's own actions to fuel the Ukrainian crisis. First of all, it concerns the rampant militarization of the Kiev regime," the ambassador said.



He noted, "At one point the Americans said, that they would supply the republic with only defensive weapons, but now

ship heavy armored vehicles, artillery, multiple launch rocket systems with long-range munitions.

The U.S. provides intelligence to Kiev Nazis, trains militants. By the will of the White House an egregious act is being committed - just like 80 years ago - tanks with crosses are attacking our country.

How can we trust the West and try to come to any type of agreement after all these statements and actions? Basically, they told us one thing, but acted in the opposite direction."

At the same time, the diplomat stressed that the US "simply turns a blind eye to the atrocities of the Zelensky regime".

"Washington prefers not to notice the horrific scenes of the shootings of

unarmed captured Russian soldiers. It forgot about the bloodcurdling burning of people at the Trade Union Building in Odessa in 2014.

The United States completely ignores the attacks that have been going on for many years on settlements in Donbass - kindergartens, schools, hospitals and residential buildings. Although it should be clear to any sober-minded person that no threats come from there," he said.

"Washington's two-facedness is outrageous. Why is the State Department silent about the atrocities of Ukrainian cut-throats? What are the American human rights organizations thinking? Why is no one calling for the punishment of fascist thugs?" Antonov stressed.

## Xi calls for high-level China-Africa community with shared future

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said on Saturday he stands ready to work with leaders of African countries to build a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future.

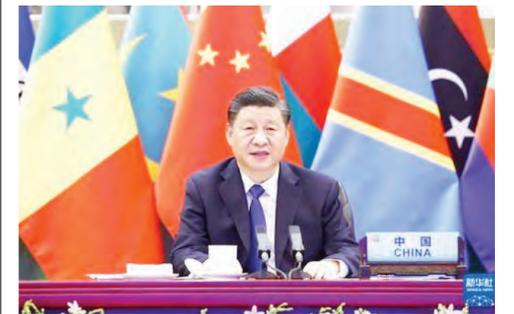
Xi (pictured) made the pledge in his message to the 36th African Union (AU) Summit, in which he extended congratulations to African countries and the African people on the opening of the summit.

Xi said the AU, over the past year, has united and led African countries to stand up to global challenges, accelerate the development of the African Continental Free Trade Area, and play an important role in mediating hot issues in Africa, which has boosted Africa's international status and influence.

The Chinese president also expressed his sincere hope for African countries and people to achieve greater success on their path of development and revitalization.

China-Africa relations maintained sound momentum in development in 2022, Xi noted, saying that cooperation between China and Africa is moving steadily forward in an all-round, multi-tiered and high-quality fashion, which takes the lead in international collaboration with Africa.

Xi said he is willing to work with African leaders to further enhance friendly cooperation between China and Africa, and facilitate coordination in international and regional affairs. Xinhua



## Comorian president takes over rotating chair of AU

ADDIS ABABA

COMORIAN President Azali Assoumani on Saturday took over the rotating African Union (AU) chairmanship at the opening of the 36th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly.

Assoumani replaces the outgoing chairman, also Senegalese President Macky Sall.

In his acceptance speech, the Comorian president emphasized the need to exert concerted efforts toward the betterment of Africa and its people.

Noting the ongoing continental and global uncertainties, Assoumani (pictured) called for concerted efforts to enable Africa's recovery in the post-COVID-19 economy and to better enable the continent to face the negative impacts of the crisis in Ukraine.

"While our countries were barely emerging from the most serious health crisis the world has ever known, COVID-19, they are bearing the brunt of the consequences of this new Russian-Ukrainian crisis," the Comorian president said.

This year's AU summit from Feb. 18 to 19 under the theme of "The Year of AfCFTA: Acceleration of the African Continental Free Trade Area Implementation," has brought together African leaders, UN officials, and leaders of various international organizations at the AU headquarters in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa. Xinhua

## African countries urged to mobilize sustained resources to finance agriculture

ADDIS ABABA

AFRICAN governments should mobilize sustained resources to finance agriculture in their respective countries so as to meet the growing food demand of their populations, a senior AU official has said.

Addressing the press Friday on the sidelines of the ongoing 36th African Union (AU) summit, Joseph Sacko, AU Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment urged African leaders to fulfill the commitments made in the 2014 Malabo Declaration. "We need to invest. We need to put 10 percent of the national budget. Xinhua

## Chinese envoy urges NATO to contribute positively to world peace, stability

UNITED NATIONS

CHINA'S permanent representative to the United Nations, Zhang Jun, said on Friday that NATO should contribute positively to world peace and stability, instead of merely being a troublemaker.

"We urge NATO to draw lessons from history, abandon the obsolete Cold War mentality and block confrontation, and stop dangerous acts of creating imaginary enemies, destabilizing Europe, and messing up Asia Pacific. It should contribute positively to world peace and stability, instead of merely being a troublemaker," Zhang told the Security Council briefing on Ukraine.

"I would like to point out that NATO, on the one hand, claims to remain a regional defensive alliance, while on the other hand, constantly seeks to breach its geographic confines and expand its agenda, stoke division and tensions, create fears and confrontations, and keep strengthening military and security ties with Asia Pacific countries," said the ambassador. "This is obviously self-contradictory. We note with concern that the NATO secretary general recently made many irresponsible and unfounded remarks on the situation of Asia Pacific," Zhang explained.

The envoy stressed that the Ukraine crisis is, in essence, the culmination of security conflicts in Eu-

rope closely related to NATO's constant eastern expansion since the Cold War. "Pursuing absolute security and political exclusion and containment by force against a specific party is the very crux of the reason why Europe is in the security plight. If following such a mindset, Europe, and even the whole world will be caught up in greater turmoil," he said.

"We once again call on Russia and Ukraine to cease fire and start peace negotiations as soon as possible," said Zhang. He called on the United States, EU, and NATO to sit down with Russia for a comprehensive and in-depth dialogue. "Based on the principle of security indivisibility, they should discuss how to

build a balanced, effective, and sustainable security architecture and realize common security," he said. "In this context, every effort should be made to stop any attempt to hype up the conflict and to avoid its escalation and expansion," the envoy added.

