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MUHAS, TDA launch NCD's research

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Agriculture budget rises to 954bn/-

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Protection of water infrastructure



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NHC plans 5000 low-cost houses

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

AT LEAST 5000 low cost houses, in a building plan known as the Samia Housing Scheme (SHS), will be built by the National Housing Corporation (NHC) in the current financial year at a total cost of 413.7bn/-.

Muungano Saguye (Pictured), the NHC communications and public relations manager, said in a statement here yesterday that the scheme is a project for rental and sales houses, half of the houses slated to be constructed in Dar es Salaam.

He said the name tag honours President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her tireless efforts in taking the nation to another level of development. Through the project, Tanzanians shall remember her leadership for more than 50 years to come, he said.

He elaborated that 20 percent of the houses will be built in the capital, and 30 percent in other regional centres across the country, this being a key part of NHC activities during this financial year.

Construction is scheduled to start next month for 500 houses at Kawe suburb in Dar es Salaam

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Kahama double collision: Samia grieves after 20 die



Agenda Participation coordinator Dickson Kamala (foreground) takes a selfie in Dar es Salaam yesterday with other participants of a two-day youth forum organised by Freedom House Tanzania. The NGO's programmes support human rights and democracy advocates in their efforts to promote open government, defend human rights, strengthen civil society and facilitate the free flow of information and ideas. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has mourned the 20 people killed on Sunday night in a road crash at Mwakata village in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region, involving four motor vehicles.

The crash, which sources say involved the collision of a tractor, minibus, a saloon car and a cargo truck, left 15 other people injured.

President Samia sent her condolences to Shinyanga regional commissioner Sophia Mjema, wishing the survivors quick recovery.

"I pray for all the deceased to rest in peace and I join the families of the deceased and their relatives in this hard time," the president said in a statement issued by the presidential communications directorate.

Traffic police and other agencies overseeing road safety need to strengthen efforts to reduce unnecessary accidents, the statement noted, while Regional Police Commander ACP Leonard Nyandahu confirmed the incident, blaming it on reckless driving.

He said the accident occurred when IST car heading for Kahama from Isaka rammed into the back of a tractor carrying firewood - with three

I pray for all the deceased to rest in peace and I join the families of the deceased and their relatives in this hard time

people dying on the spot.

"The driver of the minibus, which was speeding, rammed into a Scania truck, causing the deaths of 13 people on the spot, with the cargo truck parked on a side of the road after the first accident. All this is recklessness," he noted.

The deceased were listed as 17 men and three women, with the injured being taken to the Kahama District Hospital, where medical officer Dr Deogratius Nyaga confirmed to have received 17 bodies - with three other people dying at the start of treatment in the hospital.

Those admitted are Paul Sebastian (44), Omary Shabani (26), Kulwa Omary (27), Mahubi Tembo (29), Joseph Tumaini (37), Ally Emmanuel (18), Paschal Joseph (32), Simon John (40), Hamis George (29), Henry Haule (37), Mwasiti Samweli (39), Salimu Slimu (37) and Daines Haule (43).

Sebastian, one of the injured said he saw the IST (car) speedily overtaking the bus (in which he was travelling) before hitting the tractor and the bus hitting the Scania truck.

The accident comes barely a fortnight after 11 children died when a school bus plunged into a ditch in Mtwara-Mikindani municipality.

Samia cites wide relief from Njombe highway

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has launched the 107.4km Njombe-Makete road saying that it is going to stimulate tourism and open up various economic opportunities.

At the launching event in Iwawa, Makete District, Njombe Region, the president acknowledged that the road had reached a bad situation, hampering various economic activities.

"I remember I was here in the 2020 election campaigns. This road was so bad, it was difficult to reach Njombe from Makete. Completing its construction brings relief to the people. You are now blessed with this road," she said.

The road links Makete with neighboring

regions along with neighbouring countries, opening opportunities and stimulating economic growth, she said.

Farmers and traders will now be able to transport crops easily to reach the town, while the tourism sector will greatly improve here as transport will be smooth, she said.

The government has spent billions of shillings on the project, she said, noting that residents who have waited for many years must utilize it properly and protect it.

The road will completely transform Makete District, she said, citing the conducive weather of Makete as favouring production of various crops. This will stimulate trade and attract visitors, the president pursued.

She appealed against setting up trading along the road as it will damage the road

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Chadema scans NHIF snags, sets alternative

By Guardian Reporter

STRATEGISTS at the secretariat of the opposition Chadema have issued eight recommendations to the government in

regard to operations of health insurance funds.

Ashura Masoud, who heads the party's health and community services committee, said in a statement that changes required include reviewing and amending the national health policy to relate more effectively to the current situation.

The statement comes in the wake of a directive of the Ministry of Health to stop application of changes of procedure including shifting patients from one hospital to another before the first hospital has treated a patient for at least one month.

The reason for the measure was that

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A visibly fascinated boy affectionately holds a President Samia Suluhu Hassan poster as the president addressed Rungwe residents during her official tour of Mbeya Region earlier this week. Photo: State House



President Samia Suluhu Hassan





Tanzania Media Foundation executive director Dastan Kamanzi stands as facilitator at a two-day specialised Data Journalism workshop for IPP media journalists which opened at the offices of The Guardian Limited in Dar es Salaam yesterday. It has been jointly organised by the Media Council of Tanzania and the newspaper publishing firm. Photo: John Badi

Samia cites wide relief from Njombe highway

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too fast, and instead work to protect it by planting trees and maintaining cleanliness.

Inspecting the maternity and newly born care facility at the Njombe regional referral hospital, the president reminded the public to participate in

the coming census two weeks from now, on August 23.

"Census is very important," she told the gathering, citing the need for the government to have correct statistics of people as helping it to plan better.

"We are investing efforts to supply medicines and all important tools in

hospitals but still we are told they are not enough. This shows how important it is to have accurate data to facilitate proper planning and the provision of services," she declared.

Rogatus Mativila, director of the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TanRoads), said the road connects regions of Njombe and Mbeya via

Kitulo National Park, along with linking up with Malawi, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Works and Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa said that the designing work continues for the construction of the Isonje-Mbeya road.



Members of Islamic Shia Ithna-Asheri community in Dar es Salaam march on Monday in commemoration of the martyrdom of Imam Hussain bin Ali, a grandson of Prophet Muhammad. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

In hope or despair, Kenyans choose new president from familiar faces

NAIROBI

KENYANS voted in national elections yesterday forming long queues at ballot stations in the heartlands of presidential frontrunners Raila Odinga and William Ruto, while elsewhere turnout was dampened by widespread voter apathy and frustration.

Kenya is holding presidential, legislative and local elections at a time when its citizens are growing increasingly exasperated at surging food prices and ingrained corruption.

But large numbers of young people have not registered to vote, electoral commission figures show, with many fed up of widening inequality and a

lack of trust in either side to fix the problems.

In some polling stations in the capital Nairobi, Garissa, and Naivasha, lines were shorter than in previous elections, although turnout could pick up later. By noon, turnout was just over 30 per cent, said Juliana Cherera, the electoral commission's vice chair. Turnout in the last election was near 80 per cent.

"Kenyans are tired of waking up early and voting for a government that doesn't care but we hope things will change," said Joshua Nyanjui at a polling station in the town of Naivasha, around 90 km (56 miles) northeast of the capital Nairobi.

Nyanjui said that in the last elections he queued for over four hours; this time it took under 30 minutes. Other voters in Naivasha complained of high prices and hunger.

Odinga and Ruto are familiar faces in Kenya. Ruto, 55, has been Kenyatta's deputy for nine years, though the two have fallen out. Instead, Kenyatta endorsed veteran opposition leader Odinga, 77.

The final four opinion polls published last week put Odinga ahead by six to eight points. Ruto dismissed them as fake.

Kenya is a stable nation in a volatile region, a close Western ally that hosts regional headquarters for Alphabet

(GOOGLE), Visa (VN) and other international groups. However, less than 0.1 per cent of Kenyans own more wealth than the bottom 99.9 per cent combined, according to Oxfam.

In the western city of Kisumu, a bastion for Odinga supporters, police had to disperse singing, dancing voters who spent the night at one polling station.

David Onyango, 34, had been queuing for nearly four hours and the turnout was the biggest he'd ever seen.

Near the Rift Valley town of Eldoret, Ruto's political heartland, Gideon Mengech woke up at 3 a.m. to vote.

AGENCIES

NHC plans 5000 low-cost houses

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and 500 others at Medeli area in Dodoma, which will be built in four phases, billed at 466bn/- in total, he said.

The plan is in line with the NHC ten year projection for 2015/16 to 2024/25, to build 10,000 houses to boost housing sector growth, where the mainstay of growth is the private sector, he stated.

NHC has a capital base of 5.04trn/- tied up in 2,650 housing entities with 18,654 rentable units in various regions, he said, noting that the corporation is gearing up to finish the construction of Morocco Square along Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road in Dar es Salaam. Construction was 94 per cent complete by June 30, he asserted.

The projected initiated during the fourth phase government stalled in following the withdrawal of deposits of public organisations from commercial banks to the Bank of Tanzania as public revenues.

The government has now authorized NHC to borrow to complete the project, as well as the Kawe711 duplicate project, at least in some regards.

NHC has so far borrowed 44.7bn/- for the projects, with the Morocco Square project slated for completion towards the end of the year.

Surveying other NHC activities, he said the Nyerere Referral Hospital in Musoma is 99 per cent complete, while an international livestock market at Geita has largely been completed, he said.

NHC also embarked on the renovation of its buildings, spending 3bn/- to renovate 180 buildings in Kilimanjaro, Dar es Salaam and Katavi regions in the past financial year, he said.

In its 2022/23 outlook, NHC will take up joint ventures with private firms to developing housing estates planned by the corporation, along with constructing new commercial buildings in Bukoba, Mwanza,

Dodoma, Kahama, Morogoro, Masasi and Lindi, he stated.

NHC has plans for 400 hectares adding to its land bank, he said, noting that the housing projects have a lot of benefits to the country, creating job opportunities and increasing public revenues.

The Samia Housing Scheme is expected to create 17,600 direct jobs and 8,800 indirect ones. Total earnings expected shall exceed the 466bn/- being used in construction as the returns will take a few years to mature, he stated.

The government will earn 50bn/- in sales of houses and another 10bn/- in the purchase of building equipment. It will also get 17.8bn/- in 'pay as you earn' (PAYE) charges, housing tax of 55bn/-, corporate tax from NHC and other contractors amounting to 77bn/- and 60bn/- in VAT, he stated.

The projects help in growing the financial sector by extending construction loans and sales of equipment as contractors borrow up to 60 per cent of their requirements, which for this scheme amounts to 194.8bn/- in profitable borrowing, he added.



NHC also embarked on the renovation of its buildings, spending 3bn/- to renovate 180 buildings in Kilimanjaro, Dar es Salaam and Katavi regions in the past financial year

Chadema scans NHIF snags, sets alternative

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multiple bills relating to one person and for the same ailment are brought to NHIF, draining funds and making its operations potentially unsustainable.

The statement indicated that the recommendations were drawn up after the party "identified various deficiencies in the way the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) operates, including discrimination in regard to treatment, shortage of experts plus conflicts pitting health funds and health service providers."

The second recommendation is to conduct nationwide discussion among health stakeholders and the NHIF in regard to the sustainability of its operations, she said, citing the third recommendation as involvement of the fund's members before any decisions touching on the availability of health services through NHIF are made.

The fourth recommendation is to revamp NHIF management for supervision in planning changes that affect members or fund users, as lack of supervision leads to such changes being effected and higher authorities intervene.

The fourth recommendation focuses on the Ministry of Health having in place a controller of health security fund services, the statement indicated, expressing support for Health minister Ummu Mwalimu in her recent intervention. The envisaged controller would have to verify any changes in the services provided, the statement underlined.

Sixth, the party recommends the formation of a resolution commission handling disputes between health service providers and NHIF members, while the seventh recommendation urges the ministry proactively resolve disputes between NHIF and health service providers.

Finally, the party recommended that the ministry makes deliberate efforts in adding staff from dispensaries to health centres, district and regional

referral hospitals "to do away with the nagging issue of staff shortage."

This will simplify the provision of treatment services to all patients, having health insurance funds or not having that facility, the statement noted, asserting that health services need adequate staff in every department for services to be rapid. The staff shortage problem is a big headache in rural areas, the party intoned.

Reports show that NHIF ability is reduced by five per cent annually, the statement affirmed, projecting that claiming that the fund must change direction to avoid failing to run on its resources in the near future.

There are two main issues that make NHIF fail to operate independently, the party official asserted, citing these factors as insufficient experts versed in running health insurance funds.

"The second aspect is that the fund is being run politically from politicians' statements instead of working professionally," she stated. This situation endangers its plans and strategies especially at a time of intense competition with the private sector, the statement added.



...identified various deficiencies in the way the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) operates, including discrimination in regard to treatment, shortage of experts plus conflicts pitting health funds and health service providers



Patrobas Katambi (in tie), Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities) in tête-à-tête with National Council of NGOs chairperson Lilian Badi at the Tanzania Youth Forum held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Dodoma region farmers urged to use ICT for their advantage

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

FARMERS in Dodoma region, especially those on grape farming have been urged to seek right information through modern technology systems in production and market availability. The call was made at the ongoing farmers and livestock show (Nane Nane) by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA)'s Zonal Manager, Boniface Shoo, adding that there are a lot of information on modern farming in the internet.

"There are a lot of useful information in the internet which farmers, especially grape farmers in Dodoma can make good use of in order to improve productivity," he said.

He added that TCRA encourage farmers to visit network platforms to get the rightful education, but most important is to realize the markets demands and available markets.

TCRA is among the many government institutions, organisations, ministries and other private sector players that are participating in central

zone agriculture and livestock show in Dodoma.

He said the authority has embarked on a campaign to enlighten members of the public in the use of internet and communication systems to improve their activities.

TCRA's Communication's Officer, Robin Ulikaye noted that the campaign aims at creating more awareness on communication networks in order to help reduce theft through communication and coning, among other vices.

TRC warns members of public to refrain from encroaching on land

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC), has warned members of the public to refrain from encroaching into land, saying it has plans for any unutilised plots.

It has also decried high compensation fees if forced to pay in areas where people are to be relocated to pave way for railway projects.

The Corporation's Director General, Masanja Kadogosa made the statement while briefing journalists on the corporations plan for the 2022/2023, noting that a lot of activities have earmarked.

"It is unfortunate that even some district eye properties of TRC, not knowing that we have big future plans with such occupied areas" he said, adding that the corporation wants put up a big structure in its Dodoma piece of land that was once used as regional bus stand.

Kadogosa explained that despite the ongoing construction of SGR lines, TRC is also working to strengthen the existing meter gauge railway, terming it equally important just like the new one.

The DG noted that in the 2022/2023, the corporation intends to improve operations by building new infrastructures and renovating the existing ones as well as purchasing new and renovating equipment.

All these, he said targets expand various economic activities such as both local and international trade, thus the

ongoing construction of 4,777 SGR line and renovation of 2,535 meter gauge railway.

Kadogosa also explained that the first phase of SGR project, some 1,219 kilometre from Dar es Salaam to Mwanza is under implementation in five segments.

He noted that the Dar es Salaam-Morogoro segment, covering a total of 300 kilometre has reached 97.19 percent and is likely to start operations early next year.

The second segment covering 422 kilometres between Morogoro and Makutupora in Singida, he said has reached 87.05 percent of the construction work while materials have been moved to site on the third segment covering 368 kilometres between Makutupora and Tabora.

According to the TRC boss, the government has already signed contract for the construction of the fourth segment, some 165 kilometres between Tabora and Isaka as Isaka-Mwanza has started by 8.38 percent.

He said upon completion, the train will be moving at a speed of 160 km/h for passenger trains and 120 km/h for luggage trains, adding that the cost of the project on the first phase is 16 trn/- and the government has paid 6.4 bn/- for the completed work so far.

To ensure uninterrupted power supply for the train, he said the government is constructing a 220 kilovolt dedicated line for sustainable electricity supply.

He said the 160 kilometre dedicated line from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro is



Joint Commission International auditor Helga Springhorn (C) presents a certificate of accreditation to Aga Khan Health Services' East African regional CEO Zeenat Suleiman (5th-R) and Aga Khan Health Services Tanzania CEO Sisawo Konteh (5th-L) at a ceremony held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

MUHAS, TDA launch NCD research centre

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Science (MUHAS) in collaboration with Tanzania Diabetes Association (TDA) have launched the National Non Communicable Diseases (NCD) research centre aimed at identifying priority areas to combat the killer diseases.

Speaking at the launching ceremony yesterday, Muhas Director of Research and Publication Prof Bruno Sunguya said the document was organized into six themes namely; burden of NCDs, risk factors for NCDs, enabling environment, health systems, innovative and implementation research for NCD and Multi-sectoral approach in addressing NCDs and their related co morbidities.

He said the aim of the document was to identify research areas of priority to the country which were formulated based on existing gaps on regulatory frameworks and nature of NCDs services that were provided in the country.

"The document serves to guide scientists to focus on areas of national interest, adding that initially scientists were engaged in different researches," he said.

The other aim according to Prof Sunguya is to provide critical analysis on issues pertinent to administration of NCDs related services activities so as to inform strategies for improvement.

The Don said more research conducted on NCDs were still scanty hence the country has been lacking a set of National NCD research agenda that would show and guide scientists on research priority areas.

He said as a result, most initiatives were only to some extent informed by local research.

"The initiative is now aimed to address contemporary challenges of unsatisfactory NCDs services and activities, and, in promoting engagement on NCDs research that

address national priorities," he added.

He said Tanzania was facing a sharp rapid rise in the burden of NCDs that have overwhelming pressure on the health system which is already burdened by NCDs like HIV, AIDS, malaria and TB.

Prof Andrew Swai, Chairman of TDA said it was not easy to eliminate the NCDs but the premature mortality can be reduced and called on the public to stop from practicing unhealthy lifestyles that contribute much to the problem.

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Prof Abel Makubi said the document will be used to guide higher learning institutions and institutions to enable them to come up with solutions.

"At this juncture, evidenced based research is very important to showcase the magnitude of the problem in the country," he said.


He advised the public to practice a smart lifestyle to be on the safer side against the disease that is affecting more young people.

He advised the community to use a balanced diet, doing exercise and avoid using food with high concentrations of sugar and fat.

Prof Kaushek Ramaiya, TDA secretary said concerted efforts were needed to contain the disease which is sharply increasing, predicting to kill 54 percent by 2030 if there was no action taken.

He mentioned the document was organized focusing on precaution, care and treatment, policy which are conducive, research agenda, capacity to deal with problems.

At this juncture, evidenced based research is very important to showcase the magnitude of the problem in the country



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NOTICE

2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Meeting of the Shareholders of TOL Gases Limited for the year ended December, 31, 2021 will be held on a hybrid of physical attendance at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) and via ZOOM video conferencing on 19th August, 2022 at 9.00 am to transact the following business:-

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Confirmation of Minutes of the year 2020 Annual General Meeting held on 27th August, 2021.
3. Matters arising from minutes of the year 2020 Annual General Meeting.
4. Chairman's Statement.
5. To receive the Directors' Report, Auditors' Report and the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2021.
6. To approve Dividend Payment.
7. To approve Directors' Fees.
8. To appoint Auditors for the year 2022.
9. Amendment of MEMARTS
10. Any other business (Duly notified at least seven days before the meeting)

Registration for participating in the ZOOM Video Conferencing should be done through phone no **0685750201/0685750203**.

A member entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting is entitled to appoint any person (whether a member of the Company or not) to attend and vote in his stead.

All proxy forms or letters appointing proxy must be lodged at the office of the Company Secretary at least 48 hours before the time fixed for the holding of the meeting or via email to mjuliana@tol-gases.co.tz / nlulu@tol.gases.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

CORNELIOUS KASIYA KARIWA
COMPANY SECRETARY

Directors: M.N. Shirima – Chairman (Tanzanian), S. Mponji – (Tanzanian), J. Massawe – (Tanzanian), S. Selestine – TR – URT (Tanzanian), Prof. A. Temu – (Tanzanian), Eng. J. Machange – (Tanzanian), L. Kitoka – (Tanzanian)

complete by 100 percent and the contractor has been paid a total of 70.6 bn/-.

The 410 kilometre of the line between Morogoro and Makutupora, he said is under construction, noting the government has paid 29.4bn/- and 48.5 bn to contractors respectively, being part of the total budget of 160.2 bn/- for the whole project.

He said the SGR project has helped create 16,000 direct jobs and some 80,000 indirect jobs to Tanzanians.

KUPOTEA KWA PASIPOTI YA KUSAFIRIA



SEMENI JIRANI SALUM anatangaza kupotelewa na pasipoti ya kusafiria yenye namba za usajili TAE256614 iliyotolewa na wizara ya mambo ya ndani ya nchi-UHAMIJI Dar Es Salaam mwaka 2019. Yeyote atakayeiokota atoe taarifa kituo chochote cha polisi. Polisi taarifa DAR/STA/RB/312424/2022

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INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE PROVISION OF MAINTANACE AND REPAIR OF INJECTOR PUMP TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring a service for maintenance and repair of Injector Pump and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for this service of this as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01343	PROVISION OF MAINTANACE AND REPAIR OF INJECTOR PUMP TO GGML

I. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01343)	60%
Submission of Injector pump dealership or distributorship letter	15%
Endorsement letter to supply or source injector pump genuine parts	15%
Technical team qualifications showing the knowledge/skills for repair and service of injector pumps	15%
Warranty provision	15%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01343) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 22nd August 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

—END OF ADVERTISEMENT—

Pyrethrum farmers told to increase production owing to high demand

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

PYRETHRUM farmers are required to increase production of the crop from 20,000 tonnes to 50,000 tonnes to satisfy the country's industrial demand.

The call was made at the weekend by the Pyrethrum Controller from Tanzania pyrethrum Board (TPB), Edwin Margwe at the Nanenane Agricultural Exhibition held at the national level at John Mwakangale Fair Grounds here that reached the climax on Monday.

Margwe said the current demand for the crop is very high, hence farmers should grab the opportunity to expand their pyrethrum growing to satisfy both the domestic and foreign markets.

He explained that earlier there was only one firm buying the crop but now these have increased in number as the demand increased.

Regarding the issue of seeds, he said they are working together with Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) to make sure they get quality seeds for farmers.

He also called on the youth to cultivate the crop because its demand is very high.

Meanwhile, Pyrethrum Farming Coordinator, Michael Bishubo from PCT, one of the crop's buyers said one of crop's benefits is to fight destructive pests both in farms and at homes.

He said pyrethrum flowers contain pesticides ingredients.

He explained that when animals eat the pyrethrum residues they get relief from stomach worms.

"I appeal to the youth to cultivate the crop because it has high demand both within and outside the country," Bishubo said.

He also appealed to financial institutions in the country to provide education regarding provision of loans to farmers to enable many of them access loans.



I appeal to the youth to cultivate the crop because it has high demand both within and outside the country

By Beatrice Philemon

TEN delegates from Malawi are in Tanzania to learn the success of the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme and how it has managed to help unskilled workers to acquire qualifications without going through formal education.

A report issued by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) indicates that so far Tanzania has been identified as the best country in Africa from which to learn about RPL since the successful launch of the programme in 2014.

To date Tanzania has assessed and certified over 30,000 workers with Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA) certification in 10 different occupations and Malawi hopes to emulate this success.

The government through the Prime Minister's Office Labour Employment and Persons with Disability (PMO-LYED), Ministry of Education in collaboration with the ILO welcomed delegates from the government of Malawi in Dodoma for a five day study tour on the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme.

The ILO defines RPL as the process of identifying, documenting, assessing, and clarifying informal learning against formal education and training standards.

Government increases budget for agriculture from 294bn/- to 954bn/-

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE government has increased the budget for the Agriculture Ministry in Fiscal year 2022/23 from 294bn/- to 954bn/- to enable the farming sector benefit the nation.

This was disclosed here at the weekend by Deputy Finance and Planning Permanent Secretary Jenifer Omolo during her visit to the ministry's pavilion at the Nanenane Agricultural Exhibition at John Mwakangale Grounds.

The Deputy PS said the aim for the budget increase is to enable the availability of quality seeds, farm inputs, provision of education to farmers through extension officers, construction of irrigation schemes and building of food silos.

"In the 2022/23 Budget the government has invested a lot of funds to make sure the farming sector expands and create employment for the people as 70 per cent of Tanzanians depend on agriculture which is the backbone of the economy," she said.

She said the government has allocated 361bn/- towards irrigation schemes to enable farmers continue with farming throughout the year without depending on rains, and 14.9bn/- for training of extension officers.

Omolo explained that boosting agriculture will enable the availability of adequate food for the country's security as well as other cash crops for export to earn foreign exchange.

She added that in the 2022/23 the government is set to collect 41.4trn/- while 1.2trn/- is set aside for the agriculture and livestock sectors.

The deputy PS said both the finance and agriculture ministries will work together to ensure that all government plans in priority areas for farmers economic wellbeing and that of the nation in general are implemented.

She praised exhibitors at the Finance and Planning ministry's pavilion for the good work in educating visitors about various activities as well as services provided by the ministry.



NMB Bank Plc head of agribusiness Isaac Masusu (L) and Southern Highlands zone manager Straton Chilongola pose for a photo on Monday showing the award the bank won for emerging the best exhibitor among financial institutions at the just-ended Nane Nane agricultural exhibitions held in Mbeya city at national level. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Malawi to follow Tanzania's footsteps on RPL programme

It provides an opportunity for informally skilled workers to acquire qualifications that match their knowledge and skills without going through formal education or a training programme.

Since 2019, the RPL programme has been part of the government's National Skills Development Programme, which has set a target of reaching 10,000 candidates per year.

The Permanent Secretary, PMO-LYED, Prof Jamal Adam Katundu welcomed the 10 Malawian delegates and noted the paramount role of skills development in Tanzania and the continent's economic development.

"This is an important learning experience for both Malawi and Tanzania, there is much we can learn from each other in the area of RPL but also skills development in general. As you may know Tanzania also has various successful programmes such as apprenticeship and internship programmes which provide more ways for young people to gain employment or self-employment."

Speaking on behalf of the Malawian delegates, Malawi's Ministry of Labour senior deputy secretary, Willie

Dooms Kamanga, lauded Tanzanian government for the successful implementation of the National Skills Development programme.

He remarked during his opening remarks while visiting the PMO-LYED headquarters in Dodoma on Monday.

Malawi is in the process of piloting its own RPL programme but faces various challenges which they hope the learning visit will help to mitigate unemployment.

Malawi, like Tanzania, views RPL as a viable system to address unemployment by recognizing and certifying informally acquired skills in local contexts.

RPL is expected to be more beneficial to those that may have no or limited access to formal technical and vocational training, workers in various workplaces who wish to have their competencies formally recognized, individuals who are interested in furthering their education at every level among other reasons.

The Malawian delegates will continue with their learning tour in Dodoma before heading to Zanzibar which has completed its second phase of its RPL programme since 2019.



NBC Bank managing director Theobald Sabi (L) hands over a combine harvester loaned to one of the bank's customers, Stephano Msigwa, at the just-ended Nane Nane agricultural exhibitions held at national level in Mbeya city. The bank led the pack of winners in the Financial Institutions and Social Security Funds categories for the Southern Highlands zone. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NBC Bank wins top award among financial institutions at Farmers' Day Exhibitions

By Guardian Reporter, Mbeya

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has completed its participation in the just-ended Nananene Agricultural Exhibition that was held at the John Mwakangale Stadium in Mbeya region with great success as the lender emerged the top winner among the financial institutions and Social Security Fund entities that participated in the exhibition for the Southern Zone.

The award to recognise the competence, contribution, and participation of the bank in the success of the just-ended agricultural exhibition was handed over by the organisers of the event to the Managing Director of NBC Bank, Theobald Sabi during the closing ceremony of the exhibition led by the President Samia Suluhu Hassan earlier this week.

"The award is proof that the great efforts made by NBC Bank to ensure that we are closer to agricultural stakeholders in many ways are recognised and well appreciated by the stakeholders... we are very grateful to the organisers of the exhibition for the appreciation and we promise to keep on being closer to all stakeholders of this important sector," he promised.

Speaking about the bank's participation in the exhibition Sabi said it is a continuation of its efforts to develop and promote the agricultural sector in the country through its specific programme known as 'NBC Shambani' involving the entire chain of the agricultural sector starting from the farmers, the processor of agricultural products to the distributors of agricultural products.

"Through the exhibition, we have had the opportunity to advertise our services especially those related to the entire agricultural sector as well as receiving feedback from farmers and many other stakeholders, including

various leaders who visited our booth. These include RCs and DCs, MPs, ministers, and other senior leaders including the Speaker of the National Assembly Dr Tulia Ackson."

"They both shared their opinions and showed interest in our services and products. We promise to work on all the comments and opinions they gave us...we are very grateful," said Sabi.

NBC Bank's Head of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Lariba, and Agriculture department Raymond Urassa said since the beginning of the exhibition until its completion, they have successfully met with various stakeholders of the agricultural sector, with many showing more interest in the agricultural insurance product that is exclusively offered by the lender in collaboration with the Jubilee Insurance company.

"The product is aimed at protecting farmers, fishermen, and livestock keepers in the country against losses when they experience various disasters that may affect their production. We are grateful to see that the stakeholders have responded positively and this gives us more strength and motivation to continue developing new services and products that are in line with their needs," he promised.

NBC Bank's participation in the exhibition attracted various stakeholders who visited its booth including Dr Tulia who was much interested in the bank's agricultural insurance.

"With all the good services and products provided by NBC Bank to farmers, I am very impressed with the agricultural insurance service. I am more interested after hearing that there are already tobacco farmers who have benefited from this service. This is enough proof that this service is feasible... congratulations NBC for showing the way," praised Dr Tulia.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Employment and Public Service Secretariat has used the Nananene Agricultural Exhibition to educate the public on how to use the employment portal when applying for employment in the government.

Briefing newsmen at the secretariat's pavilion at exhibition that reached the climax on Monday at John Mwakangale Exhibition Grounds here, the secretariat senior official Geoffrey Kikosa said they have begun meeting with various customers and stakeholders at the pavilion and educated them about the system.

Jobs seekers educated on how to search for govt jobs online

"We have discussed with them about challenges they face when applying for employment and after listening to them, we also assisted to find solutions to the challenges as well as getting their views on the entire employment process," he said.

He added "many of those who visited our pavilion needed assistance in the area of registration and we have directed them about the size of their

photographs to be affixed and on the correct way of registration including verification of their certificates by advocates."

He also said they received views on the area regarding their failure to apply for various vacancies advertised and used the deficiency to explain more to them on what they should do.

He also called on stakeholders and

applicants vying for jobs in the public service to visit their offices or their website for instruction and mobile phone numbers to obtain the services they need.

Meanwhile, Adeline Seka who visited the pavilion said the education they received about the employment portal will to a great extent help them to apply for jobs whenever vacancies are advertised.

Mbeya's Nane Nane fair grounds set to have permanent structures

By Guardian Correspondent,

Mbeya

THE government has officially announced that John Mwakangale Grounds in the City of Mbeya will be the special area for the annual Farmers Exhibition (Nananene) at the national level and called for the construction of permanent infrastructures for the purpose.

This was announced here on Monday by Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe when closing the exhibition.

Bashe said they have decided to take the step owing to the fact that the Southern Highlands regions is the area with massive production of both food and cash crops.

"We shall embark on the refurbishment very soon and our aim is to improve this area for the farmers' exhibition," he added.

In regard to the Uyole area also in the City of Mbeya which city elders use for traditional rituals, Bashe said the government has improved the area by fencing it to allow elders and other people to go in and out for their rituals.

However, he said there is also an area which the government has taken up for farming and that residents therein will be compensated.

Meanwhile, Finance and Planning Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba called upon agricultural institutions to stop smiling by the increase of the agriculture budget and instead they should work

hard to help President samia Suluhu Hassan in her efforts to develop the sector.

Dr Nchemba said the government has invested a huge budget for the farming sector, hence the institutions and the Tanzanians in general are supposed to work hard to make sure the funds provided are used properly.

"I call upon you to work hard to assist President Samia in ensuring the agriculture

sector develops," he stressed.

He said their aim is to see that every single shilling from the government allocated to various projects is well used.

In the same vein, Minister of State in the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Innocent Bashungwa said they will make sure they supervise local council officials tasked to oversee the farming sector.



VACANCY
STOREKEEPER

Haven of Peace Academy (HOPAC) is a faith based educational institution founded in 1994 for children of missionaries but has evolved into a Christian international school which has a diverse student's population, children of missionaries and full-time Christian service workers; children of expats working in the non-profit and for-profit sector and children of Tanzanians working in the for-profit and public sectors. The institution is located in Kunduchi at the junction of Salasala Road and Bagamoyo Road in Kinondoni Municipal in Dar es Salaam and is currently inviting applications for a vacancy of a competent experienced and qualified Storekeeper.

JOB SUMMARY
Self-motivated, team player, adaptable and willing to learn with experience working in multicultural settings, committed evangelical Christian, fluent in both English and Swahili.

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES
The Storekeeper position in one of the key positions in organisation looking on all general and department-specific, routine and daily store activities including activities such as ordering; receiving, binning and issuing; keeping safe office stock of materials and office consumables; managing of school inventory; doing periodic stock taking and related duties as required.

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Ensure on receiving stock/materials, a Good Receiving Note (GRN) should be raised;
- Ensure that, on receiving stocks/materials all are checked for damages and discrepancies before being recorded in respective bin cards;
- Ensure all damages and discrepancies are recorded and reported immediately to the Supervisor;
- Ensure that stocks/materials are issued only with a proper authorized requisition approved by the head of the department;
- Maintain bin cards for all stocks/materials and use of GRN and Requisition Note are properly recorded on receiving and issuing respectively;
- Ensure that proper stock levels are maintained such as maximum, minimum and re-order level;
- Prepare weekly and monthly consumption report for all stocks/materials and submit the report to Supervisor;
- Prepare physical stock-taking report every month end and submit report on any discrepancy/damage found during physical verification;
- Maintain a Fixed Assets Registration for all inventories/assets in school and register immediately the newly purchased ones;
- Any other duties as may be assigned by Finance Manager

REQUIRED QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Should be registered with National Board of Material Management and/or Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply;
- Minimum of Diploma in Stores Management or Material Management;
- Minimum of 4 (Four) years of experience in Stores Management;
- Knowledge of Stock and Assets Inventory procedures.

SPECIFIC SKILLS

- Computer literacy, including MS Office; e mail and material management software;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in both English and Swahili languages;
- Good interpersonal skills; numerical skills and attention to details.

If you are confident that you match the above criteria, please send your "Application letter and CV only" by e-mail to personnel@hopac.sc.tz to arrive on or before **Monday 15th August 2022**, addressed to **The Director, Haven of Peace Academy, P. O. Box 70027, Dar es Salaam, TANZANIA.**



WWF for a living planet®

Call For Consultancy Work to Support the adoption and implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) for WWF Tanzania Country office

Background
Following the National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA) technical pronouncement number 3 of 2020 which requires NGOs in Tanzania to prepare its Annual Financial Statements based on IPSAS, WWF TCO seeks the services of a consultant to support the process of adoption and implementation of IPSAS as per the requirements of IPSAS 33.

Objective of the Consultancy

- To support implementation of IPSAS in preparing the annual financial statements of the WWF TCO by providing required technical assistance, detail gap analysis, develop Roadmap for IPSAS implementation,
- Providing required capacity building and recommending modifications in information system/ software, policy, processes and other required changes as deemed necessary.
- Work with WWF TCO finance team in preparing the annual financial statements for FY2022 based on IPSAS.

Application procedure & Submission of Applications

All interested applicants may get the detailed ToR on WWF website at https://www.wwf.or.tz/-jobs_and_opportunities_consultancies_and_tenders/ and should submit;

- The technical and financial proposals detailing how this consultancy will be delivered. Indicating clearly the approach and methodology including the timeline.
- Evidence of previous experience of similar work and outputs with references.
- Summarized CVs for the lead consultant and team covering all technical specialties required.

The proposals (technical and financial) should be delivered electronically to WWF Tanzania procurement committee via email tz.procurement@wwftz.org addressed to;

Secretary, Procurement Committee
WWF Tanzania
Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, Mikocheni
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077 Fax: +255 22 277 5535;

All applications should reach us by or before 1700hrs Tanzania local time on **Tuesday, 23rd August 2022.**

WWF has a principle of zero-tolerance to fraud and corruption, if you encounter such incident, report by sending an email to fcci@wwftz.org



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE PROVISION OF REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF ELECTRICAL MOTORS TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring a service of Repair and Maintenance of Electrical Motors and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible contractors to submit Expression of Interest for the services as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01489	PROVISION FOR REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF ELECTRICAL MOTORS TO GGML IN THE RANGE OF 20KW @ 415V TO 4.5MW @ 11KV

I. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors and their nationalities	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2020-2021)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate/Contractors Registration Certificate	1.00%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.00%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.00%
Health and Safety Policy and Management Plan	1.00%
Quality Policy and Management Plan	1.00%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01489)	60%
Capable of rewinding motor up to 4.5MW	10%
Possessing workshop facilities for rewinding and testing such motors	10%
Proof of Experience on Motor rewinding for mines and other heavy industries	10%
Registration with Contractors Registration Board as Electrical Contractor	10%
Proof of Possession of Skills and experienced personnel for rewinding works	10%
Drying oven capable of accommodating motor size equals or greater than 3850 mm long x 2450mm wide x 1750mm high	10%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01489) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 22nd August 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

Protect water infrastructure against vandalism, Dawasa calls upon public

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

DAR ES SALAAM Water and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA) has advised the Ulongoni B and the city residents to protect water infrastructure against vandalism and reveal names of people who are behind the sabotage.

DAWASA's customer care officer, Felister Mrema made the call over the weekend when speaking during the meeting organised to educate water customers about services that offered by the authority.

Felister said government through the authority is using billions of money to build water infrastructure to ensure that every citizen is supplied with clean water so it is the obligation of everyone to protect the infrastructure.

"You are supposed to be watchman of this infrastructure's because it is you who benefit, make sure you report to the authority any vandalism act by revealing names of people who engage in such practices," she said, adding that such acts discourage government efforts to supply clean water to many Tanzanians.

She urged the citizens that it is

important for them to check their water meters every now and then if there are water leakages and report to the authority for maintenance in order to get accurate bills at the end of the month.

"Regular meter check up help you to get accurate bill for water you have used the whole month so it is very important for you to do inspection regularly," she said, urging Ulongoni B residents to seek for water connection

because the authority has all infrastructures around their area.

"Currently the government has provided opportunity for you to be connected on credit basis so we welcome you in our offices so that you can get information's on procedures," she said.

Felister also insisted for ward executive officers to sensitize their people to come up and get water connection to get clean and safe water and avoid using unsafe water that they buy from the streets.

Ulongoni B, Street Chairman, Mohammed Mzara, urged the area residents to collaborate with government officials and avoid vandalism of infrastructure's something that discourage government efforts to supply clean water.

"We're trying the best to make sure we protect the infrastructure, we'll continue with this noble duty and also educate our people on the importance to be the watch dog of their own infrastructure," he said.

Ulongoni B resident, Ibrahim Katungi, advised the authority, to find alternative way where they can fix their water meters to avoid vandalism.



Currently the government has provided opportunity for you to be connected on credit basis so we welcome you in our offices so that you can get information's on procedures



Felister Mrema (standing), a customer care officer with the Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) sensitises residents of Dar es Salaam's Ulongoni B ward yesterday on the need to safeguard water infrastructure, including by keeping vandals away. Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Over 39bn/- spent to refurbish four teachers' training colleges

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MORE than 39.7bn/- has been spent to refurbish the infrastructure of four teachers training colleges to enable them churn out qualified teachers for the job market.

This was disclosed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in Mbeya Region at the weekend during her visit to the refurbished teachers' colleges.

President Samia said many people complain that the education given at schools does not provide the knowledge to compete in the job market.

"You have been complaining that students graduate with only papers that do not give them the qualifications for employment or self-employment, hence these refurbishments aim to deal with this challenge," said

President Samia.

She added that the refurbishment of the infrastructures is going in tandem with the improvement to the education curricula and the review of the 2014 Education Policy that aim at education skills.

She also thanked the Canadian Government for the sponsorship of the refurbishment project and showered praise on the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology for its good supervision.

Earlier, the Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Prof. Adolf Mkenda said the project has been implemented in collaboration with the Canadian government which dished out 30.9bn/- while Tanzania provided 8.8bn/-.

Prof Mkenda said the entire project involved the refurbishment of

Muguso Teachers college in Mbeya, Kitangili Teachers College (Mtwara), Ndala teachers College (Tabora) and Shinyanga Teachers College (Shinyanga) that incorporated the construction of hostels, classrooms, dining rooms, libraries, laboratories and safe and clean water systems.

Meanwhile, the Canadian High Commissioner to Tanzania, Amb Hellen Fytche said her government will continue working together with Tanzania in sourcing for better primary and secondary education as well as in refurbishing infrastructures at teacher's colleges.

She added that Canada believes that these refurbishments will attain goal Number Four of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that ensures inclusive and equal education to all.

The government owns 35 teachers' colleges in the country many of which were built many years ago and whose infrastructures are now decrepit needing major facelift.

By Guardian Correspondent, Same

SAME District Commissioner Edward Mpagolo has called on the youth in the district to participate in the population and Housing Census slated for August 23 this year.

He made the call when he spoke to more than 1,800 youth assembled at the Seventh Day Adventists Church camp, Northern Conference at Alkanjenje area.

The youth had participated in the voluntary blood donation exercise as well as receiving Covid-19 vaccination.

He praised the youth for donating blood and Covid-19 vaccination and called on them to continue educating

Same DC calls on youths to participate in coming census

fellow youth on the importance of the vaccination.

The aim of his address to the assembled youth aged 10-35 years is to educate them on the importance of the population and Housing Census and the importance of Covid-19 vaccination for those aged 18 years onwards.

For his part, Same District Acting Medical Officer, Alex Alexander thanked the youth aged 18-35 years who had voluntarily donated blood as well a

for receiving Covid-19 vaccination and called on them to educate other youths to do the same.

The Director of Upkeep Call form the Seventh Day Adventists Church, Northern Conference, Pastor Mao thanked the same DC for visiting their camp.

He also praised and prayed for President Samia Suluhu Hassan, saying she has been a big link for the building of unity and solidarity in the country.

TCDC lines up plans, priorities for 2022/2023 financial year

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC) has lined up plans and priorities for the year 2022/23 including the establishment of a cooperative bank to facilitate development of the sector.

Speaking at a press conference in Dodoma, Registrar for TCDC Dr Benson Ndiege said the commission will carry out a review of the sector's total assets to get the real value for potential investments.

"We are planning to establish an asset insurance fund for Saccos which will be used to support members who will fail to operate due lack of capital," he said.

Among the priorities, Dr Ndiege said is strengthening management of cooperatives, carrying out inspection

exercises to increase efficiency.

He said the commission plans to purchase 50 motorcycles and 200 computers which will be used to manage the electronic system to audit cooperatives records.

"The grand plan will be able to revive small industries to add value to crops including the Tandahimba Newala Cooperative Union Limited (TANECU) in Mtwara," he said.

The official said the strategy is to empower cooperatives through the use of mass media to educate members to learn new ways of managing the cooperatives.

On the 2021/22 achievements he said the audit conducted by the commission; has found that there are weak systems of overseeing financial records which leads to loss of assets.

"The audit was conducted from July,

2021 to June 2022 in 6,013 cooperatives out of the 9,185 in which various issues were looked at.

He said some cooperatives fail to properly write financial records in accordance with laws governing cooperative sectors.