Zhang underscored the importance of strictly complying with international treaties and the implementation of legal obligations in good faith, noting that they are the basic requirements of the rule of law. "This is what practicing true multilateralism is about. Regrettably, when it comes to negotiated agreements that failed to be implemented, the Minsk Agreement is not the only

case. The Paris Agreement on climate change faces major setbacks because of the withdrawal of one key party," he said.

The JCPOA, or the Iran nuclear deal, has yet to be revived, he said. "Some major bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements are now being withdrawn from, violated, hollowed out, and weakened." "Should such a trend continue, great harm would be inflicted on the world. This is something we should be highly vigilant against. Relevant countries also should conduct serious reviews and reflections on this," said Zhang.

The ambassador said that human society is facing unprecedented challenges, but peace development,

cooperation, and mutual benefit are still an unstoppable historical trend. "Globalization is making our global village smaller, but the world is big enough to accommodate common development and progress of all countries. To strive for a bright future for humankind, all countries should pursue a just cause for common good, and promote inclusiveness, mutual learning, peaceful coexistence, and cooperation," the ambassador noted. "There is a need to respect each other's legitimate and reasonable security concerns, rather than cling to the Cold War mentality or engage in bloc politics or exclusive small circles," he said. Xinhua

# Quake death toll passes 46,000; desperation for signs of life

ANTAKYA/KAHRAMANMARAŞ, Türkiye

MORE than 46,000 people have been killed in the earthquake that struck Türkiye and Syria and the toll is expected to soar, with some 345,000 apartments in Türkiye now known to have been destroyed, and many still missing.

As Türkiye attempts to manage its worst modern disaster, concerns were growing over the victims of the tragedy in Syria, with the World Food Programme (WFP) pressuring authorities in the northwest to stop blocking access to the area as it seeks to help hundreds of thousands of people ravaged by earthquakes.

Twelve days after the quake hit, workers from Kyrgyzstan tried to save a Syrian family of five from the rubble of a building in Antakya city in southern Türkiye.

Three people, including a child, were rescued alive. The mother and father survived but the child died later of dehydration, the rescue team said. One older sister and a twin did not make it.

"We heard shouts when we were digging today an hour ago. When we find people who are alive we are always happy," Atay Osmanov, a member of the rescue team, told Reuters.

Ten ambulances waited on a nearby street that was blocked to traffic to allow the rescue work.

Workers asked for complete silence and for everybody to crouch or sit as the teams climbed further up to the top of the rubble of the building where the family was found to listen for any more sounds using an electronic detector.

As rescue efforts continued one worker yelled into the rubble: "Take a deep breath if you can hear my voice."

The head of Türkiye's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD), Yunus Sezer, said the search and rescue efforts will largely be terminated on Sunday night.

The death toll in Türkiye stands at 40,642 from the quake while neighbouring Syria has reported more than 5,800 deaths, a toll that has not changed for days.

Speaking to Reuters on the sidelines of the Munich Security



A man carries musical instruments out of his damaged shop in Antakya, Türkiye on Saturday. AFP

Conference, WFP Director David Beasley said the Syrian and Turkish governments had been cooperating very well, but that its operations were being hampered in northwestern Syria.

The agency last week said it was running out of stocks there and called for more border crossings to be opened

from Türkiye.

"The problems we are running into [are with] the cross-line operations into northwest Syria where the northwestern Syrian authorities are not giving us the access we need," said Beasley.

"That is bottlenecking our operations. That has to get fixed straight away."

"Time is running out and we are running out of money. Our operation is about \$50 million a month for our earthquake response alone so unless Europe wants a new wave of refugees, we need get the support we need," Beasley added.

In Syria, already shattered by more than a decade of civil war, the bulk of fatalities have

been in the northwest.

The area is controlled by insurgents at war with forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad which has complicated efforts to get aid to people.

Thousands of Syrians who had sought refuge in Türkiye from the civil war have returned to their homes in the war zone - at least for now.

## Public health

Medics and experts voiced concerns over the possible spread of infection in the area where tens of thousands of buildings collapsed last week leaving sanitation infrastructure damaged.

Turkish Health Minister Fahrettin Koca said on Saturday that although there had been a rise in intestinal and upper respiratory infections, the numbers did not pose a serious threat to public health.

"Our priority now is to fight against the conditions that can threaten public health and to prevent infectious diseases," Koca told a news conference in southern Hatay province.

Aid organizations say the survivors will need help for months to come with so much

crucial infrastructure destroyed.

## Anger grows

Neither Türkiye nor Syria have said how many people are still missing following the quake.

For families still waiting to retrieve relatives in Türkiye, there is growing anger over what they see as corrupt building practices and deeply flawed urban development that resulted in thousands of homes and businesses disintegrating. One such building was the Ronessans Rezidans (Renaissance Residence), which keeled over in Antakya, killing hundreds.

"It was said to be earthquake-safe, but you can see the result," said Hamza Alpaslan, 47, whose brother had lived in the block. "It's in horrible condition. There is neither cement nor proper iron in it. It's a real hell."

Türkiye has promised to investigate anyone suspected of responsibility for the collapse of buildings and has ordered the detention of more than 100 suspects, including developers.

## China's aid to quake-hit area mirrors major country responsibility

By He Yin

DEVASTATING earthquakes recently took place in southern Türkiye and northern Syria, causing heavy casualties in both countries.

Chinese President Xi Jinping sent messages of condolence to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Syrian President Bashar al-Assad respectively over strong earthquakes in the two countries on the day the quakes struck.

On behalf of the Chinese government and people, Xi expressed deep condolences to the victims and offered sincere sympathies to the bereaved families and the injured.

China, following the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, has been contributing to the earthquake relief in the two countries through multiple ways, demonstrating its sense of responsibility as a major country.

The country expressed willingness to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to Türkiye and Syria at the earliest time possible, and soon launched an assistance mechanism.

It has offered emergency humanitarian aid for both countries and dispatched rescue teams to quake-hit areas. So far, Chinese rescuers have pulled

out more than 20 survivors and China's relief supplies have rapidly arrived in the two countries.