The Savings and Credit Cooperative Union League of Tanzania (SCCULT) in collaboration with the TCDC announced recently that they will embark on training members on financial record preparation to avert fines which they risk to incur over failure to submit as required by the law.

TCDC is mandated on behalf of the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) to oversee all Saccos under the Microfinance Act, (10) 2018 which also requires cooperative unions and Saccos to issue financial records. The fines range from 500,000/- to 5m/-.



Muungano Saguya, the National Housing Corporation's Information and Public Relations manager, briefs journalists in Dodoma city yesterday on plans to guide the implementation of the agency's projects in financial year 2022/2023. He singled out what he referred to as the 5,000-house Samia Housing Scheme, for which 466bn/- is budgeted. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Be healthier to serve nation better, Katambi tells youths

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

PATROBAS Katambi, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities) has urged the youth to protect their health for them to fully serve the nation.

Katambi made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening the two-day youth symposium aimed at making joint plans and strengthening solidarity among them.

He said that young people are the main asset of the country's economy and the today and tomorrow's nation and that they have to make sure they grow up healthy.

"The government is behind you facing unemployment challenges. We'll make sure that all these issues are resolved," Katambi said, noting that many young people have been sent to veterinary colleges to develop their skills so that they can be self-employed

or employed.

The deputy minister also said that the government has established a system of training and nurturing young people who graduate from colleges and universities to realise their potential and even find them jobs through the Tanzania Employment Services Agency (TaESA).

"So, my call is that all young people who have graduated from colleges, go and register there, so that you can get the training offered by that unit," he said, asking young people to be ambassadors to ensure that every Tanzanian is counted so that the government can get accurate statistics of its citizens.

Janeth Lugome from the Global Platform said: "There is no balance in the selection of people with disabilities at various decision-making levels."

She said that those who are given a greater chance are the disabled with albinism and other organs and the

blind, but the hearing disabled have been left behind.

"The voice of the deaf has not been heard yet, we ask that each group be equal, if it is to be appointed at decision-making levels, the deaf should be included, Janeth said, adding that even in terms of education, there is still a problem, because the school infrastructure is not friendly to them.

"The deaf are only drawn on paper and pasted on the wall, but now it is better to go digital by recording videos so that the disabled can learn that way," she said.

Evalyn Mwambuungu, Youth Forum's programme coordinator said that although the number of young people appointed in various leadership positions has increased, there is still a need to ensure that it increases more.

"There is also the issue of empowering young women, we still need to hold hands, to achieve gender equality in leadership," said Evalyn.

By Correspondent Devota Mwachang'a

Mabula warns village leaders fuelling land-related conflicts

MINISTER for Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Dr Angelina Mabula has called upon street and village chairpersons to stop the tendency of selling and allocating land to more than one person, a main reason behind conflicts.

According to the minister majority of the existing land conflicts are caused by local government leaders such as street and village chairpersons who double-sell plots which is not their mandate adding that Dar es Salaam and Dodoma are the leading regions in land conflicts.

Speaking when briefing journalists after listening to complaints from a section of Dar es Salaam residents recently, the minister said local leaders should stop the malpractice.

"Village and street chairpersons have no mandate to allocate and sell pieces

of land, even in urban areas where there are undeveloped areas which turned to bushes," she said.

She called upon the owners of the areas to develop their land in accordance to land laws.

Land Minister said land disputes are hindering development activities across the country and asked those who want land to follow the necessary routes.

Abdallah Chande, a resident of Ubungo Municipality, said: "Lack of documents regarding land ownership is the biggest problem for many."

Another resident, Mwanahamisi Yunusi, has asked the government through land commissioners to visit

troublesome areas instead of sitting in the offices waiting for cases to reach their tables.

"Our area has been invaded and people have started constructing buildings. I am asking the minister to intervene to remove the invader from my area located at Goba, I have struggled to reach various levels of the village leaders without getting any help."

The government has pledged to come up with the resolution of land disputes throughout the country by creating a special desk in each area and visiting citizens to listen to their concerns in order to end unnecessary disputes.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF VENTILATION FAN TO BE INSTALLED ON SURFACE FOR UNDERGROUND VENTILATION TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring a fan for underground ventilation and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible contractors to submit Expression of Interest for the goods as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01490	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 9x FAN's FOR UNDERGROUND VENTILATION TO GGML WHICH INCLUDE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3x 630kW Fans with 190m³/s at 2245Pa COMPLETE WITH VSD STARTER • 6x 110kW Fans with 40m³/s at 1800Pa as Main fans

I.1 INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors and their nationalities	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2020-2021)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate/Contractors Registration Certificate	1.00%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.00%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.00%
Health and Safety Policy and Management Plan	1.00%
Quality Policy and Management Plan	1.00%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01490)	60%
Proof of design, supply, and delivery of at least 5 fans to at least 3 different Clients with minimum specifications between 40 m³/s and 190m³/s at 1800Pa and 2245Pa respectively. (Client name and contact details of Client)	35%
Proof of design, Supply and delivery of at least 1 fan to a Client in Tanzania with stated specification. (Client name and contact details of Client)	15%
Provide Company's Quality Control Plan with typical QCP (Quality Control Procedure)	10%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01490) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 22nd August 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

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Fertiliser subsidy, irrigation give new face to agro-sector

EFFORTS to change the agricultural sector that President Samia Suluhu Hassan is putting in high gear did not come a moment too early. Attracting the youth into agriculture, or at least enabling those who haven't migrated to find ways of making ends meet in farming, is an insurance policy for manageable urban areas. To wit, authorities may have taken too long to make this realization, constant undercutting farmers' morale with wanton control of prices and refusal of using export markets.

The president used the Farmers' Exhibition event in Mbeya to launch a national fertiliser subsidy scheme meant to help farmers to access key farm inputs at nearly half the market price. The measure was explained as being in response to rises in the price of fertilisers in the global market, but its implementation will partly be a check on how far digital monitoring and control methods can check inclinations of misconduct, embezzlement and fraud. Subsidised fertiliser will be too tempting to let it be used as planned, so tricksters may notice a soft spot in checks, protocols.

How far the plans laid out by minister Hussein Bashe will be realized is a salutary test for the ministry in the financial year that has just been rolled out. It is a test of how far the ministry can monitor in real time the distribution and sale of fertiliser as each bag sold bears a digital code and all eligible farmers will be registered beforehand. Is this a sufficient safeguard against buying more than one's farm needs and reselling the remainder at the best markets available, here or on borders?

The president noted that the subsidy policy will not be permanent, so whenever the chance comes, the

farmers have to utilize it well, but all the same efforts are being made to increase local production of fertilizers to check dependency on imports. Hopefully the prices they will use shall conform to current subsidy prices, not creeping back to international market prices any excuses, as experience shows that excuses reflect inefficient production systems. Competition has to be part of it.

While the fertilizer subsidy is the big news, the more substantial undercurrent to what is happening is the hefty increase in the farm sector budget from 294bn/- to 954bn/- in the current financial year. The vital element in that package was the increase in available funds for irrigation, and indeed 21 irrigation contracts taking up 182bn/- were signed before the president, covering 12 districts in seven regions, totaling 26,700 hectares. The minister said that once completed, the projects will create 102,159 employment opportunities and enhance rice production by 97,300 tonnes. Not very big numbers, which means a more dynamic approach is needed.

What is surprising is that despite that the irrigation impact the minister sets out is limited to say the least, the rise in budget funds was unsurpassable, moving from

57bn/- in the 2021/22 financial year to 416bn/- in the current budget. This would in all appearances seem to indicate a sharp thrust towards agro-sector uplift via a more dynamic irrigation approach, but the public funds and expected results don't tally. Is the use of 340bn/- to create 100,000 jobs and 100,000 tonnes of rice fully economical? Hopefully there will be a better irrigation impact in coming years.



EVEN though exhilarating, the increasing recourse to humour, seems at times, a means of escape from reality, writes Paul Nwabuioku

As we move deeper into the political season and closer to the presidential, governorship and legislative polls of February next year, the pace of politicking has revved up. The media is full of breathless stories about secret engagements, hastily forged alliances, reconciliation meetings and politicians leading their "numerous supporters" out of one party and into another. One significant defection, from a familial perspective, was announced as this column was being finalized: Buhari's nephew and member representing the president's constituency at the House of Representatives, Fatuhu Muhammed, has, in the predictable words of Nigerian media reports, "dumped" the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) and joined the Peoples Democratic Party. In a society where family is a big deal, this is big news. But it is not unprecedented. Late politician Samuel G. Ikoku defeated his illustrious father whose face is on one of the Naira notes, Alvan Ikoku, in an election during the First Republic. It would be difficult to top that.

Sadly, our politics is still defined more by activity than by substance. There is no real debate on vital issues, despite the existential threats facing the country: a collapsing economy with high debt, high inflation and joblessness; spiraling security challenges, citizens split down the middle by religion and ethnicity. Some candidates like Peter Obi and Atiku Abubakar have come up with some policy options but these are not getting as much attention as the yabis between Obidients, Atikulators and BATists. Again and again, jokes are winning the battle over substance. Humour is king.

Nigerian humour is like Nigerian jollof rice. It has a full bodied, bold taste that envious Ghanaians cannot reproduce. It can get so spicy with pepper that your eyes water as you enjoy it. Sometimes the unlucky target of the humour will find lurking in its depths some barbed bones which can do damage if you fail to masticate with caution.

Social media is currently the richest showcase of Nigerian humour. Along with the encouraging motivational messages, verses from the Bible and Koran, guidance on how to live a long, healthy and blameless life, garish adverts on "organic" ways to improve your sexual performance, are endless wisecracks, rib cracking observations, spoofs, pranks about all kinds of things.

Sometimes the jokes make themselves. The governor of Cross Rivers State, Prof Ben Ayade is a one-man humour factory who has turned

Are we laughing too much?



the state's budget - ordinarily a dry compendium of estimated income and expenditure over the next 12 months - into a circus of incomprehensible words and impossible targets. The titles of his budgets have earned him national notoriety. From the relatively harmless "Budget of Deep Vision" in 2016, he pivoted to "Budget of Infinite Transposition" in 2017, and "Budget of Kinetic Crystallization" in 2018. The title of the 2019 version - "Budget of Qabalistic Densification" - should have earned Governor a prize for lunatic nonsense and perhaps some attention from concerned psychiatrists. There is no universe in which this kind of frothing gibberish can be justified as legitimate expressions of useful governance.

Ayade is of course not the only politician-jokester. Dino Melaye, one of the recently announced spokespersons for the Atiku campaign has made a name as an APC, then PDP propagandist, connoisseur of expensive cars, champion of the suffering masses, dancer and singer in numerous videos in which he has mocked his political enemies. But Rivers Governor Nyesom is the confirmed superstar of the "As e dey pain dem, e dey sweet us" brigade. Wike is the proponent of hard knuckle, in your face politics who spices his tough guy stance with appropriate proverbs and choruses delivered in his harsh, rheumy voice. Understandably, he's been singing less and threatening more since he lost out to Atiku

Abubakar at the PDP primaries.

Outside politics, with the same passion and creativity that they have transformed the music industry into a popular hub of global popular culture, Nigerian youths are also working hard to milk fame and money out of humour. Hilarious and sometimes thought-provoking skits have become the rage. According to a recent BUSINESSDAY story which quoted a report by Dataleum, a firm which describes itself as a "global talent accelerator", the top five Instagram skit makers are Broda Shaggi, Mr Funny, Cute Abiola, Taaooma and Brain Jotter. The report was based on analysis of skits on Instagram in the first quarter of the year.

The kind of money that skits are generating is no laughing matter. Dataleum says:

"The skit making industry has evolved into a dominant one. Comedy is ranked the third largest entertainment industry with a net worth of over N50 billion".

Although the THISDAY report did not quote the source of the figures, there is no doubt Nigerians are enthusiastic about the skits. Broda Shaggi whose real name is Samuel Animashaun Perry has over 10m Instagram followers and he attracted 48 million views within the period. He's 28 years old. Mr Funny (real name: Chukwuemeka Emmanuel Ejekwu), a 27-year-old comedian and actor has about 31 million views while Cute Abiola (real name: Abdulgafar Ahmad Oluwatoyin) was slightly

behind during the period with 30 million views and 4.6 million followers. And so on and so forth. And these industry frontliners and others in the top bracket are living it up in expensive cars and mansions.

Of course, humour is bigger than money. Even for those of who have not earned one "shishi" from making others laugh, humour, as anyone who has ever had a good laugh would testify, is a real gift from God. Scientists say that enjoying a joke has significant psychological and physiological benefits. Not only does it make us feel good, it enhances our physical health and helps us cope better with stressful situations. And since Nigeria is right now one of the most stressful places on the planet, our increasing resort to humour is understandable. Without it, Nigeria is like hell without air vents.

Still, some question need to be asked. Have we as a society become too reliant on humour, indeed become so addicted to a dangerous degree at the expense of urgent priorities? Has it become the instinctive refuge from reality that allows us escape that reality for a moment without dealing with the issues behind the reality? Do we now use humour as an alcoholic utilizes his favourite beverage - to help him forget his sorrows for a while? Are Ayade and other elected and appointed persons escaping serious scrutiny because we are too busy laughing at their antics? I have no easy answers. But it's something to think about as we enjoy the latest antics of Sabinus and co.

Tricky choices galore in using grant for taming human-wildlife conflicts

JUST what is to be done with a good portion of cash from Germany which has just granted the government euro 10m (23.7bn/-) partly for mitigation of the now routine human-wildlife conflicts? There is a portion of those funds directed at access to justice for women and children, which perhaps isn't a vexing strategic issue in how the grant is used. It is the part on game reserve conflicts that is likely to raise some curious eyebrows, if it is capacity building as usual or concrete shifts.

Top Treasury officials explained the portion on human-wildlife conflict (HWC) mitigation as intended to help strengthen capacity to better manage conflicts in areas surrounding game reserves.

The wider reasoning is to schedule interventions to cut on deaths from wild animal attacks on surrounding communities but it is likely that the project movers are more concerned with biodiversity, as most such communities loath the pet affection of environmentalists for wild dogs, not to speak of lions or the more cherished elephants. Is it a matter of methods of finding an alternative habitation for areas most exposed to attacks by beasts, or 'conflicts'?

If any advice is relevant on this score, it is the preference for the relevant agencies to make use of the 'Loliondo method' at least in part, to remove habitats that are most exposed to invasion by elephants especially in dry weather. In rainy periods animals don't have to search far for grass or water, unlike in dry spells. The idea of capacity building is to teach peasants the making of beehives to ward off elephants, whereas with say 10m/- they could shift elsewhere, purchase unused land and put up a settlement.

Isn't clearing out game corridors better than 'coexisting capacity'?

The part where some wildlife officials will be paid stipends to teach local people to love predators that snatch their livestock is nearly just wasted efforts, but the more avid environmentalists have cushioned themselves from such feeling. Their very language tends to equate people with beasts, like 'human-wildlife conflicts,' which presumes beasts and people have the same rights to territory, and definitely to life/ That comes down to belittling human life, if it doesn't have an elevated mention.

So far the government has made an effort to delimit some spheres of game reserves for use by nearby settlements, but it isn't out of the way to use environmental management cash to resettle a number of communities. There was a huge problem in the Ngorongoro area when it came to relocation despite that the government went out of its way to build houses, set aside individual plots of land, and an area for communal grazing. It isn't always that such problems are encountered as many communities can abandon a zone with a minimum of cash facilitation, to wit.

Strictly speaking the problem is unlikely to be repeated elsewhere as there are other thematic issues involved in the northern zone, while other people keep to neighbourhoods reeking with beasts for lacking the means to go elsewhere. This is the sort of communities that can be identified and assisted to move to safer zones, unless there is blanket persuasion on the part of project designers that people are best left in traditional habitats but learn to coexist with wild beasts. It is unhelpful.

By Liesl Louw-Vaudran

Africa's mishmash of regional economic blocs is divisive and inefficient

AFRICA'S regional groups should form the building blocks of an integrated African Union (AU). On a vast continent with 55 countries, such associations make good sense. Working optimally, they enable member states to efficiently deal with cross-border security, developmental and economic issues, and jointly take on proactive projects.

But the continent's eight regional economic communities (RECs) and two regional mechanisms collectively have 106 members. That means most countries are part of more than one bloc, which stretches capacity and leads to confusion, divided loyalties and weak functioning. The AU envisages "incremental integration" to streamline the regional blocs, but progress has been slow.

Next week, for example, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) holds its annual summit in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), which belongs to three RECs. These are SADC, the East African Community (EAC) and the Economic Community of Central African States. Kinshasa's diplomatic capacity will be tested.

The various blocs' performance also differs dramatically. The EAC - with its regional parliament and plans for a confederation - is economically the continent's most integrated region, according to a report presented at the 17 July AU-RECs coordination meeting in Lusaka, Zambia. This is followed by the Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas) and the SADC.

The Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) is the least integrated bloc. It's a relic from when Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi dreamt of being president of a 'United States of Africa' and created a group of states loyal to him. CEN-SAD, with 24 members, last had a proper summit in 2013. It's hard to see what value the body adds since all its members already belong to other RECs.

The Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), with five members, is another weakly integrated REC. It suffers the effects of the perennial Algeria and Morocco conflict and the 2011 implosion of the



Cultural dancers perform in the conference hall for heads of state attending a regional Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas) summit in Margibi County, Liberia, 4 June 2017. File photo

Libyan government. The AMU is sustained through a secretariat in Rabat and represented at meetings, although not at a high level. Ironically, the AMU contributes the most to the AU budget since Morocco and Algeria are among the big five contributors in this region.

AMU countries have tried to join other established RECs but with little success. Morocco first applied to join Ecowas in February 2017. After being led to believe it had the green light - albeit with reluctance from Nigeria, the bloc's most prominent member - Morocco's status remains unconfirmed. Tunisia also tried to deepen its Ecowas links and signed an agreement with the body in 2018. But neither Morocco nor Tunisia borders any Ecowas countries. Mauritania does, but it left Ecowas in 1999.

For most other states, their multiple

memberships - often referred to as the AU's "spaghetti bowl" - require keeping abreast of fast-changing economic, political and security realities. But states have limited resources to participate fully in more than one African multilateral institution. Already the AU struggles to get member states to pay their annual fees.

And embassies in Addis Ababa are notoriously understaffed, as are diplomatic representations at REC headquarters. The non-implementation of summit decisions is often attributed to a lack of capacity, which undermines their reputations among the public.

The DRC was the latest country to join another bloc when it became an EAC member in April. This should bring significant economic advantages for the DRC and the organisation's six other

members - Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and South Sudan.

The DRC has significant natural resources, and its population of 90 million adds to the attraction of any regional grouping, especially the EAC, which is well integrated economically. One EAC country official quipped that it now gives the EAC a reach from the Indian Ocean to the Atlantic, with the DRC port of Matadi coming into its fold. Plans are also afoot to send a new EAC military force to the eastern DRC.

At the Lusaka mid-year meeting, AU Commission chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat said there should be clear direction regarding membership of RECs to maximise efficiency. Others said multiple memberships created "chaos" and shouldn't be allowed, given the constraints and lack of cohesion it entails.

Delegates agreed on the advantages of inter-regional cooperation, such as the free trade agreement of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the EAC and the SADC. This successful example of economic cooperation now includes 27 member states. But it's yet to come into effect. Meanwhile, the African Continental Free Trade Area is advancing rapidly. As of July, 43 states had ratified it, while 54 out of 55 had signed (Eritrea hasn't).

Beyond the obvious value of facilitating intra-African trade, regional blocs create political coherence and shared values. They are called on to respond to coups, unconstitutional changes of government and security threats such as violent extremism. Ecowas has been fairly successful in

taking a united stand against military coups. But attempts to enforce decisions against leaders' third-term bids have repeatedly failed due to differing political views.

The SADC still has strong political links among its former liberation movements that retain power in several member states. However, as a regional body, it hasn't managed to implement the free movement of people. The strength and viability of these blocs also depend on the capacity of their organisations and the buy-in of citizens.

Relations between the AU and regional organisations remain problematic, despite several attempts to achieve a strict division of labour. Mahamat says a proposal to resolve the friction will be discussed at the AU's February 2023 summit. This is vital for better coordination. A decision on overlapping RECs would also bring greater coherence and efficiency to Africa's many regional organisations.



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Please note that, should you not be contacted for more than two weeks after the deadline, consider your application unsuccessful

216983807



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Call for Application

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is now calling for applications from Individual Experts/Consultants in the area of Production Quality Management

Background

This project "promote public health and social resilience against COVID-19" aims at upgrading domestic producers, material suppliers, and supportive public organizations in terms of 1) production capacity, 2) quality, and 3) business resilience & continuity in emergencies. Acknowledging that the domestic supply chain of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) is a critical backbone for the country's self-reliant capacity to combat the threat posed by COVID-19 and other communicable diseases, this project is jointly implemented by UNIDO and the national partners. The project goal is to be achieved through a combined approach delivering multiple assistance including but not limited to capacity-building training, equipment supply, development of their Business Continuity Plans, etc.

In this context, UNIDO in collaboration with the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, and the Ministry of Health, therefore, wishes to invite applications from qualified individual consultants who meet the below qualifications and technical competencies.

Scope of Mission

The consultant will join the UNIDO team and lead the implementation of a series of practical capacity-building activities for the national manufacturers in the supply chain of PPE. The training topics are including but not limited to the quality approach according to ISO 9001, documentation of the quality system, quality policy, risk-based management, development and implementation of the quality control plan including various quality management tools and methodologies.

Required Qualifications

- An advanced university degree relevant to the assignment
- Understanding of and commitment to UNIDO's mission and vision (SDGs)
- Strong and strategic technical capabilities
- Strong communication, planning, reporting and writing abilities
- Highly experienced in training/facilitation
- Ability to work under pressure
- Understanding of Government of Tanzania's agenda for industrialization

Technical and Functional Competences

- Should be an IRCA or PECB ISO 9001 certified auditor or PECB Lead implementor ISO 9001 certified. Or an equivalent certification
- Should have at least 10 years experience in industrial production (either as Quality Manager, Production Manager or other responsibilities)
- At least 5 years experience as a trainer
- Proven experience in the development and implementation of quality control plans
- Proven experience in the development and implementation of quality documentation
- Should have a perfect mastering of PEST, SWOT, etc.
- The experience in the production of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), sanitizer and disinfectants will be an added advantage

Application Should Include

- One-page motivational letter explaining your suitability for the assignment
- Curriculum vitae
- A list of relevant/similar experience (if any)

Period of Engagement: To be discussed and agreed (Mission-based contract)

Submission of Applications

The application shall be in English and must be delivered via electronic submissions to the following email addresses: S.RWIZA@unido.org latest on 9th September, 2022.