A friend in need is a friend indeed. China unswervingly follows the international humanitarian spirit and has taken swift actions.

The governments and people of Türkiye and Syria extended their gratitude to the Chinese side for the emergency humanitarian assistance, saying that China, taking the lead to offer timely support, has played an important role in earthquake relief and that they will remember the profound friendship from the Chinese people.

The destiny and future of each and every nation and country are interlocked. The world is in the same boat, and countries should stick together and share weal and woe.

On the packages of aid donated by the Chinese government to Syria, it is written in both Chinese and Arabic that "Rose fragrance flows thousands of miles, while sincerity and love are passed on in distress," which carries the deep concern of the Chinese government and people for Syrians in the disaster-hit areas.

In less than two days since the earthquakes took place, Chinese people from all walks of life had made thousands of donations to the Embassy of Syria



The first batch of donations from overseas Chinese in Syria are distributed in Aleppo, Syria, Feb. 13, 2023. (Photo by Xue Dan/People's Daily)

in China. Besides, Chinese-funded organizations and overseas Chinese in Syria have also launched quake-relief activities.

These actions demonstrated the beliefs advocated by Chinese culture that all peoples are one family and the world is a commonwealth.

In Türkiye, residents in quake-hit areas sent food to Chinese rescuers with slips of paper that wrote "thank you" in Chinese. A local woman put the cold hands of a Chinese female rescuer under her coat to keep them warm.

Such stories mirrored the strength of human solidarity in the storm. People in Türkiye and Syria spoke highly of China's selfless assistance during a hard time and expressed their appreciation for China, saying that China always stands with its friends that need help.

This year marks the 10th anniversary since Xi proposed the idea of building a community with a shared future for mankind to the world. Over the past 10 years, China has always been

striving for this vision with concrete actions, especially when facing natural disasters.

When Nepal was hit by an 8.1-magnitude earthquake in 2015, the relief squad sent by China was the first international heavy urban search and rescue team to arrive in the Himalayan country, playing a positive role in the search and rescue missions there.

A year later, China provided emergency humanitarian aid to Ecuador at the earliest time possible after a 7.8-magnitude earthquake took place in the South American country, sending quake-relief materials to Ecuador by five charter flights.

As Cyclone Idai swept southeast Africa in 2019, China offered emergency humanitarian assistance for Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi, and dispatched international rescue teams to Mozambique.

Last year, a deadly earthquake hit Afghanistan. China, in around two weeks, sent batches of relief materials to Afghanistan with its Y-20 cargo aircraft and charter flights, among

the first countries that provided the biggest and most tangible aid to Afghanistan.

China's emergency assistance reflects the country's care for the world and its vision of building a community with a shared future with the rest of the world to overcome difficulties.

The history of humanity is a history of achieving growth by meeting various tests and of developing by overcoming various crises. As long as the world works as one with solidarity and cooperation, mankind will surely be able to overcome difficulties and challenges head-on.

China will keep following the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind and work with the international community to help and support people in Türkiye and Syria to dispel the shadow of the earthquakes and rebuild their homes at an early date.

People's Daily

By Caroline Davies in Antakya, Turkey

Weaving around fallen slabs of concrete, we make our way deeper into the heart of Antakya, the capital of Turkey's Hatay Province. The city's roads are filled with diggers and rescue workers in hard hats, Turkish military and police.

Our guide, Mehmet Severolu, has been a tour guide for 20 years since he retired as an electrical engineer. He has explained the history of Antakya to thousands of tourists, and this is his first time back into the city since the earthquake nearly two weeks ago.

"Antakya is a place where I

## Antakya now unrecognisable to tour guide

find my soul," he tells us. "It is a city with so many different ethnicities, different religions and they all live in tolerance here.

"It is multicultural, multilingual - tourists enjoy this area a lot. So did I."

Antakya, known in Roman and medieval times as Antioch, is an ancient city. Founded in 300 BC, it was a regional capital for the Roman Empire. It was also one of the earliest centres of Christianity and important for both Juda-

ism and Islam.

But the city is almost unrecognisable. We park next to the region's government office, where the building's clock has stopped at 04:34, which was the time just a few minutes after the earthquake hit on the morning of 6 February.

We walk past a pile of white stones and black steel ornate gates, the city's Protestant Church. Turning left, we pass a hotel, built when Antakya was under French mandate after World War One. Its stone-

work is smashed, ripped open to the elements.

Mehmet stops.

"I can't recognise where I am," he says, trying to orientate himself. Almost all his usual points of reference have been destroyed. We try one street, then another, clambering over smashed terracotta roof tiles, splintered wood and bent metal supports.

Each time we climb one pile, the next is even higher, until we can't get much further safely. Above us, the

contents of homes bulge precariously - beds, chairs, bricks, door frames, bursting through walls and window frames. They're what remain of the lives that were lived here.

Mehmet does recognise one spot from his tours, covered in cement dust, its sign hanging.

"This store used to serve hummus for 150 years, the best hummus place in Antakya," he says. "When we brought our groups to this place, they would welcome us with hot plates. Now I don't

think it will ever be back."

I ask him if he knows what happened to the people who ran the shop.

"Two have left [Antakya], but I have no idea about the rest." He pauses, his voice starting to choke. "Very sad."

We find the remains of the Greek Orthodox Church by spotting its bell, which is now lying on its side at the top of a 3m-high (9ft 8in) pile of bricks. The bell tower it stood in is now dust. Using a drone, we can see the remains of its or-

nate arches, but the rest of the building is gone.

We head to Antakya's synagogue: what would normally be a five-minute walk now requires a 10-minute drive around the few roads that have been cleared.

The doors are locked, but Mehmet tells us the small community were able to rescue their holy books and flee. He makes a phone call to one of his friends whose restaurant looks to be still standing. When his friend picks up, Mehmet is visibly relieved.

"I am glad to hear your voice," he says. "I am afraid to call people because I don't know whether they are dead or alive."