The submitted application will be sent to the assessment on a rolling-basis as they are received, so earlier applications are highly recommended.

Any request for clarification or information regarding this request for application should be sent to S.RWIZA@unido.org

216985022

STANFORD

Aid workers encounter courage, dislocation, damage, resilience in battle-scarred Ukraine

DURING Todd Bernhardt's visit to Ukraine's conflict zones, he encountered untold damage to hospitals, healthcare clinics, and communities. The Senior Director of Global Communications at the International Medical Corps also encountered enormous courage.

On one of his visits, Bernhardt met Dr Svetlana Alexandrova, Medical Director of the Psychoneurological Hospital in Chernihiv, a city about two hours north-east of Kyiv that saw fierce fighting during the early weeks of the invasion.

He said Alexandrova was a defiant and committed leader who was not afraid to confront Russian soldiers and tell them to stop destroying the hospital, which treats critically ill patients. Hospital staff proudly told Bernhardt that as the soldiers were getting ready to retreat, they told the staff members that they had a "tough boss."

"The patients in this hospital have developmental, mental health, and physical challenges that have led to them being hospitalized. In some cases, they are quite old and frail. And during this time, they had to shelter in the hospital basement—a damp and dark place where you would not want to live," Bernhardt said. He described how hundreds of patients with 30-40 staff were trapped in the basement during the Russian bombardment.

They had to stay in this basement for 40 days and 40 nights without access to water, heat, and electricity. The staff occasionally went out and managed to forage for food during lulls in the fighting. In fear of being shot, they would cook over open fires during the day while being undercover.

A destroyed residential building in Dnipro. Credit: World Food Programme

A destroyed residential building in Dnipro. Credit: World Food Programme

International Medical Corps' involvement with Ukraine goes back to 1999 when it provided medical training to doctors and medical supplies and equipment. Now International Medical Corps operates hubs in seven Ukrainian cities—Chernihiv, Dnipro, Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa, Stryi, and Vinnytsia—that provide relief services and training across the country.

International Medical Corps' mission is primarily to be a first responder. A big part of its approach is to work within an existing health system, support it, and strengthen it. It also provides medicine or medical equipment, trains doctors, staff, and clinicians, and builds water and sanitation systems.

"We are a first responder. We go in, respond to the disaster, and stay to help strengthen existing systems, to make sure that the community is left stronger than when we first came in," Bernhardt said, elaborating on International Medical Corps' mission.

During the Russo-Ukrainian War, International Medical Corps so far has helped 122 hospitals, delivered more than 136,000 water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and non-food items (NFI), provided 53,661 medical services to healthcare facilities, provided 46,592 health consultations, and trained 914 people in psychological first aid.

"We're trying to provide services to support the most vulnerable populations who suffer during a conflict. That can be children. That can mean the elderly. That can mean the disabled. It especially, unfortunately, means women and girls. We are working as hard as we can to ensure these vulnerable popula-



Aid Workers Encounter Courage, Damage, Dislocation and Resilience in War-Torn Ukraine

tions get the services they need. And, of course, we're doing everything we can to ensure that we prevent that kind of violence from occurring in the first place," Bernhardt said.

Another organization working within the war zones is the World Food

Programme (WFP). It focuses on the broken commercial food supply chains providing food, supporting people with cash so people can make their own choices when buying food, and stabilizing and restoring public and private institutions and services.

In June, they assisted 2.6 million people in Ukraine through food distributions or cash where markets are functioning. Since March, WFP has transferred over 200 million US dollars in cash and cash vouchers to vulnerable Ukrainians. Fifty-five million US

dollars of this was provided in July to close to 800,000 people. Internally displaced people receive 75 US dollars per person for up to three people per family.

WFP has also helped more than 115.5 million people in over 120 coun-



People gather to receive food from World Food Programme's food distribution. Credit: World Food Programme

tries and territories. They were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their work in ending hunger.

"At this time, one in three households in Ukraine is food insecure, and the existing systems in Ukraine that feed tens of millions of people are falling apart. Our goal is to see an end to this conflict. Our job as humanitarians is to feed people and save lives. We're willing to stay there as long as it's needed to support the population and the most vulnerable people in Ukraine," stated Kyle Wilkinson, Communications Officer for the WFP.

Kerri Murray, President of ShelterBox, was part of the organization's first team in Kraków, Poland. ShelterBox provides emergency shelter and essential items to set up households, such as temporary shelters, mattresses, blankets, water purification, tools, solar lanterns, and hygiene supplies.

The Ukraine war has internally displaced nearly 6.5 million people, and ShelterBox focuses on projects to meet the needs of internally displaced people. It also has a project that is helping refugees who fled to Moldova, which has received the most refugees per capita of any European country.

ShelterBox has provided hygiene kits to displaced families - mainly women, children, the elderly, and the disabled. During this displacement crisis, it also provides cash to families fleeing Ukraine into Moldova to buy food, prescription medicines, and basic necessities. ShelterBox has supported tens of thousands of people in Ukraine and hundreds of families in Moldova.

"Rapidly launching this response in Ukraine was challenging," Murray said, noting that securing a supply chain and delivering aid into the country was difficult. "But we were absolutely committed to helping these families."

As the crisis unfolded and intensified, Red Cross supported more than 15 million people in Ukraine and surrounding countries. By teaming with several groups, such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Red Cross helped the wounded with medical care and provided first aid training in Ukraine. Red Cross also had a cash voucher assistance program.

"More than 700 ICRC staff are working in 10 locations across Ukraine to deliver relief items to people displaced from their homes, providing medicines and supplies to health care facilities, restoring water supply for millions of people, and other lifesaving activities," Susan Malandrino, Communications Lead at American Red Cross. "For its part, the American Red Cross has contributed over 50 million US dollars to Ukraine crisis relief efforts and an additional 7.5 million US dollars to partners on the ground to provide meals and medical supplies within Ukraine."

Malandrino recalls how a colleague on site met two young brothers from Kyiv, 15-year-old Artem and 10-year-old Maksim. When the war started, Artem and Maksim were at a hockey tournament.

They are currently living in one of the Red Cross shelters.

"While here, they play hockey to take their minds off the stress of missing family left behind in Ukraine. Artem says he talks to his father and grandmother daily and misses walking his dogs, including his favorite small highland terrier," Malandrino explained.

The Hungarian Red Cross ensures each room has a small refrigerator, private bathroom, clean and fresh sheets, and provides wholesome meals from its restaurant.

"Because of Red Cross support, Artem and Maksim have a comfortable place to live and, for a few moments each day, play hockey and just be kids."

IPS

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

NIT, Chinese institutes sign cooperation agreement on vocational training

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Institute of Transport (NIT) and Zibo Vocational Institute (ZBVI) of China's Shandong Province have signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in vocational education.

According to the agreement, ZBVI will provide Chinese expertise in vocational training to NIT academic staff who will thereafter be imparting the knowledge to students studying automobile engineering at NIT.

The agreement will be valid for six years, and it will automatically be renewed for another term if there is no objection from either side.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam shortly after the NIT-ZBVI online meeting, NIT Rector Prof Zacharia Mganilwa said:

"Through the MoU, Zibo Vocational Institute will provide training to our academic staff on automobile engineering and facilitate better trade and connection with China."

He added: "The National Institute of Transport is very pleased with this cooperation agreement, through the agreement; we will improve our curriculum on automobile engineering."

Prof Mganilwa also said that during the 2022/23 academic year, some of the Institute's academic staff in automobile engineering will get the chance to learn Chinese vehicles--and automobile technologies so as to be imparted to NIT students.

"The agreement serves as a base for our institutes to promote bilateral cooperation in vocational education," he said. "This cooperation will not only provide vocational training to students but also contribute to further enhancing Tanzania-China relations."

Eng Mganilwa said the cooperation agreement would significantly provide opportunities for NIT students to get attached to Chinese vehicle manufacturers and automobile



THE National Institute of Transport (NIT) and Zibo Vocational Institute (ZBVI) of China's Shandong Province officials meet in an online conference after the MoU that signed recently. The NIT-ZBVI's agreement will be valid for six years, and it will automatically be renewed for another term if there is no objection from either side.

companies.

"The cooperation agreement provides a new opportunity for the

Tanzanian youth to improve their vocational skills," he said.

He went on to say that the busi-

nessmen who are buying the Chinese vehicles and machines in Tanzania will not have to worry again

after the commencement of this programme.

"Our students in automobile engineering will also get sponsorships and attached to Chinese automobile companies," he said. He further said that every semester, the few diploma students who will be selected according to their performance will be taught one module of Chinese vehicle technology.

"The place of China in the world economy has grown to be so strong that Tanzania stands to benefit, if our students learn Chinese technologies, it's my hope the graduate from automobile engineering will utilize all the Chinese market opportunities in the country and in Africa," Professor Mganilwa said.

The cooperation agreement has also involved other Chinese companies including Tianjin Zhongwu Education Technology Co. Ltd as well as Sunmaker Oil and Gas Training Institute.

However, in order to accelerate the implementation of the outcomes of the Beijing Summit and Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, NIT, ZBVI, Tianjin Zhongwu Education Technology Co. Ltd as well as Sunmaker Oil and Gas Training Institute

have also agreed to establish a Luban Workshop on automotive and China - Tanzania automotive institute in Tanzania.

The Institute will also train professionals who know China and are proficient in automotive for Tanzania, improve the level of local automotive, and provide technical talents to Chinese enterprises in Africa.

Based on the principles of equality, integrity and mutual benefit, the four parties have reached the cooperation agreement on the joint construction of a Luban Workshop and an automotive institute by giving full play to their respective resource advantages.

Delivering a keynote speech in September, 2018 at the sideline of the Beijing Summit and Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, Chinese President Xi, Jinping said:

"We will launch a capacity-building initiative. China will share more of its development practices with Africa and support cooperation with Africa on economic and social development planning; Ten (10) Luban Workshops will be set up in Africa to provide vocational training to young Africans."

US pumping in \$150 million for Africa food crisis

By Special Correspondent, Accra

US ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield has announced a \$150 million package for Africa to help address food and humanitarian crises.

Speaking before a gathering of over 500 participants at the University of Ghana in Accra, Thomas-Greenfield said the world is facing unprecedented food crises, requiring what she termed an "unprecedented global response."

"For our part, the United States is committed to this work. ... But more funding is needed to address food security and to address crises that compound food security, like refugees and internally displaced people," she said. "I am proud to announce nearly \$150 million in new, additional humanitarian funding and development assistance, pending Congressional approval, for Africa."

She said the new package, if approved by Congress, will increase U.S. humanitarian assistance to Africa to \$6.6 billion since the beginning of this year. The ambassador says worldwide food prices are 23% higher than a year ago, partly a result of Russia's invasion of Ukraine - the two countries combined provide over 40% of Africa's wheat supply.

Thomas-Greenfield said

the new U.S. funding will expand investments in fertilizer, grains and other crops in Africa to meet "the goal of increasing resilience to future shocks."

It includes \$2.5 million in new development assistance for Ghana and \$20 million for Uganda, where Thomas-Greenfield stopped before visiting the West African country.

She said the new funding includes more than \$127 million in additional humanitarian assistance for Africa to provide "life-saving support to refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, stateless persons and persecuted people across Africa."

Condemning the war in Ukraine, she said the U.N. Security Council must be proactive to prevent food from being used as a weapon of war. "The world needs to see how food insecurity increases the risk of conflict. And the Security Council needs to do a better job of stopping food from being used as a weapon of war," she said.

Thomas-Greenfield said Africa has the potential to become its own breadbasket and must take advantage of the current situation to forge partnerships with civil society and the private sector to build the food systems and structures of the future.



Egypt at full steam towards becoming regional green energy centre

CAIRO

THE Egyptian government is implementing a clear strategy to transform the country into a regional center for the production and export of green energy, said Egyptian officials and experts.

Egypt recently inked a series of deals with energy firms based in India, Norway, Germany and the United Arab Emirates to set up green hydrogen and green ammonia production facilities in the Suez Canal Economic Zone, with

the foreign partners pledging to invest over 40 billion U.S. dollars in total by 2030.

LEVERAGING KEY LOCATION

Egypt has strived "to localize the manufacture of electrolysis used in green hydrogen given the expected growing demand for green fuel from international shipping lines in the near future," Ayman Hamza, a spokesman for the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, told Xinhua.

The strategic location of the

economic zone can help Egypt to become a "leading region in the world in this emerging industry, as well as transforming it into a global logistic center for green bunkering ships," said Presidential Spokesperson Bassam Rady in a statement in May.

The hydrogen generated by renewable or low-carbon power such as solar and wind is called green hydrogen, which helps decarbonize shipping and transport sectors in the future, where it can be used as a fuel.

Chemical industries can produce ammonia using the water electrolysis technique, so a key ingredient in agricultural fertilizer will become greener.

Such cooperation in green hydrogen and green ammonia is part of Egypt's efforts to realize the goal of expanding the renewables in the national energy mix to 42 percent by 2035, along with earmarking 30 percent of government investments to the green field in the current fiscal year, and hosting the United Na-

tions Climate Change Conference (COP27) in November.

NEXUS FOR GREEN GRIDS

"Egypt has developed a strategy to expand green and renewable energy from the sun and wind, and there is great interest from global companies to invest in green energy in Egypt," Hamza said, adding that the proximity to Europe gives Egypt an advantage in supplying one of the fastest growing markets for renewable energy.

Hamza said Egypt's renewable energy production will exceed 10,000 megawatts in 2023, backed by "distinguished projects" such as the Benban Solar Park.

Located in the desert of upper Egypt's province of Aswan, the huge photovoltaic power complex now produces a total capacity of about 1,465 megawatts and can be expanded to a full capacity of 2,000 megawatts.

Ahmed Hegazy, head of the

Egypt Green Energy Association, told Xinhua that Egypt is well positioned to be a nexus for the neighboring countries in Africa, Asia and Europe in terms of the power grid and transmission lines.

Foreign investors who coveted the wind energy potential in Egypt have formed joint ventures in building two wind farm projects in the Gabal El Zeit and Zafarana regions along the west coast of the Gulf of Suez, Hegazy added.

RIO DE JANEIRO

Infrastructure growth threatens Brazilian Amazon with much further deforestation

THE mandatory initial permit granted by Brazil's environmental authority for the repaving of the BR-319 highway, in the heart of the Amazon jungle, intensified the alarm over the possible irreversible destruction of the rainforest.

The 885-kilometer highway is the only overland route to Manaus, the capital of the state of Amazonas with a population of 2.25 million in south-central Brazil. The road runs to another Amazon rainforest city, Porto Velho, capital of the state of Rondônia, population 550,000.

The highway emerged as part of the plans of the 1964-1985 military dictatorship to integrate the Amazon rainforest with the rest of the country, through several highways crossing the then almost unpopulated jungle and the promotion of massive internal migration from other regions.

Due to heavy rains and frequent flooding many sections of the road and a number of bridges have fallen into disrepair. Twelve years after its inauguration in 1976, BR-319 was recognized as a largely impassable road, undermined by neglect.

Local interests tried to repave the road and obtained the support of the central government from the beginning of this century.

However, in 2008 and 2009, the Brazilian Institute of Environment



View of a bridge in severe disrepair on the BR-319 highway, in the heart of the Amazon, which the Brazilian government plans to repave along the 405-kilometer central section, out of a total of 885 kilometers, because it has deteriorated to the point that it is impassable for much of the year. Those who venture along it take three times the normal amount of time to drive the entire length, with the risk of seriously damaging their vehicles.

and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) rejected three environmental impact studies, whose approval is essential in Brazil for projects that affect the environment and that have a social impact.

But a fourth study, presented in June 2021 by the National Department of Transport Infrastructure, was approved and the required initial permit was granted by IBAMA, despite criticism from environmentalists.

In recent years IBAMA's credibility has suffered due to the openly anti-environmental far-right government of Jair Bolsonaro, which weakened the environmental agency by cutting its budget and appointing officials lacking the necessary qualifications.

Doomed project

"Restrictions arose that limited the public hearings to evaluate the studies as early as 2021, and so far there has been no solution to these problems. In addition, the participation of affected populations was limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the difficulties in attendance, especially for indigenous people," said environmentalist Carlos Durigan.

The environmental impacts assessed were limited to the vicinity of the road, without considering the entire area of influence of the construction work, the director of WCS Brazil, the national affiliate of the U.S.-based Wildlife Conservation Society, told IPS by telephone from Manaus.

Moreover, no prior and informed consultation was held with the indigenous peoples and traditional communities that will be affected, a requirement under Convention 169 of the International Labor Organization (ILO), he said. This non-compliance is likely to lead to lawsuits.

The initial permit was obtained under promises of greater protection, inspection and oversight of protected areas - not very credible at a time of weak public authority in environmental questions, with low budgets and reduced human resources, said Durigan, a geographer from south-eastern Brazil who has lived in the Amazon rainforest for two decades.

These and other criticisms form part of the evaluation carried out by the BR-319 Observatory, a coalition of 12 social organizations involved in activities in the road's area of influence. The 14-point review identifies irregularities in the permit granted by IBAMA and the violated rights of the affected population.

The proponents of the BR-319 highway tried to avoid the requirement of impact studies under the argument that it is only a matter of repaving an existing road, with no new impacts. But the courts recognized it as a complete reconstruction.

In fact, of the 885 kilometers, 405

kilometers will have to be repaved and bridges and animal crossings will have to be rebuilt. The remaining 480 kilometers - the two stretches near Manaus and Porto Velho - are already passable.

But the rains and floods that have occurred since last year have broken down the asphalt on many stretches near Manaus, leaving large cracks and holes. Even without repaving, many people venture to travel along the BR-319 in cars, buses and trucks. But it takes two or three days to drive, and often causes damage to vehicles.

More deforestation

Environmentalists fear that deforestation, illegal occupation of public lands and the invasion of indigenous lands, which are already occurring along nearly 200 kilometers of the southern section, will spread along the entire highway and its surrounding areas.

This region close to Porto Velho is the area where deforestation in the Amazon has grown the most in recent years.

A usable BR-319 would spread environmental crimes, forest fires and violence generated by land disputes in the middle section of the highway, activists warn.

In fact, 80 percent of Amazon deforestation occurs along the highways that are the arteries leading to the settlement of the rainforest, along with smaller roads branching off from the highways, environmentalists say.

Such effects are already well-known along other Amazonian highways in areas that are more populated and deforested than the territory between Manaus and Porto Velho, bathed by the Madeira and Purus rivers, two of the major tributaries of the Amazon, both of which have their headwaters in Peru. The Madeira basin also extends through much of central and northern Bolivia.

Doubtful economic feasibility

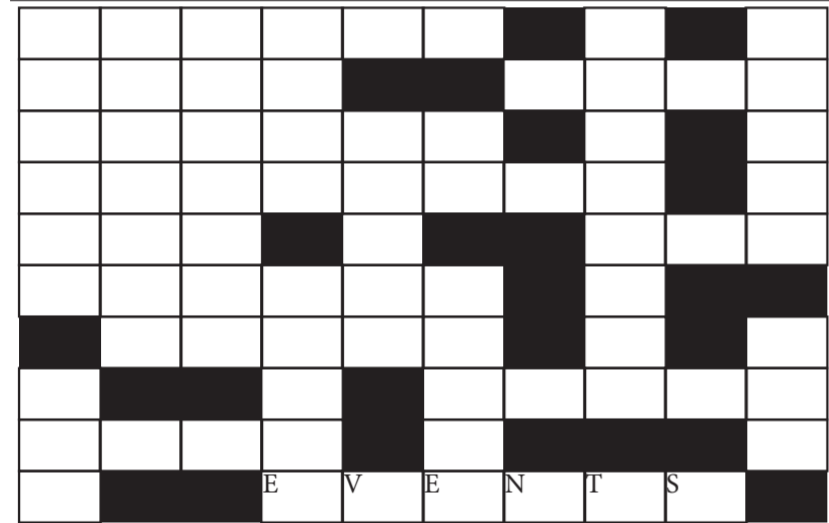
BR-319 faces another uncertainty, which is economic viability. It crosses what is at least for now a sparsely populated area, except for Manaus. The cost of repaving is not small, as the effort includes many bridges and earthworks to stabilize land that floods during the rainy season along many stretches, even though the road is located on higher ground between the Madeira and Purus rivers.

The highway also needs continuous upkeep, as is already the case in the stretch near Manaus, where the necessary repairs have not yet been completed after flooding caused by heavy rains that lasted from October 2021 until well into this year, Durigan pointed out.

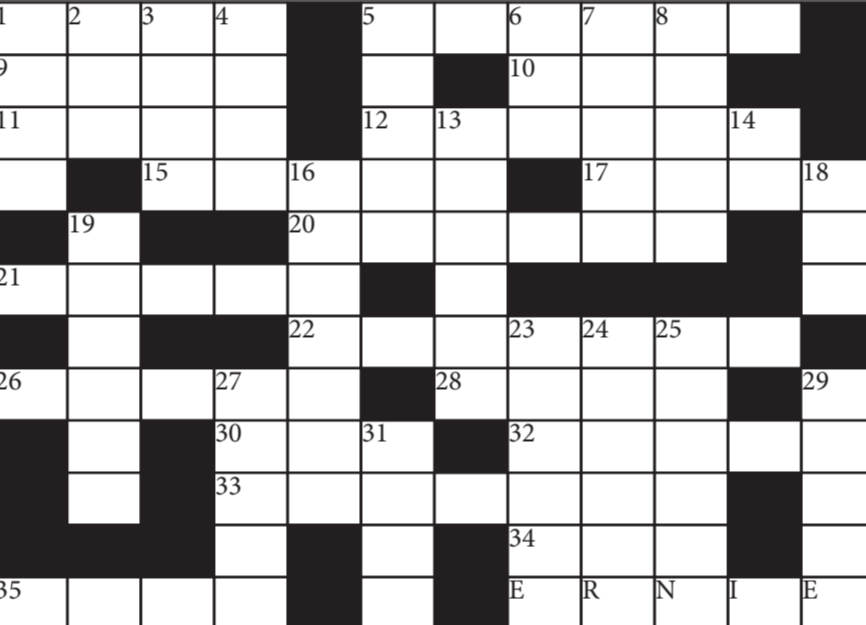
Even so, the demand for the repaving of the central section of the highway is very popular, enjoying almost consensus support, the activist acknowledged. The argument in favor of the road is that Manaus is isolated by land, and depends on air or river transport to connect with the rest of Brazil and to be able to export its industrial production.