Coastal Union's assistant coach, Fikirini Elias. PHOTO: COURTESY OF COASTAL UNION

## Coastal Union out to end poor run in 2022/23 NBC Premier League

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

COASTAL Union was last weekend all out to return to winning ways in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League when they entertained Mbeya City FC at the Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga.

The Tanga side, popularly known as 'Wagosi wa Kaya', has now lost 11 of their 22 Premier League matches this season and they remain in the relegation zone, sitting 14th, although only five points separate them from last weekend's opponents Mbeya City FC that was positioned 10th.

Goals have been hard to come by for Coastal Union so far this season as they have found the net just 18 times in the Premier League and they have drawn blank in their last three games.

Caretaker coach Joseph Lazaro was hoping for the club's faithful to provide a raucous atmosphere to spur his side towards much-needed three points last weekend to avoid being dragged into another relegation scrap at the end of the season.

On the other side, Mbeya City FC was unable to build on the squad's hard-fought 1-0 home win over Mtibwa Sugar, as the side was beaten 2-0 by regional rivals Ihefu SC in their last league outing last week.

Although head coach Abdallah Mubiru seemingly has the support

of Mbeya City FC's hierarchy, a torrid run of just one victory in their last 10 matches across is a major cause for concern.

Furthermore, Mubiru's charges who have won only five of their 22 Premier League matches this season, have struggled to come away from Mkwakwani Stadium with a positive result over the years, as they have never won any one of their last seven away games against Coastal Union.

They were hoping forward Sixtus Sabilo was in a good frame to score the desired goals as he chases to hit double figures for the first time.

The former Namungo FC striker has eight goals and six assists for Mbeya City FC this season.

In head-to-head stats, Coastal Union and Mbeya City FC have met in 15 league matches since 2013/14.

Mbeya City FC has claimed five wins compared to four for 'Wagosi wa Kaya', while six matches have been drawn.

The Tanga side has won three of their seven home league matches against their Mbeya counterparts, suffering no defeats in the process.

When the teams met earlier this season, they settled for a 2-2 stalemate at Sokoine stadium in Mbeya.

In the other game of the day, Namungo FC made a trip to Bukoba where hosts Kagera Sugar were lurking.

## Was it necessary to have César Manzoki attend Simba election?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

UNTIL today, most Tanzania football fans hardly understand what Central Africa Republic striker, Cesar Manzoki, came to do in Simba SC's Annual General Meeting and the election held in Dar es Salaam last month.

It is difficult for the fanatics to know, he is a striker that Simba SC missed in the last July transfer window.

Simba SC missed the opportunity to sign Manzoki who left for China after failing to agree to a new contract with an outfit he was playing for, Vipers SC of Uganda.

Speaking of the meeting, both Simba SC and Manzoki are wrong but the club is more at fault.

As for Simba SC's age-old rivals, Yanga, I think it was the second time the outfit introduced a player in the club's meeting.

Ugandan striker, Juma Balinya, was the first player at the Jangwani Street outfit to have been involved in the issue, he was introduced at the Diamond Jubilee Hall and was followed by midfielder, Gael Bigirimana.

Players have their place to be introduced, they are not introduced in meeting rooms. They are introduced in front of the press and team executives.

A player can be introduced by either a coach or club executive while holding the jersey and the news ends there.

The pictures of a white couch at the offices of Yanga's sponsors GSM Group are always enough. Tanzania's clubs do not operate in a modern way, both Balinya and Bigirimana have failed miserably while playing for Yanga due to the pressure accompanying their arrival.

Simba SC equally made the most of the incident by bringing a player, who hardly belongs to the club, into the politics of the club.

There is a way the incident was used to make the members of Simba SC look as if they are stupid, something that is not correct. I am grateful that many others have opposed it.

This is a player that Simba SC needed last season, it was



Central African Republic's striker, César Lobi Manzoki, greets Simba SC members when the footballer attended the outfit's Annual General Meeting and election which took place at Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) in Dar es Salaam last month. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

rumoured that he could join the side in the January transfer window, the registration was however not realized because of various reasons.

At that time, he had gone to play professional football in China where he is paid a large amount of money that a Tanzanian squad cannot pay him.

He was brought to Tanzania with a specific plan to deceive Simba SC fans that he could come any time from now. This was specially designed to boost a candidate for the position of chairmanship at the club.

The contestant's camp wanted to show the voters that it does not have fake promises. They talked about Manzoki's issue and, until now, the forward is on the outfit's radar and he can join it.

I can hardly blame Manzoki because he was given a free flight ticket, went to sleep in a luxury hotel for free, and it is possible that he was given some amount of money for doing the job, who would say no to such a treat?

The problem is that I have seen the effect in the whole issue of his arrival, the first is how an opponent of the contestant, who brought the player, got many votes.

But there is also a great risk of involving these players in elec-

toral politics.

Would Manzoki's chance to play for Simba SC shortly be bigger? To some extent, it is an issue that lowers the morale of footballers now at Simba SC.

When they see that one player enjoys lots of promotion when he is not wearing the squad's jersey, such a move will create a negative effect, given once he joins the outfit, the other players can have grudge against him because the leadership has already signaled to them that he is the most important player.

Apart from the Manzoki issues, there was something that raised the most questions in the Simba SC campaigns.

The winning candidate was pressed on the issue of failing to guide the outfit to win in league ties against age-old rivals, Yanga, during his leadership term.

During his leadership, he had the club registered only one victory over Yanga in the Azam Sports Federation Cup final played in Kigoma.

Simba SC members questioned him on the failure to win against Yanga who have been dominating the two teams' matches.

Sometimes a person can query whether Tanzania is still in the 1820s. Until today, domestic soccer fanatics are thinking about how to ensure their favou-

rite outfit emerges victorious in duels against a rival and count such feats as one of the biggest successes in their club.

Members who entertain such thinking are virtually living in the stone age, and the candidate who makes such a promise also lives in the stone age.

This is the time Simba SC and its followers should think about bigger successes in the club.

They should think about achieving significant development at the club such as increasing income, improving various club services, and infrastructure, winning titles in African inter-club showdowns, and others.

Simba SC and Yanga usually meet in two matches per season but they have a lot of duties to accomplish outside the pitch.

Either head coaches or skipper of the clubs should not make a promise to beat the rival.

In a football match, anything can happen, the main issue is an outfit should look at how the season has gone and what has the club achieved.

In the past, some members and fans believed that if their outfit beats its rival twice in the league, and then the loser goes on to lift the league's trophy, that season has been successful because the former had won twice.

I thought people like that are no longer existing but they are still alive and, worst of all, they are handed a huge guarantee to lead football.

In recent years, Simba SC had been doing well in African inter-club assignments and was then defeated by Yanga in Premier League fixtures via a free-kick by Ghanaian winger, Bernard Morrison, in 2020 and a long-range shot by midfielder Zawadi Mauya in 2021.

Some of Yanga's fans started to get tired of witnessing their club beating Simba SC while it is either not winning titles or participating well in African inter-club tournaments. That was the most accurate direction of emotional change.

With the recent incident which was brought up in the Simba SC election though, it seems that the country's journey in the quest for success in soccer is still long.

I thought it was time for Simba SC to focus on how the club will participate well in the 2022/23 CAF Champions League Group Stage but the story has been different.

## Time to prepare Taifa Stars for 2026 World Cup finals

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE 2022 FIFA World Cup finals that were hosted by Qatar brought together 32 national teams, and Tanzania was once again being restricted to a mere spectator.

They were the first World Cup finals to be held in an Arab country. Tanzania was one of the teams that fought for an opportunity to represent the African continent in the global showpiece but the team was stuck in the qualifiers.

Senegal, Cameroon, Ghana, Morocco, and Tunisia were the teams that secured qualification for the finals, representing Africa in the showpiece.

Tanzania has failed for various reasons and below are some of the strategies to be used to prepare for the upcoming finals set to take place in 2026 that will involve 48 countries.

In the five matches

that the senior national team 'Taifa Stars' played in the qualifiers, three were played at home and the squad, so far, collected only three points by beating Madagascar 3-2.

Taifa Stars lost two matches at home against Benin (1-0) and DR Congo (3-0). If a domestic football supporter looks at those three matches, 'Taifa Stars' players were not good at defending, having allowed six goals while scoring three.

In three away matches Taifa Stars played, the squad collected four points following a 1-0 win over Benin, a 1-1 draw with DR Congo, and a 2-0 loss to Madagascar.

With those statistics, it seems Taifa Stars was better playing away than at home but the big problem is in scoring goals. To do well, the team needs to build a culture of winning its home games.

The team that makes good use of its home



Players making Tanzania's senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' shape up for African Qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup's match against the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which took place in Lubumbashi on September 2. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

venue is always the one that has the greatest chance to do well in a tournament.

It is believed that when many teams go to play away from home, they encounter many obstacles and have little chance of winning such

games.

When a squad plays at home it, though, knows the environment including the weather, if it loses such a result will create controversy.

This is what made Taifa Stars unable to advance in qualifiers

for the 2022 World Cup finals. If a domestic soccer enthusiast looks at DR Congo, which was the leader in Group J of the qualifiers, the team came out victorious in three ties, drew two, and lost one.

In that sense, if Taifa

Stars is well-organized, the squad can win three matches and enter the final stage of qualifying for the 2026 World Cup finals.

Another issue that prevented Taifa Stars from achieving success was the lack of attackers to fight for the team to achieve success, Taifa Stars had average players playing in the area.

Football fans are used to seeing skipper Mbwana Samatta being used a lot in that area and he has already appeared to have failed to perform well in the team.

Samatta is instead more effective once the footballer is deployed as a wide forward. Taifa Stars should start making major adjustments in that area.

Much as many talented footballers are emerging every season, Taifa Stars has hardly changed. It has always been mostly made up of veteran players whenever it takes part in either friendlies

or qualifiers.

There is no change in players, even those with poor form in their respective outfits, they will keep on earning a call-up for the national team. Taifa Stars is among the national teams that have had many coaches because Tanzania Football Federation has been firing coaches after the team has registered less convincing outcomes.

Despite having been led by many coaches, unfortunately, those coaches did not have a good record in the competitions and some have been doing well when coaching youth teams.

Danish tactician, Kim Poulsen, who was removed recently due to poor results registered by Taifa Stars, including the failure to send the team to the 2022 World Cup finals, is one of the tacticians.

There is a big difference between the re-

ports of the opposing teams' coaches and the Taifa Stars' coaches' stats.

For Taifa Stars to qualify for the 2026 World Cup, the federation must avoid doing mistakes in preparation for the showdowns.

Taifa Stars should hardly rely too much on veteran players, there is a need for nurturing young players from now on in various competitions who should be prepared early.

The team should have new players, the ones who represented the country in the AFCON U-17 finals that took place in 2017 and 2019.

The footballers' talents should be developed by bringing competition to the team and the coach who will be assigned to the team should set the goals of the country.

Taifa Stars should first qualify for the AFCON finals and later seek progression to the World Cup finals.

## British billionaire Ratcliffe challenges Qatar sheikh in race to buy Man United

LONDON

THE race to take control of Manchester United intensified Saturday as British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe formally challenged a Qatari banker for the ownership of the English football giants.

Ratcliffe had already expressed interest in United several weeks ago and his INEOS company followed the Qatari offer by officially submitting their own bid.

But the contest for control of the record 20-times English champions may be more than a two-horse race.

On Saturday, The Times reported that American hedge fund giant Elliott had made a bid -- but not a full takeover of the kind proposed by both Ratcliffe and Qatari rival Sheikh Jassim Bin Hamad Al Thani.

United is currently owned by the US-based Glazer family -- with the cost of purchasing one of the world's most iconic sports teams expected to reach around \$6 billion.

The 70-year-old Ratcliffe is keen to expand a sporting portfolio that already includes French football club Nice and Swiss team FC Lausanne-Sport, as well as the cycling team Ineos Grenadiers, formerly Team Sky.

"We can confirm that Sir Jim Ratcliffe and INEOS have submitted a bid for majority ownership of Manchester United Football Club," Ineos said in a statement to AFP.