IPS

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 340 00--



- 3 letters NOG, AMP, DAM, ASS
- 4 letters ONER, CRAW, MARS, AREA, MADAM,
- 5 letters CHEEK, SLAKE, RAISE, GENIE, NONES,
- 6 letters MOSCOW, MOMENT, MENACE, TUAREG, EVENTS
- 7 letters ONEROU, SENEGAL,
- 8 letters EREWHILE, FREEDMAN,



- CLUES: Across**
1. an adult male deer
 5. Ottawa is her mother city
 9. a belief
 10. electric multiple unit
 11. facts and statistics used for reference
 12. too much
 15. superior people in a society
 17. past of lend
 20. Egyptian President who fought with Israel
 21. consume alcohol
 22. shoes with wedge heels
 26. a bright blue in colour
 28. direction where the sun rises
 30. bravo
 32. wheat
 33. forbidden by law
 34. fifth sign of the ZODIAC
 35. large number of
- Down:**
1. keep out of sight
 2. a high-level computer programming language
 3. an elaborate network of blood vessels
 4. tala
 5. a short garment worn by Catholic priests
 6. new
 7. plentiful
 8. tricker
 13. have one's permanent home in a particular place
 14. physically in contact with and supported by
 16. a pot for ink housed in a hole in a desk
 18. fasten with string
 19. largest country in South America
 23. a flock of geese
 24. Holy nation in the Bible
 25. a device consisting of two reflecting plates
 27. rile
 29. serpent
 31. energy, style, and enthusiasm

WORD-FIT

CROSSWORD

SOLUTIONS

MA DAGAS CAR
O I A U S
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T F T C A R T
K A R A T E A
R N T
W A G E D A I L Y
N V S R
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RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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Dar declared cheapest EAC route for Uganda in transporting cargo

By Guardian Reporter & Agencies

DAR ES SALAAM is the cheapest Ugandan route in transporting cargo among other routes in East African Community (EAC).

The survey, conducted by Shippers Council of East Africa found, that the Dar es Salaam-Kampala costs \$1.17 per tonne, lower than Mombasa-Kampala route, which costs \$2.17, while the Bujumbura-Dar es Salaam route costs \$1.02 per tonne.

Uganda's cargo through the Dar es Salaam port increased to 191,282 metric tonnes in the year 2020/2021, up from 140,269 metric tonnes recorded in the preceding year.

In March this year Port and rail service providers in Tanzania and Uganda signed a freight forwarding agreement with Roofings Group of Uganda in a deliberate

effort to raise the volume of cargo to and from the neighbouring land-locked country that passes through the Dar es Salaam port.

The agreement signed between Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA), the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC), the Uganda Railways Corporation (URC), and was facilitated under the Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency (CCTFA).

A survey on logistics performance in East Africa has found that the Kampala-Mombasa route is the most expensive in the region as it costs transporters \$2.5 per tonne, which distorts trade competitiveness.

The survey also noted that transporters that use the Northern Corridor bear some of the highest costs in the world, reflecting how shortage of alternative routes is



Only about two per cent of Uganda's cargo passes through Dar es Salaam port. PHOTO/FILE

impeding trade competitiveness in East Africa.

Transport costs in the region are estimated at an average of \$1.8 per kilometre for every container against international best practices of \$1 per kilometre per container.

The survey also found that the least ex-

pensive routes Dar es Salaam-Bujumbura, costs \$0.02 per tonne, followed by Dar es Salaam-Kigali at \$0.17 and Nairobi-Dodoma at \$0.1 per tonne.

The Northern Corridor road network covers 12,707 kilometres, of which 1,323.6 kilometre are in Kenya while 2,072 kilometre

are in Uganda.

Rwanda has 1,039.4 kilometres, 567 kilometre in Burundi, 4,162 kilometres in DRC and 3,543 kilometres in South Sudan.

The port of Mombasa is a key entry and exit point for cargo from a vast hinterland that includes Uganda Burundi, DR Congo,

Kenya, Rwanda and South Sudan. The port also serves Tanzania, Somalia and Ethiopia.

The report summarises average transport cost per metric tonne, assuming a payload of 24 metric tonnes per 40-foot container.

Speaking during a webinar by the East African Business Council and TradeMark East Africa, Mr Merian Sebunya, the National Logistics Platform in Uganda chairman, appealed to governments in the region to bring down the cost of transport and logistics to ensure that EAC exports compete at international level.

"Transport and logistics costs comprise of 35 to 42 percent of production. This is high compared to 8 percent in Asian countries. This has negatively impacted the competitiveness of the EAC bloc and trade balance," he said.

The main drivers of freight cost include fuel prices, non-tariff barriers, long timeliness of clearance at the port and slow turnaround time.

The report shows that Uganda and Kenya had the highest number of police stops for trucks standing at between six and nine while Tanzania had between three and five.

Rwanda had the least police stops at between zero and two.

Uganda had six to nine weighbridge stops while Kenya had three to five. Rwanda and Tanzania had the least weighbridge stops at between none and two.

Hearing-impaired youths join mining value chain activities

By Francis Kajubi

KNOWLEDGE transfer and skills sharing initiative by the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) has attracted youth with hearing impairment to take part in the mining sector value chain by grabbing emerging

opportunities.

The initiative executed through regular training to small scale miners on mining related issues in Geita and Mbeya has enabled special group youths in taking part into the sector through self-employment.

The initiative has so far attracted

at least 40 youth with hearing impairment from the two regions take part in the mining sector activities, Geoffrey Meena, STAMICO head of communications told The Guardian.

Meena said, "The Corporation has since 2021 organized regular safety training at workplace programs,

environment conservation and strengthening small scale miners' participation in the mining sector".

According to him, the initiative targets at encouraging host communities to participate in the mining sector value chain, particularly as small-scale, but focusing on growing big and exploring

opportunities in country's natural resources.

Stamico is providing safe gear facilities for small miners; introducing them to mining policy, local and global opportunities, he said.

"In 2021 Stamico had offered safe gear worth over 10million/- to small miners

from the Nyakafuru and Masumbwe mining sites in Geita region. Since earlier this year the corporation has issued safe gear facilities to small scale miners worth over 2million/-," he said.

In Mbeya region, the initiative has so far benefited small miners from the Itumbi mining site.

CRDB Bank loans to agriculture total 2.6 trillion/- over five years

By Guardian Reporter

THE Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) listed CRDB Bank Plc says has extended loans amounting 2.6trn/- to agriculture sector over the last five years, making it the top lender in Tanzania's banking.

The bank's managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela said this during the closure of 2022 Farmers Exhibition in Mbeya on Monday this week, noting that was also the first to reduce agriculture lending rate into single digit at 9 percent.

During the year 2021/2022, he said the bank extended loans to the sector amounting 769bn/- which was equivalent to 43 percent of total banking lending.

"Our bank has remained the largest financier to agriculture sector to support farmers, livestock keepers and fishermen, include individuals, groups, Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS), large farmers, crop traders and agro-processors," he said.

Nsekela said the bank's lending extended to various agricultural activities including construction of agricultural products processing, fertilizer production, adding value to forests products and distribution of agricultural products.



CRDB Bank CEO managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (L) with board chairman Ally Laay PHOTO/FILE

"Other major area of which our bank has supported the sector include providing inputs loans, which were used to purchase fertilizers and other needed farming inputs,

considering that the large quantity of imported fertilizer has been financed by our bank," he said.

Nsekela noted that the bank has formed a convenient and smooth

way of fertilizers imports through letter of credit, whereby importers are importing inputs at two percent less than the actual market prices in foreign currencies and four per-

cent less in local currency.

The bank has also introduced a special account for farmers, pastoralists and fishermen dubbed "Fahari Kilimo" as part of extending support services and coordination to agriculture sector.

Speaking during the closure of the annual exhibition at John Mwakangale grounds in Mbeya, President Samia Suluhu Hassan commended the bank for its cooperation with the government for introducing digital system that will enable the ministry of agriculture and Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA) to import and distribute subsidized fertilizer to farmers as planned.

President Samia also urged banks and financial institutions to continue collaborating with the government in supporting agriculture financing.

"I would like to congratulate banks for their involvement in developing agriculture sector through improving productivity, specifically CRDB Bank for bringing this system and I believe this will bring agricultural revolution in the country," the President noted.

CRDB Bank has been participating in different government initiatives to-

wards agriculture revolution in both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar, through connecting customers into agriculture value chain.

Agriculture is currently contributing more than a quarter of the share of the economy and employing more than 60 percent of Tanzanians. Data shows at least 7.8 million households are involved in agricultural activities in Tanzania.

According to Agricultural census survey 2019/2020, out of 7.8 million households involved in agriculture, five million are involved with crop farming, 2.5 million are involved with crops farming and livestock keeping and the remaining are involved with fish farming and migrating pastoralism.

They include 7.6 million households in Tanzania mainland and 180,220 in Zanzibar.

The annual national farmers' exhibition "Nane Nane" was opened by Vice President Dr Phillip Mpango who called for banks and financial institutions to collaborate with the government to give priorities in supporting sectors with large contribution to the economy.

Oil declines as traders weigh Iran nuclear talks

LONDON

OIL slipped after posting its biggest gain in more than a week as investors monitored US-Iran nuclear talks and the outlook for demand amid an economic slowdown.

West Texas Intermediate futures dropped below \$90 a barrel after closing 2% higher in the previous session.

Uncertainty around Iranian supply aided crude's drift higher with a conclusion to the long-running nuclear talks edging nearer after European Union diplomats presented the US and Iran with a final draft accord to revive the 2015 deal.

Futures remain less than \$3 above a six-month low and thin volumes are keeping prices volatile. Crude may continue to weaken before rallying in winter as the US winds down releases from strategic stockpiles and an EU embargo on Russian supplies takes effect, Energy Aspects said Monday.

"The drop in Brent oil prices well below \$100 a barrel last week could be the market positioning for a revival of the Iran nuclear deal," said Jens Pedersen a senior analyst at Danske Bank. "The price drop stands in contrast with still strong demand and OPEC+ running out of spare capacity."

In some corners of the oil market, the structure has turned significantly less

bullish. Nearby diesel prices in Europe and the US are trading at smaller premiums to later months, indicating cooling concerns about supply scarcity.

"The structures in general have also weakened, not exactly a sign of confidence in a spectacular turnaround," Tamas Varga, an analyst at PVM Oil Associates, wrote in a report.

A deluge of market commentary this week may offer further direction, with the Energy Information Administration set to issue its short-term outlook later on Tuesday. Monthly snapshots from producer group OPEC and the International Energy Agency will follow on Thursday.

Talks to revive the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran ended in Vienna on Monday, with a final draft that, if agreed upon by all parties, will see a restoration of the accord and an increase in Iranian exports to world markets.

The final draft, submitted by European officials, must be signed by both U.S. President Joe Biden and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in the coming weeks, when the deadline for talks expires, Bloomberg reports.

On Monday, Iran's chief negotiator in the talks returned to Tehran where the final draft will be reviewed and decided on by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.



Pan-African fintech reaches more than 400 million people in Africa

By Guardian Reporter

PAN-African fintech firm MFS Africa said has so far reached over 400 million mobile money wallets, enabling a range of banks, telecoms, money transfer operators, and other financial institutions interoperability at scale in Africa through a single integration point.

Cynthia Ponera, the firm's regional sales director for East Africa said following the acquisition of Beyonic, the flagship business suite, MFS Africa leveraged on its Pan-African footprint, to bring digital traceability, control, and seamlessness to SMEs, enterprises, and impact organizations across Africa.

Hosting MFS Africa's top clients in Tanzania at a recent partner engagement event, Ponera said: "These are exciting times for our partners. With MFS Africa Pan-African footprint, our East African partners can expect more accessibility and simpler ways to scale their services into more markets within the region through our digital payment solutions and vast network of global partners and infrastructure, making borders matter less."

This means digital payments management toolbox will be available to SMEs in more markets across Africa

including Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania.

"For these businesses, this is an opportunity to expand their markets and scale their services into more markets in Africa, without physical presence and full operations," she said.

"In empowering businesses to centrally manage automated bulk collections or payments to/from their last-mile consumer through cashless payments, this enables real-time business growth with quick, scalable options."

In the past few months, she said, MFS Africa has been undertaking efforts to improve the seamlessness of its partners' business journey and as part of the integration large and global enterprises will now be managed under the MFS Africa brand.

This will result in few changes taking effect during the coming two months.

Wilfred Ndirangu, Product Manager Payment Services at Eclectics commented: "The key benefit from our engagement with MFS Africa has been Effectiveness."

"With the disbursement option the transactions are completed in time with no friction. We were able to support payouts for our customer without having to send a resource to Tanzania



Dare Okoudjou, Founder and CEO of MFS Africa

to register there and integrate with all telecoms or develop a disbursement portal," he added.

These brand changes are an opportunity for the company to simplify its customer journey and bring more value to their businesses, he said.

"We remain committed to helping you navigate multiple currencies, regulatory requirements, domestic &

cross-border payments, treasury services, and expeditious settlement across numerous African countries," he concluded.

Sub-Saharan Africa is the most developed market for mobile money, accounting for roughly two-thirds of global mobile money transactions in 2020, and there is a huge opportunity to leverage this growing popularity to encourage

entrepreneurship and growth not just on the continent but across the world.

MFS Africa's payments platform connects a range of businesses and institutions across the continent, creating new pathways for mobile money payments and financial services.

SBL's agri-business programme adds value to farmers' lives

By Guardian Reporter

AGRICULTURE has become the core form of economic activity for most households across the Tanzania.

Out of 12 million households in Tanzania, 7.8 million are involved in agriculture, of which 5 million households are involved in crops farming.

Data have shown agriculture contributes 27 percent to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and more than 60 percent of employment.

The mechanisms of farming have also changed. The old ways of applying on-farm skills are not necessarily effective and essential. In the realization of gaining better yields and economic output, the government in collaboration with the private sector, has to pour a swath of initiatives to support agri-business across.

On that note, Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL), among the largest brewers, is giving the nod to farmers in Tanzania through its agrarian revolution-like program, Kilimo Vivanda.

SBL joins the government's efforts to improve agriculture by procuring at least 80 percent of its raw materials from local farmers and empowering agriculture experts with the best knowledge and skills to spearhead the sector transformation.

Through her eyes, SBL's Kilimo Vivanda program empowered her as a local farmer to produce raw materials locally through technical and financial assistance, thus guaranteeing increased yields and promoting economic independence

Five years ago, the life of Martha Kimaro, resident of West Kilimanjaro was hard. As a single mother, she worked day and night on her maize and beans farm using a hand hoe to feed her three children, selling the surplus to pay for children's school fees and meet other life necessities.

"Life was so hard. I used to wake up at 5 am every day and go to the farm where I normally spend the whole day with the sun and rains all being mine. Despite all my efforts, what I used to get was meagre and insufficient to sustain my family. I was a single mother with three children all going to school, and they depended on me for everything," she recalls.

The outspoken lady says after seeing what she was doing was not changing her life, she started to think of doing something else. "I then opened a small business of selling fish and milk, but life was even much harder," she elaborates

When one of her friends called Mama Gody and advised her to try cultivating barley, her life started to change.

Mama Gody convinced me to work with her, and at first, I was hesitant, but I said let me give her a trial. She had one acre, but when I joined her, we cultivated two, the following season four, and at last, I had capital and experience of working on my farm," she says

"My life has changed since then because of barley. I'm so grateful to Serengeti Breweries Limited for the great support they offer to me and to all the farmers under their program. We are provided with free seeds, extension services and, most important reliable market for our crops."

Today, Martha cultivates 50 acres and is a successful and happy mother. She has built a modern house and opened a wholesale shop, and she



SBL has been working with farmers for many years in promoting agri-business across the country. FILE PHOTO

can pay for her children's school fees without a struggle.

Over the last five years, the program has embarked on empowering local farmers to produce quality cereals not only to enable the brewer to acquire the requisite raw materials that it uses for its beer production but also to jump-start the farmers' economic wellbeing.

According to SBL Corporate Relations Director John Wanyancha, the beer-maker's ambitious project facilitates farmers growing maize, sorghum and barley in various parts of the country, enabling the company to increase the locally-sourced raw materials it

uses in its three brewing plants located in Dar es Salaam, Moshi and Mwanza respectively.

"So far, more than 400 farmers benefit from the project whereby we provide them with high-quality seeds free of charge, link them to financial institutions to acquire the capital needed for large-scale farming and supply them with fertilizer and other farming implements", says Wanyancha.

A core feature of the project is the brewer's endeavour to link farmers to financial institutions to access the much-sought-after loans to boost their agri-businesses. This support has been very fruitful to farmers benefitting from

the financial scheme.

Mwinyi Makame, a farmer from Basuto in the Hanang district, Manyara region, is another beneficiary of the support provided by SBL.

He says: "SBL's agri-business program has been helpful to me because the company has consistently provided me with fertilizer, seedlings and insecticide. Through this support, I had harvested improved yields unlike in the past when I didn't have SBL's support".

Makame, a once reluctant farmer, says he joined the program when it started five years ago with only 50 acres. Still, today, he's a proud owner of over 300 acres, an accomplishment

he attributes to the program.

"The program has turned around my fortunes completely; I currently own tractors, enabling me to mechanize my farming; I have built a modern, permanent house and am now able to take my children to the best schools—all owing to the support I get from SBL", Makame proudly says, adding that he's now constructing a new petrol station to supplement his income.

Another beneficiary of SBL's agribusiness program is Bora Msaki, who joined it five years ago. Having started with 50 acres, Msaki is today a large-scale farmer, boasting over 200 acres of barley.

Msaki said, "My life changed when I joined SBL's support program. I was educated on modern farming methods and with the support from the extension services, and having been provided with free, quality seeds, I became a better farmer".

Msaki adds that he has now been able to scale up his production, and he proudly owns three combine harvesters, five tractors and 'one big, modern' planter worth over Tsh 70 million.

The testimonies are a clear indicator of how SBL's investment in the agri-business value chain has contributed and continues to improve food security, thus promoting sustainability essential to the country's economic development.

China's July new loans decrease after record lending in H1

BEIJING

CHINA'S new yuan loans are expected to fall back in July after record lending in the first half, a Reuters poll showed, but they are still likely to exceed the year earlier amount as the central bank seeks to underpin the economic recovery.

Chinese banks are estimated to have issued 1.10 trillion yuan (\$162.81 billion) in net new yuan loans last month, less than half the 2.81 trillion yuan in June, according to the median estimate in the survey of 23 economists.

It would still be higher than the 1.08 trillion yuan issued in the same month a year earlier.

Chinese banks doled out 13.68 trillion yuan in new loans in the first six months of 2022, the highest first-half number on record,

central bank data showed.

"While loan supply remained ample, in contrast to policymakers' strong push to accelerate loan growth in June (quarter-end month), commercial banks might feel relatively less urgency in extending loans in July as it is the first month of a quarter," analysts at Goldman Sachs said in a note.

"Government bond issuance also slowed materially as the majority of full-year local government special bond issuance quota were fulfilled by June this year." The world's second-largest economy barely grew in the second quarter as widespread COVID-19 lockdowns hammered demand and business activity.

China will try hard to achieve the best possible results for the



Chinese 100 yuan banknotes are seen in a counting machine while a clerk counts them at a branch of a commercial bank in Beijing. File photo

economy this year, a high-level meeting of the ruling Communist Party said last month, tempering previous calls that it will strive to meet its 2022 growth target.

Analysts expect the central bank to keep policy accommodative to support the economy's recovery as several factors, including slowing global growth and cost pressures, drag on overall output.

Goldman Sachs expects the central bank to cut banks' reserve requirement ratio (RRR) - the amount of cash that banks must hold as reserves - later this year.

Outstanding yuan loans were expected to grow by 11.2% in July from a year earlier, the same as in June, the poll showed. Broad M2 money supply growth in

July was seen at 11.4%, also at the same pace as in June.

Local governments issued a net 3.41 trillion yuan in special bonds in the first six months, the finance ministry data show, as authorities accelerated special bond issuance for infrastructure to prop up the economy.

China has set the 2022 quota for local government special bond issuance at 3.65 trillion yuan, unchanged from last year.

Any acceleration in government bond issuance could help boost total social financing (TSF), a broad measure of credit and liquidity. Outstanding TSF rose 10.8% in June, up from 10.5% in May.

In July, TSF is expected to fall sharply to 1.30 trillion yuan from 5.17 trillion yuan in June.

EU tightens checks on fresh produce imports

NAIROBI

EUROPE has lowered the level of detection for chemical residues and pests on Kenya's produce in a move that will raise the level of checks on exports of fresh produce.

Exporters are now worried that a lack of compliance to the required Minimum Residue Level (MRL) by farmers will lead to frequent interception of the produce in the wake of increased checks.

Europe, Kenya's largest market for fresh produce has lowered the level to a bare minimum of LOD – level of detection – meaning that any hazard found whether high or low will be treated the same.

The amendment to the EU plant health rules for False Codling Moth, which was effected on July 14, imposes new guidelines on exports of capsicum, tomatoes, citrus, and fresh mango.