Ratcliffe, born in Failsworth, Greater Manchester, is one of Britain's wealthiest people, with an estimated net worth of £12.5 billion (\$15 billion) following the success of INEOS, his global chemical company.

- 'Number one in world again' -

The boyhood United fan vowed to restore the Old Trafford side as the "number one club in the world again" after 10 years without a Premier League title triumph.

The group also pledged to be "the long-term custodians of Manchester United on behalf of the fans and the wider community".

"We want a Manchester United anchored in its proud history and roots in the North-West of England, putting the Manchester back into Manchester United and clearly focusing on winning the Champions League."

US merchant bank the Raine Group are conducting the sale on behalf of the Glazers.

A price tag of around \$6 billion would smash the record fee for a football club set when a consortium led by LA Dodgers co-owner Todd Boehly and private equity firm Clearlake Capital purchased Chelsea last year.

There could be yet more US involvement in the Premier League, with The Times saying Elliott, the former owners of Italian football giants AC Milan had made an "eleventh-hour swoop" for United.

The Times, citing unnamed sources, added Elliott, which manages \$56 billion (£46 billion) in assets, had ruled itself out of a full takeover of United, but has offered to provide the financing for a bid -- which could include debt funding.

But that would provoke a bitter reaction from United fans, many of whom were angered by the Glazers saddling the club with huge debts in their £790 million 2005 takeover.

- 'Completely debt free' -

By contrast Sheikh Jassim, chairman of Qatar Islamic Bank (QIB) promised a "completely debt free" bid launched via his Nine Two Foundation, promising investment in both the team and a fading Old Trafford, as well as training facilities, the "fan experience" and the "communities the club supports"

The 41-year-old, educated at Britain's elite Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, also claims to be a long-time United fan.

The Glazer family announced in November they were open to a sale of or investment in United prompting talk of a bidding war between Qatari and Saudi Arabian interests.

United shares rose by close to two percent in after-hours trading on the New York Stock Exchange following the Qatari bid announcement. They had closed down 1.9 percent on Friday.

Saudi Arabia have also been linked with a bid but any investment in United would prompt outrage from human rights groups, who have spoken out against the Gulf state following the 2018 murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

A Qatari takeover would be opposed on similar grounds, with Peter Frankental, Amnesty UK's economic affairs director, saying it would represent "a continuation of this state-backed sportswashing project". Qatar have already invested in a European football heavyweight with Qatari investment fund QSI buying French champions PSG in 2011.

The Daily Telegraph reported sources close to Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund (PIF) were playing down the likelihood of a state-backed bid given their existing involvement with rival Premier League club Newcastle United.

United, one of the most successful clubs in English football history, have failed to win any silverware since 2017, struggling to keep pace with bitter rivals Manchester City since the retirement of legendary boss Alex Ferguson in 2013.

United sit third in the Premier League, after an improvement in form under manager Erik ten Hag, who took over before the start of the current campaign.

AFP

# From relief to belief: How Arsenal breathed life back into their title charge

By SAM DEAN

MIKEL Arteta buried his face in his hands. Oleksandr Zinchenko punched his own palms, muttering furiously under his breath. Even Bukayo Saka, usually such a mild-mannered young man, was throwing his arms around in anger and starting fights with Aston Villa players.

You could feel the tension in the air, and see it on the faces of Arsenal's players and staff as they twice went behind. Title races can do that to you, especially when you are the youngest team in the league and you have gone four matches without a victory.

But title races can also do something else to you and your supporters. When the stakes are this high, the emotions are magnified. And when a late winner rolls into the net, bouncing softly off the head of your former player, the delight is so extreme that it can be totally overwhelming.

First came the joyous relief for Arsenal, all those irritations washing away after 90 battling minutes, and then came the belief. A renewed sense of purpose, perhaps even of destiny, after a collective triumph that could well correct the course of their season after dropping eight points in their last three matches.

"A roller coaster," said the Arsenal manager. "It was very emotional at the end. We showed a



Aston Villa's goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez fails to save the goal from Arsenal's Bukayo Saka during the English Premier League soccer match between Aston Villa and Arsenal at Villa Park in Birmingham, England, Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023. (AP Photo)

lot of resilience, character and quality. I feel our confidence is right back, with more belief than before."

Defeat would have further dented their hopes of lifting a first league title for 19 years. Instead, Arsenal now find themselves at the summit once more, thanks to Nottingham Forest's battling draw with Manchester City.

To win the game like this will reaffirm the faith in what they are doing. And for Arsenal's players, faith is the only way they are going to challenge Manchester City this season - there can be no doubts in their minds over their approach, no sprinklings of fear as they look to play the high-risk, high-reward football that Arteta demands.

The only way to achieve sustained success with this style of play is to have the courage to take the ball in difficult positions and play with it. No long clearances, no aimless hoofs.

Some supporters have been growing frustrated with Arsenal's insistence on playing out from the back, on trying to find those precise passing angles instead of launching the ball upfield. In Wednesday's defeat by City, you could hear it in the stands. The groans, the gasps, the nervous pleading to simply get rid of the danger.

Those dissidents would have been emboldened by events in the fifth minute at Villa Park, when Zinchenko lost the ball and Villa swiftly capitalised through Ollie Watkins. A need-

less error, punished ruthlessly.

These are the risks that Arsenal's players have been asked to take and, with each passing game without a victory, it is only understandable that they would start to clam up. For much of the first half here, they played without the freedom of expression that had defined the first half of their campaign.

Unai Emery's side struggled to play out from the back but, at times, they flowed forward with impressive speed. Their second goal, finished by Philippe Coutinho, was a slick move that exposed Arsenal's weaknesses.

Arteta's message to his players, he said, was simple: "At half-time we said the moment is now. We have to raise the individual level, look each other in

the face."

Arsenal's response was to double down on the strategy, to back themselves in the face of those creeping doubts. It worked. The passing became more precise, the attacking moves became more fluid. Arteta's side fired in 18 shots in the second half, compared to only two in the first 45 minutes.