"These guides provide a clear explanation of what needs to be done in order to ensure that exported produce is in compliance with EU phytosanitary requirements," said the EU in the new guidelines.

The guidelines detail the information to be provided, and actions to be taken, at all stages from production to export by producers and exporters, as well as by the national authorities and inspection services.

Fresh Produce Consortium of Kenya (FPCK) says farmers now have to adhere to stipulated time when it comes to harvesting their produce after spraying with pesticides or insecticides in order to avoid interceptions.

"We now need to be vigilant by ensuring that farmers comply with the requirement set by the EU," said Ojepat Okisegere, chief executive at the FPCK.

Kenya is eyeing the EU market for the exports of mango after 10 years of not shipping to the bloc, but the current stringent measure may pose a challenge.



The country imposed a self-ban on mango to the EU in 2012 following high cases of fruit flies that risked the country's product being blacklisted. Fruit flies are some of the pests that the EU has

increased surveillance on meaning that the country has to cut down significantly the presence of these pests. "This means that entry into the EU of produce con-

taining a large range of fruit fly species (including all fruit flies belonging to the Acanthiophilus, Bactrocera, Ceratitis, and Dacus genera) is now prohibited," said the EU.

Kenya has established pest-free zones to curb pests as it seeks to resume the EU market.

Euro zone yields edge higher in wake of high interest rates

LONDON

EURO zone bond yields edged higher on Tuesday as traders raised their bets on an interest rate hike by the European Central Bank (ECB) in September and markets sought direction on the eve of a critical US inflation report.

Stronger-than-expected U.S. jobs data fuelled expectations of another large, 75 basis-point (bps) U.S. rate hike in September, sending bond yields surging last week, though steep drops on Monday reversed some of that rise.

On Tuesday, bets on ECB rate hikes increased again, with traders pricing in over a 95% chance of a 50 bp hike at the bank's September meeting. Refinitiv data showed, up from around a 50% chance last week.

Moves in the United States are "also helping the euro curve price another 50 bps hike from the ECB, which I think is consistent with their last decision," Antoine Bouvet, senior rates strategist at ING, said.

"(The) implication is that the market is right in expecting front-loaded hikes as the window of opportunity to tighten is closing fast."

After guiding markets for a 25 bps move, the ECB hiked rates by 50 bps to 0% in July.

On Tuesday, euro zone bond yields rose ahead of U.S. inflation data due on Wednesday, which a Reuters poll predicted would show inflation remaining elevated but having slowed in July compared to June.

Germany's 10-year yield, the benchmark for the bloc, was up 4 bps to 0.94% by 1024 GMT.

The two-year yield, sensitive to interest rate expectations, rose to 0.515%, the highest since July 22.

Italian bonds outperformed slightly, and the 10-year yield was up 3 bps to 3.07% after underperforming on Monday following a ratings outlook downgrade by Moody's. Bond yields move inversely with prices.

"We're all waiting to see what the US CPI report will say. Keeping in mind that this is a lagging indicator that might not yet reflect the softening of US data, we could see further flattening/inversion of the curve, also in Europe," ING's Bouvet said.

The German yield curve, measured by the gap between two and 10-year yields, is at 45 bps, near its flattest this year.

A flattening yield curve is usually seen as a sign of an economic slowdown and inversions as predictors of recessions. The closely-watched two-year/10-year yield curve in the United States is deeply inverted at below minus 40 bps.

Elsewhere, Germany raised 4.612 billion euros from the auction of a new two-year bond.



ITV PGM SCHEDULE

TUESDAY 2 Aug	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:25 Jajina rpt	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base rpt	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Aya ya jamii	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Ripoti Maalum	13:40 Shikabamba	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Shikabamba	14:15 Igizo rpt: Rebecca	14:40 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Breia	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto wetu	17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ - Live	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	20:00 HABARI	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba	21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF	21:45 Chetu ni chetu rpt	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 HABARI	23:20 The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 DWTV
WEDNESDAY 3 Aug	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:25 Uchumi wetu	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base rpt	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Bundesliga rpt	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Dakika 45 rpt	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	14:40 Kipindi Maalum rpt: CDC	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Jajina	18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Breia	19:00 Usafiri Wako	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	20:00 HABARI	21:05 Malumbano ya hoja	21:30 Habari	22:30 The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 DWTV				
THURSDAY 4 Aug	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Shamba lulu	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA	13:30 Igizo rpt: Rebecca	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Igizo rpt: Rebecca	14:20 Kipindi maalum rpt: NSSF	14:40 Mapiishi rpt	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Jajina	18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Breia	19:00 Usafiri Wako	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	20:00 HABARI	21:05 Malumbano ya hoja	21:30 Habari	22:30 The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 DWTV		
FRIDAY 5 Aug	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Usafiri Wako	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base rpt	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt	13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ	13:55 Habari za saa																				
SATURDAY 6 Aug	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	9:30 Shamba lulu	10:00 Shika Bamba 5	10:30 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	11:10 Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:50 Hawawini lakini wamo	12:40 Usafiri Wako rpt	13:10 Habari	13:50 Soap: I Plead Guilty rpt	14:00 Igizo: Mizengwe	14:30 Igizo: Rebecca	15:00 Shamba lulu	15:30 Habari	16:30 Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka	17:00 Habari	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Korean: Jumong	19:00 Jungu Kuu	19:30 Shika Bamba	20:00 Habari	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka	21:15 Igizo: Rebecca	21:40 Art and Lifestyle	22:10 ITV TOP 10	22:50 Hawawini lakini wamo	23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt	01:15 DWTV								
SUNDAY 7 Aug	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Soap: I Plead Guilty rpt	11:00 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	15:20 Mawanga za	16:30 ITV Top 10	17:20 Kipindi cha kikimoto	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mapiishi	18:30 Matuko ya wiki	19:30 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:55 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:10 Kipindi maalum: Reflexology	21:15 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:30 Mjuzi Zaidi	22:15 Bongo movie:	23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	02:05 Al Jazeera																

CAPITAL

Mon 01 Aug	06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws of love 14:00 Club 101 (Via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind	16:30 The Monday Agenda	17:30 Meza Huru	18:00 Rev rpt	19:30 EcoAfrica	20:00 Meza Huru	19:00 The Decor rpt	19:30 Shamba lulu	20:15 Series: Lies that Bind	20:45 The Monday Agenda	21:30 Capital Prime News	22:00 Kipima Jobo	00:00			
Tues 02 Aug	06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws of love 14:00 Club 101 (Via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind	16:30 Capchat rpt	17:30 Meza Huru	18:00 Sports Gazette	19:30 Chetu ni chetu	20:00 Series: Lies that Bind	20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love	21:30 Capital Prime	22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt	22:30 EcoAfrica	23:00 Al Jazeera					
Wed 03 Aug	06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	12:00 Our Earth Rpt	12:30 Innovation rpt	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00 Club 101 (Via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind	16:30 Capchat rpt	17:30 Meza Huru	18:00 Sports Gazette	19:30 Chetu ni chetu	20:00 Series: Lies that Bind	20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love	21:30 Capital Prime News	22:00 Dakika 45	22:45 The Decor	23:15 Al Jazeera			
Thurs 04 Aug	06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love	13:30 Club 101 (Via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind	16:30 Capchat rpt	17:30 Meza Huru	18:00 Sports Gazette	19:30 Chetu ni chetu	20:00 Series: Lies that Bind	20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love 21:30 Capital Prime								
Frid 05 Aug	06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00 Club 101 (Via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind	16:30 The Monday Agenda	17:30 Meza Huru	18:00 Rev rpt	19:30 EcoAfrica	20:00 Meza Huru	19:00 The Decor rpt	19:30 Shamba lulu	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				
Sat 06 Aug	08:00 Al Jazeera	09:00 Rev rpt	09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt	10:00 Culinary delight rpt	10:30 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	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 Korean Drama rpt: Hwarang 14:30 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 17:15 EcoAfrica	17:45 Bundesliga kick off	18:15 Capchat rpt	19:15 Mizengwe	19:30 The Decor	19:30 Korean Drama: Hwarang 21:00 Out n' About	21:30 Music: Club 101 rpt	23:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind	01:00 Al Jazeera	
Sun 07 Aug	08:00 Al Jazeera	09:00 In good shape	10:00 Capchat rpt	11:00 Sports Gazette rpt	11:30 Korean Drama rpt: Hwarang 12:00 Jajina rpt	12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt	13:00 In good shape rpt	13:30 Series rpt: Lies that Bind	15:15 Abu yako	15:30 Rev rpt	16:00 Dakika 45 rpt	16:45 Mizengwe rpt	17:00 The Decor	17:45 Meza Huru	18:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt	19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights	20:00 Korean Drama: Hwarang 21:00 Dw News Africa	21:30 Capchat live	22:15 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love	00:00 Al Jazeera

WORLD

KENYA ELECTIONS 2022:

Raila Odinga, William Ruto in tight race for president

NAIROBI

VOTERS started queuing before dawn across Kenya yesterday, eager to have their say over who will run the country for the next five years.

Delays and logistical problems have been reported in some places, but in general the process appears smooth.

The vote follows an intense campaign dominated by debates about living costs, unemployment and corruption.

The frontrunners for president are ex-Prime Minister Raila Odinga and current Deputy President William Ruto.

The outgoing president Uhuru Kenyatta is backing his former foe Odinga, after a falling out with his own deputy.

Odinga was mobbed by supporters when he went to vote in Kibera - one of

his strongholds in the capital, Nairobi.

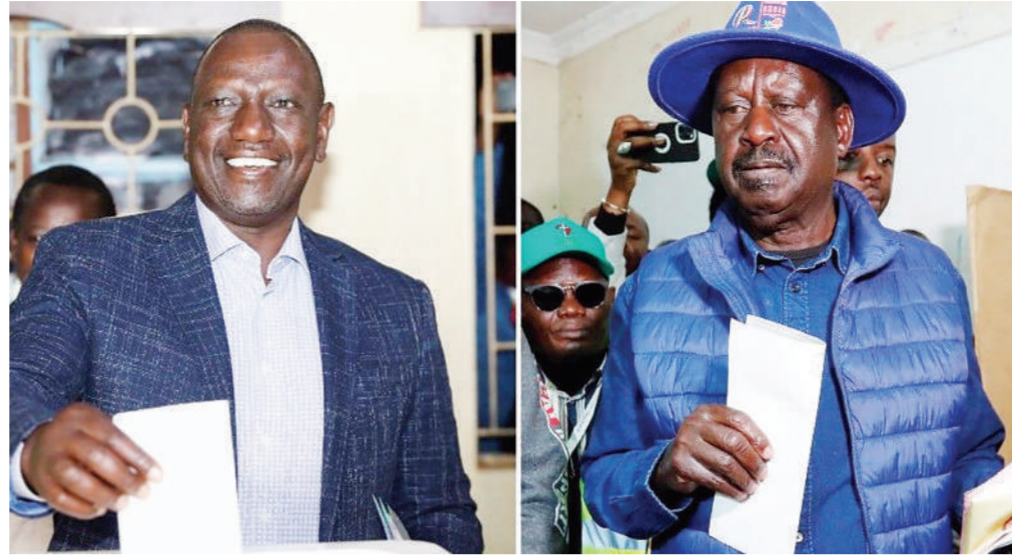
He did not speak to the press, but his wife, Ida Odinga, said he was "upbeat about the election".

When Ruto voted in the town of Eldoret in the Rift Valley he pledged to accept the election result.

"I think for the first time in the history of multi-party democracy in Kenya, all the candidates have undertaken that they will accept the outcome of the results," he told the BBC.

A dispute over election results in 2007 led to weeks of violence leading to the deaths of an estimated 1,200 people and forced about 600,000 people to flee from their homes.

Yesterday, there was some frustration among the early morning voters at a polling station in a primary school in



Presidential candidates William Ruto (L) and Raila Odinga (R) have both voted

the Westlands area of Nairobi.

They were blocked from entering the compound of the school for 90 minutes after voting was supposed to start at 06:00 local time (03:00 GMT).

The reason for the delay was not clear and some people started chanting: "We want to vote!"

"I was here very early. It's been disappointing that we got here early and had to wait for a long time," voter Alex Kipchoge told the BBC.

When voting did get under way, however, the process went well.

There have also been reports of delays in the coastal area of Mombasa and some parts of the north-east of the country.

There are several other elections for parliament and local government happening at the same time and a mix-up of ballot papers in some areas for some of those votes has again raised questions about the organisation of the general election.

Polls are open for 11 hours and were expected to close at 17:00 local time (14:00 GMT). Anyone still in the queue at closing time will be allowed to vote.

The results of the last presidential election in 2017 were annulled after the Supreme Court ruled that the electoral commission had not followed the law when it came to the electronic transmission of the vote tallies from the polling stations.

Judges ruled that "illegalities and irregularities" had taken place.

A re-run was won by Mr Kenyatta, but boycotted by Mr Odinga - the main opposition candidate at the time.

The chairman of the electoral commission, Wafula Chebukati, who was also in charge of the 2017 vote, has frequently tried to reassure Kenyans that his team will be up to the task this time.

But Monday's logistical problems have increased the pressure on him. **Agencies**

Political vacuum threatens deeper economic crisis, UK govt warned

LONDON

PRIME Minister Boris Johnson came under heavy criticism on Monday for allowing a political vacuum at the heart of his government to threaten an even deeper economic crisis in Britain before his successor takes office in September.

Britain is bracing for a long recession as energy prices surge to unprecedented levels, leaving millions of people at risk of economic hardship.

But the political response has been overshadowed by a leadership campaign to find a new prime minister that runs until Sept 5, with candidates Liz Truss and Rishi Sunak mostly clashing over how far they will cut taxes, and when. Truss, the favorite, has said she does not favour "hand-outs".

Gordon Brown, a Labour prime minister during the 2008 financial crash, warned the country was facing an "economic time bomb" if it did not draw up a plan now for the difficult winter ahead.

"This week is the key week," Brown told LBC Radio, saying the government should be working with the two leadership contenders, before energy bills rise by an expected 70 percent in October.

Nicola Sturgeon, the first minister of Scotland, told Johnson in a letter that the "paralysis" had to stop now.

The blue-chip business lobby group the Confederation of British Industry said the new government would need a plan in place for when it takes over.

"We simply cannot afford a summer of government inactivity while the leadership contest plays out," Director General Tony



Union Jack flags are seen in front of the Elizabeth Tower, known as Big Ben, beside the Houses of Parliament in London on June 24, 2022. File photo

Danker said. The scale of the economic hit facing Britain was laid out by the Bank of England on Thursday, when it raised interest rates by the most in 27 years to tackle inflation that is on track to

top 13 percent, even as it warned of a long recession.

Energy regulator Ofgem will publish its next price cap on August 26, with average household prices expected to rise from 1,277

pounds (\$1,547.47) at the start of this year to around 3,400 pounds in October, and rise again in January. With energy prices forecast to stay high, the central bank said Britain is facing its biggest slump in living standards since records began in the 1960s.

Johnson's government, with Sunak at the Treasury, set out a 15 billion pound package of support in May, but wholesale energy prices have continued to rise since then.

Johnson's spokesman said on Monday it would be up to the next British leader to decide whether further support was needed.

The opposition Labour Party has criticized Johnson and his new finance minister, Nadhim Zahawi, for going on holiday as the economy deteriorated, dubbing it a "zombie" government that has "checked out" of office.

EU proposes 'final text' for reviving Iran nuclear deal

VIENNA/TEHRAN

THE European Union on Monday put forward a final text of the draft decision on reviving the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, while awaiting political decisions from participants of the Vienna talks.

"What can be negotiated has been negotiated, and it's now in a final text," EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell tweeted on Monday.

"However, behind every technical issue and every paragraph lies a political decision that needs to be taken in the capitals. If these answers are positive, then we can sign this deal," he added.

Mikhail Ulyanov, Russia's permanent representative to international organizations in Vienna and chief negotiator to the Iran nuclear talks, said on Twitter that the participants in the Vienna talks now need to decide if the draft is acceptable for them.

"In case of no objection, the nuclear deal



will be restored," he wrote.

Wang Qun, China's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna and chief negotiator, on Monday urged the United States to make immediate political decisions to help promote an early agreement in the Iran nuclear talks.

The Vienna talks on reviving the Iran nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), resumed in the Austrian capital last week after a five-month hiatus.

A key outstanding issue during this round

of the talks is reportedly Iran's nuclear safeguards issues. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), together with the United States and Europe, have insisted that Iran failed to provide credible explanations for uranium traces found at its undeclared sites. However, Iran has repeatedly said that the IAEA's reports are "political" and this case should be closed with the revival of the JCPOA.

Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said on Sunday that the IAEA should completely resolve the remaining safeguards issues "through technical channels."

Iran signed the nuclear deal with world powers in July 2015, agreeing to curb its nuclear program in return for the removal of U.S.-led sanctions. However, former US President Donald Trump pulled Washington out of the agreement and reimposed unilateral sanctions on Tehran, prompting the latter to drop some of its commitments

under the pact.

The marathon talks on reviving the JCPOA began in April 2021 in Vienna, but were suspended in March this year due to political differences between Tehran and Washington. Enditem

US urged to act realistically

The Iranian foreign minister said on Monday that if parties to the Vienna talks, especially the US, act realistically and avoid adopting unconstructive approaches, the road will be paved for an agreement on the revival of a 2015 nuclear deal.

He made the remarks in a phone conversation with Borrell after the latest round of the Vienna talks, according to the Iranian foreign ministry.

A final deal must fulfill the rights and interests of the Iranian people and guarantee the sustainable removal of anti-Iran sanctions, Amir-Abdollahian said.

Agencies

Pelosi's Taiwan visit exposes Tsai Ing-wen's political nature - experts

BEIJING

THE political nature of Tsai Ing-wen and the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) authorities were exposed by the clumsy performance of the visit to China's Taiwan region by Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, according to experts on both sides of the Taiwan Strait.

Fawning on the United States, seeking "Taiwan independence," and betraying Taiwan's interests. These are the nature of Tsai and the DPP, the experts said.

Liu Xiangping, an expert on Taiwan studies at Nanjing University, listed Tsai's misdeeds in U.S.-Taiwan collusion, including flattering visiting U.S. officials as "distinguished guests" regardless of their rank and intentions, and "shedding tears of gratitude" for U.S. support.

More than once, Tsai offered U.S. politicians a so-called "award" to showcase "friendship," Liu said. These politicians included not only Pelosi but also former U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, who takes pride in "lying, cheating and stealing."

"The fact cannot be changed that the United States takes Taiwan as its 'pawn' and 'ATM' no matter how the DPP authorities cover things up with so-called Taiwan-U.S. friendship," Liu stressed.

The obedience of Tsai and the DPP authorities to the United States has also prompted criticism in Taiwan. Chang Ching, a research fellow from the Taiwan-based Society for Strategic Studies, said such compliance would only make Taiwan a minion or pawn of the United States.

Experts said they believe Tsai and the DPP authorities had multiple purposes in staging the show: to mislead the public to gain advantage in upcoming local elections; to express obedience to the United States in return for more support on "Taiwan independence"; and to resist reunification through taking shelter with the United States.

"Out of their selfish motives, Tsai and the DPP authorities bent their knees and betrayed the Chinese nation in exchange for external support," Liu said.

Echoing the anti-China forces in the United States, the DPP authorities have whitewashed its separatist agenda by acting as a so-called defender of democracy.

Since coming to power in 2016, Tsai and the DPP authorities have spared no efforts in promoting "Taiwan independence," which posed the biggest threat to peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait.

"For the sake of its own agenda, the DPP authorities do not hesitate at dragging the people of Taiwan into the abyss of disaster," Liu said.

Tsai and the DPP authorities actively served as Washington's foot soldiers to contain the Chinese mainland in political, military and economic domains, regardless of the price the people of Taiwan would pay for their actions.

The huge amount of public resources the DPP authorities have spent on arms deals and in lobbying U.S. politicians should have been used to improve the welfare of people in Taiwan, according to Liu.

"Pelosi's visit revealed clearly that Tsai and the DPP authorities put the interests of their party over the interests of the Chinese nation, and election gains over the wellbeing of the people," Liu said.

Xinhua

Russia puts Iranian satellite into orbit

MOSCOW

RUSSIA launched an Iranian satellite into orbit yesterday from southern Kazakhstan, just three weeks after President Vladimir Putin and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei pledged to work together against the West.

The remote Khayyam sensing satellite, named after the 11th Century Persian poet and philosopher Omar Khayyam, was launched by a Russian Soyuz rocket from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan and entered orbit successfully, Russia's space agency said.

Iran's space agency has received the first telemetry data sent from the satellite, the official IRNA news agency said.

Tehran has rejected claims the satellite could be used by Moscow to boost its intelligence capabilities in Ukraine, saying Iran will have full control and operation over it "from day one."

The Washington Post reported last week that US officials are concerned by the fledgling space cooperation between Russia and Iran, fearing the satellite will not only help Russia in Ukraine but also provide Iran "unprecedented capabilities" to monitor potential military targets in Israel and the wider Middle East.

Iran says the satellite is designed for scientific research including radiation and environmental monitoring for agricultural purposes.

Russia has sought to deepen its ties with Iran since Feb 24, when the Kremlin ordered tens of thousands of troops into Ukraine, prompting the United States and its allies to impose the most severe sanctions in recent history.

In July, Putin visited Iran in his first international trip outside the country since the start of Russia's military campaign in Ukraine.

Agencies

China firm as rock in its resolution to achieve reunification of the motherland

IN disregard of China's strong opposition and serious representations, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi visited China's Taiwan region.

This is a serious violation of the one-China principle and the provisions of the three China-U.S. joint communiqués. It has a severe impact on the political foundation of China-U.S. relations, and seriously infringes upon China's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

It gravely undermines peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait, and sends a seriously wrong signal to the separatist forces for "Taiwan independence".

China's firm countermeasures are completely legitimate and justified. All the

consequences arising therefrom must be borne by the U.S. side and the "Taiwan independence" separatist forces.

Adherence to the one-China principle is the basic foundation for China to establish diplomatic relations with other countries, and constitutes a part of the post-World War II international order.

It's made clear in the China-U.S. Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations that "The United States of America recognizes the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legal Government of China. Within this context, the people of the United States will maintain cultural, commercial, and other unofficial relations with the

people of Taiwan."

Congress is a part of the U.S. Government, and Pelosi the third highest-ranking official in the U.S. Government. They are inherently obliged to strictly observe the one-China policy of the U.S. Government and adhere to the political promises made by the U.S. side to China.

China is all along opposed to the visit to Taiwan by U.S. congressional members, and the U.S. executive branch has the responsibility to stop such visit. However, the U.S., saying one thing but doing the opposite, has no integrity at all. It has reiterated that the one-China policy of the U.S. has not changed and will not change, and that the U.S. does not support "Tai-

wan independence." However, Pelosi insisted on visiting Taiwan in total disregard of U.S. political promises. It further showed to the international society who's the one that's changing the status quo of the Taiwan Strait, destroying China-U.S. relations, undermining regional peace and stability and violating international order.

Whoever tries to reverse the historical trend of peace and development will end up being etched into the historical pillar of shame.

Pelosi's visit to China's Taiwan region is another dangerous act of the U.S. to distort, obscure and hollow out the one-China principle.

For some time, the U.S. Government has repeated wrong acts and remarks regarding the Taiwan question, and continued to upgrade the levels of official exchanges with Taiwan.

There are many people in the U.S. Government and media believing Pelosi's visit to China's Taiwan region will lead to major risks in the situation across the Taiwan Strait and severely impact U.S.-China relations.

There are many people with vision and insight from the international society stressing that Pelosi's visit to Taiwan is dangerous and irresponsible and seriously violates the basic norms governing international relations.

Besides, regional countries have repeatedly urged the U.S. to eye on the bigger picture of China-U.S. relations and regional peace and stability.

However, the U.S. side still gave a "green light" to Pelosi's erroneous act.

On the one hand, the U.S. is promising to safeguard the stability and maintain the status quo in the Taiwan Strait, and set "guardrails" for bilateral relations; on the other hand, it is indulging Pelosi to visit Taiwan and make new troubles for China-U.S. relations. This indicates that the true intention of the U.S. is to play the Taiwan card and contain China's development with the Taiwan question.

People's Daily

US treats its visa obligations at UN seriously – mission on Lavrov's visit

UNITED NATIONS

THE United States is serious about its obligations on issuing visas within the framework of its agreement with the UN, a representative of the US Mission to the United Nations told TASS on Monday replying to a question as to whether Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and other members of the Russian delegation would obtain visas to participate in the high-level week of the UN General Assembly.

The source noted that the US, as the receiving country, has obligations within the framework of the agreement with the UN to facilitate visits from UN member states. The source stressed that the mission was taking its obligations seriously.

Russian President Vladimir Putin approved Lavrov as the head of the country's delegation to the 77th United Nations General Assembly in September.

The UN General Assembly High-Level Week, which usually brings together heads of state, prime ministers and cabinet members from UN member states, will take place on September 20-26.

According to the event's preliminary program, the Russian top diplomat is scheduled to address the General Assembly on September 24.

Earlier, Lavrov sent a letter to UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres about the neglect by the United States of its responsibilities as the host country of the organization's headquarters.

As Spokesperson for the UN Secretary General Stephane Dujarric told TASS on August 5, Guterres had discussed with Lavrov and US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield the subject of issuing visas to Russian diplomats.

Agencies



Zimbabwe marks Heroes Day amid jubilation

HARARE

AT the National Heroes Acre, a burial ground for Zimbabwe's departed heroes and heroines of the liberation struggle, thousands of jubilant citizens gathered to commemorate the National Heroes Day.

Women dressed in national colors joyfully danced to euphoric revolutionary and patriotic songs as they paid tribute to veterans of the war of independence who sacrificed their lives to free the country from the shackles of British colonial rule.

In Zimbabwe, the second Monday of August is the National Heroes' Day which is marked at the National Heroes Acre, about seven kilometers south of downtown Harare.

Overlooking the southern African nation's capital from a hill-top summit to the east, and the towering National Sports Stadium to the north, the National Heroes Acre serves as the resting place for numerous veterans of the liberation struggle.

To Zimbabweans, the National Heroes Acre, a revered shrine, is a symbol of selflessness for the heroes and heroines whose remains are laid to rest there.

"As a young person, the reason I am here is to celebrate the freedom that we attained because of the liberation war heroes.

So what I want to say to the young generation is that we should preserve the legacy of our elders," said 41-year-old Saidi Kamukwamba, a Harare resident.

Marvelous Sakuranganga, 64, said it is the duty of the young generation to preserve the gains of the liberation struggle that departed veterans died for.

"People died for this country, so all young people should know where this country came from," said 62-year-old Marvelous Sakuranganga, a Harare resident.

"Due to the sacrifices of our heroes who died for us, we are free, no one limits our freedoms, we do what we want as free citizens, be it moving around, people used to be prohibited. But now we are doing everything as free individuals, our grandchildren are happy, our children are happy with their families," Sakuranganga added.

Agnes Zinyemba, 62, a veteran of the liberation struggle, was among those who had come to the shrine to mark the day. "I did not pick arms during the liberation struggle but I participated as a guerrilla aid. I used to provide the fighters with food, giving them clothing, that's how we participated," she said. "I feel very happy because our nation is now free.

During the war of liberation, it was a difficult time, we used to wonder if we were going to emerge victorious, until our brothers who went to fight vanquished the enemy in the battlefield," she added.

In his televised national address, Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa called for all Zimbabweans to preserve the gains of the hard-won liberation struggle.

"As we remember our gallant heroes and heroines, let us all recommit to fortify and protect our beloved country while building on the gains we have achieved in 42 years of our hard-won independence and freedom," Mnangagwa told the gathering.

"Today we stand tall among the liberated and independent peoples of the world as masters of our own destiny. We are marching on and consolidating our unity, our peace, and our freedom in fulfilment of the



Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa

collective aspirations and vision of our heroes and heroines," said Mnangagwa.

He said following the attainment of political freedom which was attained by the sacrifices of liberation veterans, his government is now embarking on a mission to transform the economy for the benefit of all Zimbabweans.

"Yesteryear gallant men and women selflessly chose to join the liberation struggle against oppressive colonial white settler regime. Forty-two years after the raising of our sacred national flag, we remain motivated to ultimately transform Zimbabwe into a modern industrialized and prosperous society," he said.

He added that the gains of the liberation struggle, which includes the land reform program which aimed to address colonial land imbalances, will never be reversed.

Furthermore, Mnangagwa castigated Western nations for interfering in Zimbabwe's internal affairs. "We cannot be taught democracy by those who denied us democracy. The heroes we honor fought for that democracy and this democracy and equal access to justice we are enjoying as a country.

Let us therefore individually and collectively protect it from all forms of abuse and desecration, more so by those who never came for our help during the brutal and oppressive years under the white colonial settler regime," he said.

Zimbabwe attained its independence in 1980 after a long and arduous war of liberation, which resulted in tens of thousands of people losing their lives. China provided Zimbabwe's liberation fighters with ideological support, material assistance and military training in the 1960s when the liberation movement took arms to fight colonial settler rule.

Xinhua

Humanitarians aim to feed 16 million people in drought-stricken Ethiopia

UNITED NATIONS

HUMANITARIANS in Ethiopia are targeting more than 16 million people for drought aid while more than 1.7 million people face flooding, a UN spokesman said on Monday.

The worst drought in 40 years brought worsening levels of malnutrition to the millions, said Stephane Dujarric, chief spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

The drought also killed more than 3.5 million livestock. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said that more than 21 million people face acute food insecurity following four failed rainy seasons across Somalia, northern Kenya, and southern and eastern Ethiopia.

Experts say a dry fifth rainy season this autumn is likely. "At the same time, parts of Ethiopia face a risk of flooding in the coming weeks," Dujarric said.

"In northern Ethiopia, humanitarian deliveries continue in the Tigray region, but our ability to distribute it has been limited by shortages of fuel and of cash."

However, he cited two positive developments: the first was 12 tankers carrying 600,000 liters of fuel arriving in the war-torn, northernmost region of Tigray on Wednesday.

The second was food aid distributed in three hard-to-reach districts of the Amhara region's Wag Hamra zone for the first time in over a year.

The spokesman said about 2 million liters of fuel are needed each month to sustain humanitarian operations in Tigray. The food for 30,000 people reaching the challenging Amhara districts arrived in the area on July 27. Delivery of additional food assistance, including nutrition and health supplies, is planned.

In the first half of this year, more than 13 million men, women and children received humanitarian assistance in drought-affected areas, including more than 7 million people receiving food aid, he said.

The spokesman said that the UN Food and Agriculture Organization reported that it is scaling up the urgent procurement of fertilizers to help farmers in Tigray sow their fields in a critical planting season.

The operation results from a 10 million U.S. dollar loan recently approved by the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund.

Xinhua

Biden authorises largest weapons assistance to Ukraine

WASHINGTON

THE administration of U.S. President Joe Biden announced Monday that the United States will provide Ukraine with 1 billion U.S. dollars worth of additional security assistance, the largest one-time weapons package since the beginning of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

According to a statement by the Department of Defense, the package - the 18th tranche of presidential drawdown since August 2021 - included additional munitions for High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS), 75,000 rounds of 155 mm artillery ammunition, 20 120 mm mortar systems and 20,000 rounds of 120 mm mortar ammunition, as well as munitions for National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System (NASAMS).

Washington will also deliver to Kiev 1,000 Javelins, hundreds of AT4 anti-armor systems, 50 armored medical treatment vehicles, anti-personnel munitions, explosives, demolition munitions and demolition equipment, the statement said.

The just-announced aid brings total U.S. commitment of security assistance to Ukraine to approximately 9.8 billion dollars since Biden took office, according to the Pentagon.

Riga's idea of declaring Russia as 'terrorist state' is hostile action – Foreign Ministry

MOSCOW

LATVIAN legislators' idea to declare Russia as a "terrorist state" is a hostile action and part and parcel of the overall anti-Russian hysteria, Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said in a commentary on Monday.

"On August 2 this year, the foreign affairs commission of the Latvian parliament approved the initiative for recognizing Russia as a 'state

supporting terrorism.' In the next step the issue will be considered at a meeting of the Latvian parliament (the closest date is August 11)," Zakharova said.

"This latest hostile step by the Latvian legislators fits in perfectly with the anti-Russian hysteria unleashed by Riga. The responsibility for this should be placed squarely on the Latvian side, which, first of all, should stop to think about the disastrous consequences for Latvia



itself and its residents such provocative steps can entail."

Zakharova said that the Latvian ruling elite's "pathological Russophobia" had already caused serious economic and social problems in

that Baltic country and ruined the standard of living.

"It will only get worse further on. Many politicians and experts point to this. In particular, Nil Ushakov, a member of the European Parliament and former mayor of Riga, predicts a catastrophe equal in scale to that of the 1990s in Latvia and calls for declaring a 'state of social emergency'," she added.

"Isn't it time for the Latvian legislators to finally stop being puppets

of their overseas masters to become full-fledged representatives of their people who care about their fate?" Zakharova said.

The Latvian parliament's foreign affairs commission on August 2 approved a draft statement recognizing Russia as a "terrorist state", which its chairman, Rihards Kols, announced earlier in his social networks. The statement will be sent to parliament for consideration at the forthcoming session of parliament.

Cross-provincial river basin eco-compensation mechanism helps lift ecology in China

HENAN province, an economic powerhouse in central China located in the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River, recently received 126 million yuan (\$18.67 million) of ecological compensation from Shandong for its outstanding performance in improving the water quality of the river.

In April last year, the two provinces inked the first cross-provincial compensation agreement for horizontal ecological protection in the Yellow River basin.

According to the agreement, if the quality of water in the Henan section of the Yellow River improves by one level from category-III over the course of one year, Shandong, which lies in the lower reaches of the river, will pay Henan 60 million yuan as a reward, and if the quality worsens by a level, Henan will pay 60 million yuan to Shandong as compensation.

In 2012, the first cross-provincial river basin eco-compensation mechanism was piloted in the Xin'an River basin. The river, which rises from Xiuning county, Huangshan, east China's Anhui province, is the largest river flowing into the coastal province of Zhejiang in east China. It provides over 60 percent of the water in Qiandao Lake, an important water source for Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang.

The pilot program offered annual compensation of 500 million yuan, including 300 million yuan from the central government, 100 million yuan from Anhui and 100 million yuan from Zhejiang.

According to the program, if the water quality made the grade, Zhejiang would pay Anhui 100 million yuan as a reward. Otherwise, Anhui would pay Zhejiang 100 million yuan as compensation.

The water quality in the Xin'an River has remained good and steadily improved since the pilot program between the two provinces was implemented. The quality of water sampled in the cross-provincial section has reached category-II level, and the river is sending nearly 7 billion cubic meters of clean water to the Qiandao Lake. The water quality of the Qiandao Lake is on the rise, too.

In 2018, Beijing and its neighboring province Hebei jointly started a compensation mechanism for horizontal



The Miyun Reservoir in Beijing has witnessed improving water quality since a compensation mechanism for horizontal ecological protection was implemented in the Chaobai River in the upper reaches of the reservoir. File photo

ecological protection in the Chaobai River in the upper reaches of Beijing's Miyun Reservoir.

So far, Beijing has paid Hebei a total of 950 million yuan as compensation, and the fund was mainly used to advance water environment governance, water ecological restoration and water resource conservation in five counties of Hebei's Zhangjiakou and Chengde.

The mechanism has set an example of joint river protection for regions with scarce water resources in north China, said an official with the Department of Water Ecology and Environment, Ministry of Ecology and Environment.

The agreement includes water volume and total nitrogen, which is unique among all similar pilot programs in China, the official said.

The five counties, making joint efforts to promote river protection, pollution treatment, and water conservancy, have effectively safeguarded the quality of the water flowing into the Miyun Reservoir in the Chaobai River, and laid a solid foundation for the long-term river basin eco-compensation mechanism in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, the

Japan cabinet members told to clarify Unification Church ties

TOKYO

JAPANESE Prime Minister Fumio Kishida will reshuffle his cabinet today paying attention to politicians' ties with the Unification Church, seeking to distance his administration from the controversial group and reverse a slump in opinion polls.

The reshuffle comes as Kishida's administration faces tumbling support rates. Public scrutiny of links between the group and ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) lawmakers has increased markedly since former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe was gunned down last month at a campaign rally.

Abe was shot by a man whose mother is a member, and who told investigators he believed Abe had promoted the group to which his mother made ruinous donations, Japanese media have reported.

Kishida said on Tuesday that incoming new members of his cabinet and new ruling party officials must "thoroughly review" their ties with the group.

"It will be a prerequisite," Kishida said, speaking at a news conference in Nagasaki.

Support for Kishida's cabinet has fallen to the lowest level since he took office last October, down to 46 percent from 59 percent three weeks ago, NHK public broadcaster said on Monday, results in line with other recent surveys. A vast majority of respondents said they want an explanation of politicians' ties to the Unification Church.

Kishida said in Nagasaki his cabinet needs reshuffling to deal with problems such as rising prices and an increasingly tense security environment.

"In many ways, we are facing the most critical situation since the end of World War Two," he said.

Finance Minister Shunichi Suzuki will be retained, government and LDP sources told Reuters, declining to be named due to the sensitivity of the situation.



Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi will also keep his job, as will chief cabinet secretary Hirokazu Matsuno and LDP Secretary General Toshimitsu Motegi, media reports said.

Industry Minister Koichi Hagiuda is expected to be shifted to a position outside the cabinet, most likely to chairman of LDP's policy research committee, the Yomiuri Shimbun daily said.

One of Kishida's advisers, Minoru Terada, and upper house lawmaker Naoki Okada, are expected to be appointed to the cabinet for the first time, the Yomiuri added, without specifying their positions.

The reshuffle had been expected to take place in early September, but analysts said Kishida appears to be moving early to try to halt the slide in his support as soon as possible.

Though his ratings are also being hit by COVID-19 cases recently surging to record highs, the main issues voiced in opinion surveys are public unhappiness with the idea of a state funeral for Abe, Japan's longest-serving premier but a polarising force in the country, along with the Unification Church connections.

"His cabinet lineup will show that the LDP is taking tough measures to deal with what is now mostly a problem of individuals before it taints the whole party," said Airo Hino, a professor at Waseda University.

"The Unification Church problem is something he doesn't want to drag on."

People's Daily

SPORT



Tanzania's marathoner Alphonse Simbu.

Simbu keeps up athletics flame as Tanzania climbs out of the rut with 2022 Birmingham

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

RELIEF was widespread as Felix Alphonse Simbu, Tanzania's best-known athlete at present, raised the flag again, this time at the 2022 Commonwealth Games hosted by the city of Birmingham in England.

Two other athletes had done quite well in boxing and in swimming, both areas where individual prowess has been noticed over time, boxing at the local level and swimming, outside the country.

Some of the talents were picked early for schooling in either the US or elsewhere.

Simbu is an athlete who has kept aflame the country's athletics spirit when for a decade or so there has hardly been another noticeable athlete capable of winning a medal in any of the long distances.

The middle distances had Filbert Bayi in the 1970s up to the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow that was boycotted by the United States and a big number of its allies, in which case the competition level was visibly reduced. That may have enabled Bayi to win an Olympic silver medal.

Other notable runners like Juma Ikangaa or Suleiman Nyambui scaled the usual Commonwealth and All Africa Games honours, similar to Gidamis Shahanga, not to speak of John Stephen Akhwari much earlier.

The legendary inspirational athlete was injured in the 1968 Olympic marathon event but made a point of finishing, coming virtually as the gates were about to be closed, with a sole photographer to flash the news to the world. It was an unforgettable moment in local storytelling.

Without a doubt, the Commonwealth Games and intermittently, the All Africa Games were Tanzania's homely international events.

It usually has scant ability to feature persuasively in the Olympic Games or the more commercialized world championships organized by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).

It is now basically an organization for professional athletics unlike when it was an international amateur athletics federation, a past vocation.

While Uganda also feels more at home with the Commonwealth Games and the All Africa Games, it often makes forays into the Olympic Games as well as IAAF events or world championships.

Only Kenya in the East African sub-region is entirely at ease with the Olympic Games and IAAF world championships, and on the other hand, Tanzania is reemerging even within the Commonwealth Games.

Or say it has maintained its presence, shining with a silver medal and lodged at no.25.

Uganda stood at no 12 with two golds, while Kenya slid to 14 with a bigger medal haul, one gold and three reach for silver and bronze.

It was a better result than Uganda but the second gold lifted Uganda, even without silver and bronze medals, so the

ranking notwithstanding, Kenya competes only with Ethiopia in this part of Africa, and without any real rivals in the EAC zone. It is so for a long time.

What is special about Alphonse Simbu is that he has been a solitary long-distance star during a particularly dry period in the country's athletic field as a whole, whether it is the still dormant spring and middle distance fields, or long distance.

The country's athletics thrust at glory was earlier torn between the middle and long distances, as the first effort that gained international attention came from Akhwari, a marathoner, but success came from Bayi, a middle distance runner, but it soon shifted to a long distance with Nyambui, Shahanga, and Ikangaa, all past champions.

An official chronicle says that having made their debut in the 1962 Games, athletes from Tanzania achieved medal success at every Commonwealth Games from 1970 through to 2006.

This was the period of the middle distance heady days, with the first-ever gold medal coming in the 1974 Games in Christchurch, with legendary Filbert Bayi for the 1500m title, breaking the Commonwealth Games records then.

The chronicle points out that the last gold medal came in Melbourne in 2006 when Samson Ramadhani won the men's marathon, were among those watching was team leader Filbert Bayi, now a top athletics and Olympic committee official.

The author says sheepishly that in the Glasgow Games in 2014 Tanzania took part in seven different sports, definitely without winning a medal.

Yet in other events, there were at least some memorable appearances, especially by the new medallist.

A personal biographic write-up says that Alphonse Felix Simbu who specializes in the marathon competed in that event at the 2015 World Athletics Championships in Beijing, finishing 12th while at the 2016 summer Olympics he finished fifth in the men's marathon.

Recalling that event, it was exciting to watch especially as Simbu worked overtime to outrun a local Japanese runner, the leading pack as usual being dominated by Kenyan and Ethiopian runners.

To many local viewers seeing Simbu eclipse the Japanese rival was next to winning a medal, even as it was out of range.

If one takes note that Simbu won the 14th edition of the Mumbai marathon in January 2017 it would follow that the marathoner has almost always remained in the immediate awareness of each athletics enthusiast in the country.

After the January 2017 event he then he won the bronze medal at the 2017 world athletics championships marathon, the prelude to the silver medal at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Not so exciting to Kenyan eyes but a huge relief this side of the border, even as swimming and boxing competitors did a good job, only he won a medal.

SPORTS

African stars to take center-stage in new season

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

AFTER an off-season of impatience mingled with nervous excitement, a spanking new European season kicked off last Friday doubtlessly to the elation of football supporters worldwide.

Indeed, the new English Premier League (EPL) campaign got up and running last Friday with an entertaining encounter between Arsenal and Crystal Palace, one in which the former claimed a pleasing 2-0 victory against the latter.

From an African standpoint, though, the new European football season will be keenly followed by all die-hard football fans on the continent as there are a plethora of glittering African stars who are expected to play pivotal roles in the title assaults of many a top-notch European club.

One football icon who is part of this pantheon of African superstars and who is also expected to admirably turn on the style this season is the prolific Egyptian marksman, Mohamed Salah, whose goals have spurred Liverpool to ever greater heights in recent seasons.

And, even though the new season is still in its infancy, Salah has already bagged a goal in Liverpool's unexpectedly tough 2-2 draw with newly promoted Fulham last weekend.

Still, if Salah will be the cynosure of countless African fans in the Liverpool attack another African star who will be religiously observed this season is the Ghanaian playmaker Frank Kessy who moved from AC Milan to Barcelona during the latter stages of last season.