Suddenly, Martin Odegaard looked like Martin Odegaard again. Saka was darting in behind, causing chaos. Zinchenko was driving forward, finding his team-mates and then firing home from range for his first Premier League goal. Jorginho was purring in midfield, spinning away from tackles and starting moves.

It has been fair, in recent weeks, to wonder if Arsenal need a Plan B this season, for the times when Plan A is not working. The better solution, though, is to simply be better at Plan A. This is how they turned around the match, squeezing Villa and dominating the game until they struck their deserved winner, via Emiliano Martinez's head, in the final seconds.

Arsenal won by sticking to their principles at a time when those principles were facing their first sustained test of the campaign. The nature of the victory, combined with the fortuitousness of the third goal, will only strengthen the feeling within the club that something special is brewing in north London.

Just as you could feel the tension of the Arsenal players during the match, when Saka grew angry and Arteta raged at the officials, you could also feel it fall away from them at the end.

When Gabriel Martinelli ran through to score the fourth in an empty net, he celebrated before finishing. The clouds had lifted, and the belief had returned. **THE TELEGRAPH**

## Guardiola rues misfiring Man City draw in title race blow

LONDON

PEP Guardiola admitted Manchester City had only themselves to blame for failing to kill off Nottingham Forest in a 1-1 draw that damaged their bid to retain the Premier League title.

Arsenal's 4-2 win at Aston Villa earlier on Saturday had moved them back to the top of the table at City's expense.

But Guardiola's side were on course to regain pole position after Bernardo Silva's 40th-minute strike from the edge of the area opened the scoring at the City Ground.

However, Erling Haaland missed two sitters and Kevin De Bruyne also wasted a good chance before Chris Wood's tap-in for his first Forest goal in the 84th minute rocked the champions.

The result left second-placed City two points behind Arsenal, who have a game in hand to extend their title race lead after bouncing back from their midweek 3-1 loss to Guardiola's men.

Guardiola conceded City were the victims of their own downfall after such sloppy finishing.

"It was a brilliant performance, we played really good but we didn't score. At this level you have to score and that is why we dropped points,"

he said.

"The first half should already be 2-0 or 3-0, we conceded one shot on target and we dropped points. We are sad and disappointed but the way we played was really good.

"We missed goals that were one metre to the goalkeeper, not just one, a few. That is why we didn't win. What can I say?" Guardiola showed the tension is mounting in the title fight when he was booked in the second half.

The Spaniard confronted the fourth official in a furious reaction to referee Graham Scott's decision not to award a foul after Haaland went down under a challenge from Joe Worrall when clean through on goal.

"We don't make any excuses. I could say many things that have happened this season," Guardiola said. "I am not a guy who is here to talk about things we cannot control.

"I don't know, it looks like the last man (Haaland) went to the keeper and fell down. Why would you fall down when you are one against one to the keeper?"

"I was complaining to the fourth official, why would Haaland stop when he was one-on-one to score a goal and after that I got a well deserved

yellow card."

Meanwhile, Graham Potter insisted he is not at fault for Chelsea's woes as the struggling Blues hit a new low in Saturday's 1-0 defeat against Southampton.

Potter's side were beaten by the Premier League's bottom club, who took the points home from Stamford Bridge thanks to a trademark free-kick from James Ward-Prowse late in the first half.

Southampton won for just the second time in the league since October, leaving hapless Chelsea's winless run in the league at four matches.

Chelsea struggled to create clear chances and were booed off by frustrated fans at the end of an eighth goalless effort in their last 13 games.

With the pressure mounting on Potter, who was only hired to replace the sacked Thomas Tuchel in September, the former Brighton boss launched a stout defence of his credentials.

"After a 1-0 defeat at home, any criticism you get is understandable," Potter said.

"We've had a tough period, we've had lots of challenges, integrating young players into the Premier League. Whilst results don't go your way, it can be tough.

"I'm sure there will be people out there who will think I'm the problem. I don't think they're right. "I'm not arrogant enough to say their opinion isn't worth articulating. My job is to help the team keeping working through a tough period."

Chelsea spent more than £300 million (\$361 million) on new signings in the January transfer window, but Potter is yet to turn that huge investment into an improvement in results.

Aware of the talk that he could be facing the sack, Potter conceded Chelsea's latest loss, coming days after a 1-0 defeat at Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League last 16 first leg, was another blow.

"The truth is we took a step back in our performance in the first half. The response in the second half was good, but not good enough," he said.

"When we've lost 1-0 at home to Southampton, with the greatest respect to them, it isn't good enough. The first

half was as much my responsibility as anybody's. I thought the performance wasn't good."

Potter's problems were compounded by a serious injury to captain Cesar Azpilicueta in the second half, with the defender leaving the pitch on a stretcher with an oxygen mask after being kicked in the head by Sekou Mara.

"He's in hospital. He's conscious, he was speaking to his wife. We are obviously really concerned. He's in the best place and we'll keep monitoring him," Potter said.

"I think he was unconscious. We have to take all the precautions we need to take now. It was worrying. It was a horrible incident."

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# Robertinho rues poor finishing in Simba SC's defeat to Raja CA



Tanzania's Simba SC goal-getter, John Bocca (R), skips the challenge of Morocco's Raja Club Athletic defensive midfielder, Roger Aholou, when the clubs locked horns in this season's CAF Champions League Group C match held in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. Raja Club Athletic cruised to a 3-0 victory. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

"When we had opportunities to shoot, we preferred to take a pass and overlap without the objective inside the box."

"It is the CAF Champions League Group Stage, there are no small teams. Raja Casablanca is a good team... we changed in the second half, played well but we did not have the correct objective in finishing," the coach added.

"We have got good experience, we need to forget this game and prepare for the next game with Vipers SC."

Robertinho pleaded for patience as he moulds the team, insisting he did not have the benefit of a pre-season to prepare the squad.

"When I came here, I had no time for pre-season, immediately, it was game after game. I need time to prepare the team well, tactically and physically," the Brazilian coach disclosed.

Simba SC will next take on Vipers SC in Kampala on February 25 in what will be a nice set-up East African derby while Raja Club Athletic hosts Horoya Athletic Club in Casablanca.

Only the top two teams in the group, as is the case with the rest of the showdown groups, qualify for the quarterfinals.

Having qualified for the quarterfinals three times in the last four years, Simba SC now needs to win the two back-to-back games against Vipers SC while hoping Raja Club Athletic takes care of Horoya Athletic Club.

# SPORT

## From relief to belief: How Arsenal breathed life back into their title charge

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EATV Sports

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**MONDAY**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)  
14:00 SKONGA (r)  
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Akili & Me (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 S5ELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Bongo Hit  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 5SPORTS LIVE  
22:00 Zote kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa (r)  
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

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The week's local and international sporting events as well as indepth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on 5sports.

**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

## COSAFA well represented on and off the pitch at U-20 AFCON

CAIRO

THE Council of Southern Africa Football Associations (COSAFA) zone will be well represented on and off the pitch at the 2023 TotalEnergies U-20 Africa Cup of Nations that starts in Egypt on Sunday.

Outside of the zone's competing teams in the form of Zambia and Mozambique, referees Akhona Makalima (South Africa), Alfinar Adriano (Mozambique), Godfrey Nkhakananga (Malawi), Antonio Dungula (Angola), and Mohamed Athoumani (Comoros) will take to the pitch.

Added to that, assistant referees Aswet Teeluk (Mauritius) and Shaji Padayachi (Seychelles) will also be in attendance.

Renowned South African physician, Thulani Ngenwenya, will also be at the tournament as a CAF Medical Commission Member.

His compatriot, the former Bafana Bafana international Mark Fish, is part of the Technical Study Group having filled the same role at the recent African Nations Championship.

Fitness trainer, Bento Navesse from Mozambique, is part of the official delegation of trainers to work with the match officials.

Football Association of Malawi Competitions Director Gomezgani Zakazaka has also received a call-up as Assistant General Coordinator at Suez Canal Stadium in Ismaïlia.

Namibian Titus Kunamuene, who has been a general coordinator at numerous COSAFA tournaments in the past, will be in Egypt during the competition.

Also in attendance will be COSAFA Referees Manager Felix Tangawarima as he continues to play a leading role in bringing through match officials on the continent.

AGENCIES

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

**S**IMBA SC's head coach Roberto Oliveira, alias Robertinho, was left bemoaning his side's poor finishing touch as the side fell to the second defeat in the 2022/23 CAF Champions League Group Stage.

A week after losing 1-0 to Guinea's Horoya AC, Simba SC was once again on the losing end following a 3-0 drubbing by Raja Club Athletic that left them pointless after two rounds of 2022/23 CAF Champions League Group C.

Against the run of play, the Moroccans opened the score at the half-hour mark when Hamza Khabba pulled a trigger past Simba SC's keeper Aishi Manula.

Then, the visitors managed to hold on to their lead until the last moments before extending the gap via goals by Soufiane Bendjida (82nd minute) and Ismail Mokadem (86th-minute penalty).

The results leave Simba SC languishing at the bottom of Group C while Vipers SC is sitting third following the side's goalless stalemate with Horoya Athletic Club in Kampala earlier on the same day.

Raja Club Athletic is at the top of the group with six points followed by Horoya Athletic Club which has collected four points from the outfit's two opening games.

In a post-match press conference, Robertinho admitted Simba SC made life hard for themselves with poor finishing against

Raja Club Athletic in the CAF Champions League encounter played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium on Saturday evening.

He said: "Congratulations to my opponents because they used their opportunities to score goals. I think my team played well but we needed to play more aggressively in the opponents' box."

Robertinho pointed out:

## 2023's Selous Marathon to fund tree planting in Morogoro

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

HUMAN existence is quite impossible without the presence of a healthy ecosystem. The environment comprises living and non-living components, and their interactions within a natural habitat.

Environmental conservation has become one of the core issues that need to be addressed to battle climate change and global warming.

Marathon runners, therefore, may care more about the quality of the nature they train in, as the environmental quality can connect to health benefits.

By considering the aspect, the 2023 Selous Marathon season that has been scheduled to take place in Morogoro in August is set to witness participants planting about 250 fruit trees on the slopes of Uluguru mountains to conserve the environment.

About 3500 runners from all corners of Tanzania and outside the country are expected to participate in this year's Selous Marathon.

The showdown will feature a trail run, 21km event, 10km event, and 5km run/walk category.

According to the race's organizer, Emmanuel Marwa, all registration procedures are done digitally through either the race website [www.selousmarathons.co.tz](http://www.selousmarathons.co.tz) or by visiting their registration offices in Dar es Salaam and Morogoro for more registration details.

He stated: "Selous Marathon is organized by a seasoned team with hands-on experience in event organization in the field of sports, conservation, and tourism."

Marwa said: "This season once



Nzega Rural's Member of Parliament and former minister, Hamisi Kigwangalla (2nd L), and other people run in a past Selous Marathon that took place in Morogoro.

again we have set this marathon to take place in Morogoro town... the races will cover a trail run, 21 kilometers, 10 kilometers, and 5 kilometers run/walk."

He further elaborated that to make sure the tree planting is a success, the organizers will set aside five percent of the proceeds to support the green project of tree planting on the slopes

of Uluguru mountains to educate Tanzanians about the importance of environmental conservation.

"We planned these races to take place in Morogoro, aiming to turn Morogoro into its natural green vegetation," Marwa disclosed.

Marwa noted that the registration will get underway in May and the marathon will take place on August 18

this year.

The official revealed an entry fee of 65,000/- has been set for each of the participants in the Trail run, whereas in the rest of the races, each of the runners will pay 35,000/-.

Selous Marathon is a prestigious town race open to a range of running enthusiasts from elite athletes to social runners.

It has been envisioned by the founder, Gofin Ventures, who firmly believe that running is a panacea for society.

The showdown is bringing together people from in and outside Tanzania with varieties of competence, origin, creed, and social strata into a common platform.

Ventures revealed he is driven by the core belief that 'the run is great leveler'.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

ARE YOU IN A BEAUTY PAGEANT OR SOMETHING?



NO, I JUST MISS THE WORLD CUP!