Indeed, at the Nou Camp, it will be fascinating to see whether Kessy will be able to pull the strings in the midfield and provide pinpoint passes for Gabonese striker Pierre Emerick Aubameyang to hopefully convert into



Tanzania's boxer, Yusuf Changalawe (R), connects a left punch on Scottish opponent Sean Lazzareni during the 2022 Commonwealth Games' last four's Light Heavyweight fight held in England on Saturday. Changalawe lost by points. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

loads of goals.

In addition, many African football devotees will focus on the diminutive Senegalese forward, Sadio Mane, who recently moved from Liverpool to Teutonic heavyweights, Bayern Munich after an especially fruitful spell at the Merseyside-based club.

Let us now zero in on the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham where another Tanzanian sportsman, Yusuf Changalawe, recently secured a bronze medal in boxing.

Changalawe's impressive feat comes hot on the heels of compatriot Alphonse Simbu's silver medal in the men's marathon at the August Birmingham games.

Indeed, our creditable haul of two medals thus far demonstrates that we did not show up at the games merely to make up the numbers as has been the case at previous major sporting championships.

One hopes then that our hugely encouraging

displays at the Birmingham Games can lay a sturdy foundation that we can build upon for our medal-winning attempts at future sporting championships.

On a final note, Dear Reader, it will most likely not have escaped you that we as a country shall have four representatives in CAF Club inter-club competitions this season, which is an improvement compared to previous seasons.

This unprecedented development indicates that national football is distinctly on the up and up.

Let us hope then that the four clubs in question which are Yanga, Simba SC, Azam FC, and Geita Gold FC all give a tremendously positive account of themselves as they embark on the quest for special football glory.



Mbeya City FC Chief Executive Officer, Emmanuel Kimbe (2nd L), holds the outfit's jersey with Parimatch Africa's Marketing Officer, Ruby Chuku, at the official announcement of the company's sponsorship for the Premier League club in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are Parimatch Tanzania Information Officer, Ismael Mohamed (L), and Mbeya City FC Public Relations Officer, John Kilua. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Mbeya City FC garners sponsorship from betting firm

By Guardian Correspondent

ONLINE betting firm Parimatch Tanzania has signed an agreement to sponsor Premier League outfit, Mbeya City FC in the 2022/23 top-flight season.

Speaking at the sponsorship contract signing function held in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the company's Information Officer Ismael Mohamed said the contract will cover all sports equipment, transportation, and minor maintenance at the Sokoine Stadium used by the side in the league.

According to Mohamed, the company was also sponsoring the club in the 2020/2021 season and they are back again seeking to make the side stronger this season after it faltered in the closing stages the previous season and survived relegation.

"This agreement aims to be beneficial for both parties considering that Mbeya City FC is one of the teams with the most fans in the country, it is, therefore, a comfort for us to enter into a contract with them to increase their strength for the coming season," Mohamed disclosed.

"Besides strengthening Mbeya City FC, this contract is also an effort to develop the game of soccer in the country and support the efforts of the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF),"

Mohamed revealed.

Mbeya City FC Chief Executive Officer, Emmanuel Kimbe, thanked Parimatch Tanzania on behalf of the residents of Mbeya Municipal for reaching an agreement, stating it would be a great help to them.

"The Premier League is very expensive for an outfit and last season we played without a sponsor so there were times when we wavered a little, but this sponsorship will be a great help to us in the process of bringing Mbeya City back to its level," Kimbe noted.

Kimbe promised that the contract will motivate his side to excel this season as well as boost Mbeya's economy.

Parimatch Africa Marketing Officer, Ruby Chuku, said their company is happy with the agreement and they will duly fulfill everything they agreed to.

In addition to fully fulfilling the contents of the contract, Chuku said that their company will be ready to look into the possibility of sponsoring other teams and even other sports.

"We know that soccer is the most popular sport in Africa, but we can also look at the possibility of sponsoring other sports such as tennis and boxing when there is an opportunity to do so," Ruby revealed.

The official also stated the company is in talks

with four other clubs and it is also looking at the possibility of entering a sponsorship agreement with the lower league.

Ruby noted: "Our company Parimatch operates online betting games and has been registered with the Tanzania Gaming Board for about five years now. Internationally we are present in more than 15 countries with more than one million customers worldwide."

The official revealed: "Within these five years, we have run various programs to promote sports in Tanzania such as 'AMSHA NDOTO' program and we today take a step in promoting sports."

According to her, one of the firm's biggest responsibilities is to ensure that sports grow from the grassroots to the international level.

Ruby revealed: "But we also continue with various processes to support other clubs in Premier League, the Championship and even youthful outfits, backing Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and Tanzania Premier League Board's efforts to ensure that the leagues make progress."

The official disclosed her firm has as a result decided to support Mbeya City FC so that football lovers can continue to have decent entertainment.

Real Madrid cruising into new season while the rest of Europe plays catch-up

HELSINKI, Finland

AS Real Madrid begin their quest to win six trophies in a single season, it's remarkable how serene and untroubled their panorama is compared to the turbulence facing almost every domestic and European rival.

Their daunting challenge begins with the UEFA Supercup here in Helsinki, against Europa League winners Eintracht Frankfurt, takes flight with the first LaLiga game (at newly-promoted Almeria this weekend) and marches onward through the Champions League, Copa del Rey, Spanish Supercopa and the FIFA World Club Championship, the journey finally ending next June.

Oh, and there's the "small" matter of a World Cup for most of Los Blancos' players neatly tucked in during November and December.

But the minimum one can ask before a ball is kicked in anger is for the club, squad, first team and staff to be in a state of harmony, hunger and happiness. So it has been. There have been departures (Marcelo, Gareth Bale, Luka Jovic, Isco), but not a single important player has left the squad that conquered Spain and Europe last season.

Two important, intelligent and potentially impactful signings have been added in Aurelien Tchouameni (a first-choice central midfielder for world champions France) and, as a free agent, Antonio Rudiger, a ferociously competitive defender who is in the habit of winning things for club and country.

This bucolic vista for their club will appear still more attractive to Madrid and Madridistas alike as soon as they take a lateral view at their competitors at home and around Europe.

Domestically, Barcelona are potentially more thorny rivals than last year. But they are engaged in a draining, humiliating, tooth-and-nail battle simply to register their new signings with LaLiga. If they manage it, then game on. Otherwise? Advantage Madrid.

However, other Spanish clubs like Sevilla, Real Betis, Villarreal and Atletico Madrid haven't been able to significantly strengthen squads that fell short of Madrid's demanding standards last year.

In England, Chelsea are markedly weaker both in first team and overall squad. Moreover, under new ownership for the first time in two decades, they are emitting the pungent aroma of turmoil. No comparison with Los Blancos this summer.

Liverpool roll on, still formidable and still ambitious, but they didn't want to lose Sadio Mane, and while Darwin Nunez has notable qualities, this will be a season of huge learning and adaptation for him. Yet Carlo Ancelotti doesn't have to cope with either of these factors.

Manchester City, admittedly, now have Erling Haaland up front, plus the exciting Julian Alvarez, and as a result, they'll often pulverise rivals. But Chelsea beat them in the market to acquire their preferred left-back (Marc Cucurella), while the departures of Raheem Sterling, Gabriel Jesus and Aleksandr Zinchenko will be felt and Bernardo Silva patently wants to leave for Barcelona as well. Turbulence.

Tottenham Hotspur, arguably, have had the least disruptive summer of England's top four -- but are they really in shape to topple the European champions? Meanwhile, no Serie A winner has proven to be a serious Champions League rival for Madrid in recent years, and none of Italy's brand-name clubs have managed to strengthen to a threatening degree this summer.

Bayern Munich are Bayern Munich. They're proud, well-structured, well-coached and dangerous, if underestimated, but they proved how much they feared losing Robert Lewandowski given how ferociously they tried, and failed, to hang on to him. Across a long season, they'll suffer for his absence.

Frankfurt, Wednesday's opponents in the UEFA Super Cup that Ancelotti has made it utterly clear he's determined to win, have kissed goodbye to their totemic spiritual leader, fan favourite Martin Hinteregger, are under serious pressure from Juventus to let their standout Serbian winger Filip Kostic switch clubs, and they were thumped 6-1 at home by Bayern last weekend. None of these are degradations Madrid have had to suffer.

Which, in terms of serious rivals, leaves Paris Saint-Germain.

The French champions sacked another coach -- which is a little like pointing out that September follows August -- plus their director of football. As such, there's a great deal of "getting to know you" happening this summer at a club whose three super-strikers (Neymar, Lionel Messi, Kylian Mbappe) are all going to be far more

focused on winning the World Cup than either Ligue 1 or the Champions League.

However, and this is the only real blot on Madrid's horizon, PSG still boast the absolute phenomenon that is Mbappe. OK, his goals at Parc des Princes and the Bernabeu weren't enough for PSG to eliminate Madrid from the Champions League last season, but this is a guy who everyone from Madrid president Florentino Perez, through Luka Modric, Karim Benzema and, most importantly, Ancelotti, categorically expected to be playing in the world-famous white shirt and helping to fuel an historic back-to-back double of LaLiga and Champions League titles this season.

Modric recently argued the situation in the Croatian media. "Mbappe had every right to take his decision, but now he's got to live with his choice. All of us thought he was coming to Madrid, but finally, it wasn't that way. So, now what? We can't hang him out to dry for it! He's a great player, but I always say: nobody is more important than the club. Madrid is above anyone and everyone else."

Please don't be confused about what this signifies. It isn't that Madrid will be down in the dumps, lacking in self-confidence or feeling embarrassed by Mbappe's high-profile and drawn-out decision to stay in Paris rather than move, for free, to the European champions. No chance. But his absence, nevertheless, can be a massive factor in how Ancelotti's squad cope with the holy grail -- only Barca and Bayern have achieved it -- of a potential six-trophy campaign.

Mbappe wouldn't simply have been a "galactico" signing, the best player in the world joining Madrid in order to add sheen and shimmer in worldwide marketing, or to add millions of "followers" to whom the club could flog merchandise. No: we're talking about an enormously gifted 23-year-old, yet to reach the prime of his career, who is contributing far better than a goal per game in Ligue 1 and Champions League (combining goals and assists). That's 252 goals or assists in 236 matches (one every 84 minutes). Incredible.

Yet Madrid have done absolutely nothing to try to replace the enormous goal-scoring boost they'd spent the past three years plotting for, saving for and planning to unleash. Unless they have a transfer market "ace" up their sleeves, then how Mbappe's decision impacts what Ancelotti and staff were planning, strategically, will be fascinating.

It's about how Madrid react.

The Italian has, in fact, stated that the "squad is finalised." We shall see, but it does mean that if Los Blancos are going to emulate, or exceed, last season's heroics, then they'll be ultra-dependent on four factors: Benzema, Vinicius, Rodrygo and the overwhelming competitive attitude that has made them Spanish and European champions.

Modric continued: "When you play for this club, then after every single trophy you're immediately thinking 'how do we win the next one?' During the celebrations in Paris, every one of us began to talk about how 'from tomorrow,' we were all starting work on winning our 15th Champions League, as if that were something 'normal.' But that's not an attitude you can adopt: it has to be in your DNA."

Lucas Vazquez told Diario AS something similar last month. "Our secret is our Madrid mentality. We never surrender, we're never beaten until the final whistle, we all pull together no matter what. We all know that whatever we face, we can turn it around in an instant. It sounds cliched, but it's what we do."

Last season Benzema, who turns 35 in December, scored 50 goals between club and country. What's more, he was the "Eureka!" player for Madrid. When it was needed he produced footballing genius.

Vinicius became crucial, not just creative, and Rodrygo finished the season producing so much magic that he felt able not only to complain to Ancelotti for benching him against Liverpool, but to repeat the anecdote to the Brazilian media.

Lucas Vazquez believes that Benzema (34) and Modric (36), represent a seismic change in elite football.

"They are examples not just for Madrid, but worldwide. They run as much or more than anyone else in our games. Who could have imagined Luka running our midfield at 36, playing better football now than when he arrived from Spurs? Who'd have predicted Karim being LaLiga 'Pichichi,' that he'd be scoring 44 club goals aged 34 and, also, playing better football now than when he was 29?"

There's the Antonio Pintus effect to calibrate, too. The 59-year-old Italian is renowned for the beastly pressure he puts on the players' fitness work. But look: no

Cash-strapped African clubs eagerly await Super League riches

ARUSHA, Tanzania

AFRICAN football supremo Patrice Motsepe will launch in Tanzania on Wednesday a CAF Super League, with promises of a \$100 million (98 million euros) prize fund for cash-strapped clubs.

Team owners have complained for decades about the costs of competing in the current marquee competition, the CAF Champions League, which offers a \$2.5 million first prize from a \$12.5 million pot.

"There are some African clubs with literally millions of supporters and the owners have to pay money in order to compete in CAF competitions," FIFA president Gianni Infantino said.

Billionaire South African businessman and Confederation of African Football (CAF) president Motsepe admitted after his club, Mamelodi Sundowns, won the 2016 Champions League that the prize money did not cover all the expenses.

Hamdi Meddeb, chairman of four-time Champions League winners Esperance Tunis, says "if we think of what we spend on the Champions League, compared to what we earn, it would be better not to play in it."

"Africa is a huge continent and sometimes we have to charter flights at a cost of more than \$100,000 each."

"When we won the Champions League (in 2018 and 2019), more than half the prize money was spent on bonuses and allowances for the squad and the technical staff. Those are contractual obligations." Champions League prize money kicks in only at the group stage, meaning 42 of the 58 entrants for the 2023 edition will incur travel, accommodation and other costs but not receive a cent from CAF.

Motsepe has said more profitable times lie ahead, however, and will reveal details of the Super League in the Tanzanian city of Arusha at 1300 local time (1000 GMT) during a gathering of top CAF officials. He previously said there will \$100 million in prize



Patrice Motsepe

money and hinted that the winners will be at least \$10 million richer.

'Rival best in the world'

"We want the Super League to be a world-class competition and to rival the best in the world in terms of quality of football, resources, infrastructure, pitches, referees and ticketing," the 60-year-old said.

"The Super League will be organised in partnership with FIFA, who bring a wealth of experience in terms of running the best competition in the world -- the World Cup."

Infantino said "the Super League is an exciting and unique project and FIFA is happy to assist and share some of the experience we have accumulated".

While no details about the Super League have been officially released, it is believed 24 clubs will take part in the maiden edition. Eight will come from the north, the dominant region in African club football, eight from the west-centre and eight from the south-east.

Invitations to compete will be based on results in the two annual CAF competitions -- the Champions League and the second-tier Confederation Cup.

Champions League title-holders Wydad Casablanca, fellow Moroccan club Raja Casablanca, Al Ahly and Zamalek from Egypt and Esperance seem certain to be among the eight competitors from the north.

Five-time African champions

TP Mazembe from the Democratic Republic of Congo are sure to be among the west-centre selections.

Sundowns, a Pretoria club owned by Motsepe and run by his son Tlhopane, will be certainties for the south-east list having consistently reached the Champions League knockout stages since 2016.

A CAF official suggested that after the three regional groups, there would be three knockout rounds leading to the final, and record riches for the winners.

But not everyone is excited about the Super League with Cape Town City FC owner John Comitis calling it a "super silly idea".

"The Super League will kill African club football," he warned. "You can switch off the lights on the domestic leagues."

Barcelona allege Frenkie de Jong's contract has irregularities - sources

BARCELONA

BARCELONA sent a letter to Frenkie de Jong in July warning the player that the renewal contract he signed in 2020 under the previous board had alleged irregularities, club sources told ESPN.

When contacted by ESPN, sources close to the player said the contract is legal and claim the letter that Barca sent was intended to put pressure on the Netherlands midfielder to either accept a move away from the Camp Nou or to accept a wage reduction.

At that time the letter was sent, Barca had reached a preliminary agreement with Manchester United for De Jong in a deal worth a total of €85 million and needed the money in order to register their new signings without breaching LaLiga's wage limits.

As for the possibility of De Jong continuing at the Camp Nou with a wage cut, sources at Barcelona last weekend told ESPN that this was the preferred choice of club president Joan Laporta and coach Xavi Hernandez. Xavi believes the player is important because he can cover different roles.

Should De Jong not agree to leave or reduce his wages, the same club sources would not rule out Barca telling the player he is surplus to requirements to increase the pressure.

De Jong reduced his wages in October of 2020, under then president Josep Maria Bartomeu, deferring part of his salary while extending his contract until June, 2026.

Barca's current board believes there were certain irregularities in that renewal. Marc-Andre ter Stegen, Gerard Pique and Clement Lenglet also signed similar deals to help the club with their liquidity problems, and ESPN sources added



Gwiji by David Chikoko

that the club is considering legal action over those deals, as well.

Manchester United are the club that has shown the most interest in De Jong up to now. Chelsea have also shown an interest in the player, but have not made a formal offer.

As ESPN has reported, De Jong wants to continue at the Camp Nou and has reiterated on several occasions that he does not wish to join a club like Man United, who will not play in the Champions League this season.

Prior to Barcelona's 6-0 win over Pumas in the Joan Gamper Trophy match on Sunday, Laporta said: "[De Jong] is a Barca player of great quality and we want him to stay. With him and his teammates, we have a very strong midfield. He has offers, but we want him to stay and he wants to stay too."

Barcelona have brought in the likes of Raphinha, Jules Kounde and Robert Lewandowski for a reported total of more than €150m as they look to rebuild the team.

Laporta said he expected more transfers in and out of the club before the market closes on Aug. 31, with Chelsea defender Marcos Alonso strongly linked to the 26-time Spanish champions.

(Agencies)



SPORT

Cash-strapped African clubs
eagerly await Super League riches

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Simba SC players and the side's technical bench in an official picture after they were introduced to the side's followers at the Simba Day ceremony at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Monday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT



Athletes return today

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S athletes who participated in the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, England return home today with three medals.

Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) Secretary-General Filbert Bayi said the athletes and officials will return home in the evening. In Commonwealth Games, the country was represented by athletes from such disciplines as athletics, boxing, judo, swimming, and Para sports.

"Our athletes are expected in the country tomorrow (today) evening, other details will be announced later," Bayi that is also in England noted.

Boxers Yusuf Changalawe and Kassim Mbundwike won bronze medals while marathoner Alphonse Simbu won the silver medal.

Changalawe (pictured) and Mbundwike become the second and third domestic boxers to win medals in Commonwealth Games, Michael Yombayomba was the first having won a gold medal in the 1998 Malaysia Games.

This is the first time in 16 years for Tanzania to win medals in Commonwealth Games, the last time was in 2006 in Melbourne Games.

The athletes who represented Tanzania in the 2022 Commonwealth Games are swimmer Collins Saiboko, judo players Thomas Mwenda and Abdurabi Alawi, athletes Winfrida Makenji, Andrew Rhobi, Joseph Gisemo, Faraja Damas, Joseph Panga, Alphonse Simbu, Hamis Athuman, Jackeline Sakilu, and Failuna Abdi. Yohana Mwila was the only performer that competed in Para sports.

Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Mohamed Mchengherwa challenged the athletes to perform well in Commonwealth Games, saying the country needs medals.

He promised that the government will present cash prizes to athletes who will bring home gold, silver, and bronze medals.

Boxing Federation of Tanzania (BFT) through its Chairman Ruta Rwakatale also promised cash prizes to boxers who will bring home medals.

Commonwealth Games ended on Monday, with 877 medals having been awarded to winners in the Games. The next edition will be held in 2026 in Victoria, Australia.

Australia topped the 2022 Commonwealth Games medal table with 178 medals, England finished second with 176 medals, Canada took the third spot with 92 medals while Scotland (51 medals), Wales (28 medals) and Northern Ireland (18 medals) finished fourth, fifth and sixth respectively.

Mtwara girls hold sway in 2022 Umitashumta Games



Mtwara's girls' volleyball team celebrates after emerging champion in this year's Inter-Primary Schools (Umitashumta) Games which took place in Tabora. PHOTO: COURTESY OF GABRIEL JOSHUA

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MTWARA'S girls' volleyball team has clinched a trophy in the ongoing Inter-Primary Schools (Umitashumta) Games that are held in Tabora.

The outfit's head coach Gabriel Joshua expressed his happiness over the team's achievement in the tournament.

He said his squad commanded a 3-1 win over Katavi in the quarterfinals and, in the semi-final, the former defeated Mbeya 3-1. The final witnessed the Mtwara girls' team commanding a 3-2 win over Mwanza.

"I'm very delighted that our team has emerged volleyball champions in Umitashumta Games, the tournament was not that easy but my girls put up spirited showing to emerge the champions," he said.

Joshua who also serves as Masasi District's Land, Natural Resources Officer said although the team is representing Mtwara, it is largely consisting of pupils studying at Mkalapa Primary School and a few other

volleyballers from a center he opened in Masasi District.

He said the Masasi center was opened in March this year and it has many talented players.

Joshua said most of the Mkalapa Primary School girls are selected to join Mkalapa Secondary School where they represent the region in the Inter-Secondary Schools (Umisseta) Games.

The coach noted: "Masasi is the first place where I introduced volleyball, it was way back in 2009, then we relocated to Mkalapa Primary School located 35 kilometers from Masasi."

Joshua revealed: "The aim was to see that volleyball is played all over Mtwara, then after seeing that the response at Mkalapa Primary School is positive and many young people especially girls are playing the game, we have gone back to Masasi."

"Mkalapa Primary School has produced many volleyball players, they are selected to join Mkalapa Secondary School, a section of them are now playing for such teams like Jeshi Stars, JKT, Kampala University, Mafunzo, and other teams," Joshua disclosed.

The coach disclosed that he uses his re-

sources to train the girls as he seeks to see to it many girls are involved in volleyball.

"To be honest, I aim to see that many girls in our region are playing volleyball, our players at Mkalapa are performing wonders, it is not easy for a day primary school located in the rural area to perform well in sports, those who perform well are studying in boarding schools," he noted.

"I'm passionate about volleyball, you know life in the village is very hard, I use my resources, I buy all volleyball equipment for the team, all players are on health insurance and sometimes I support their families," he said.

Since 2013, the Mtwara girls' volleyball side emerged the champions in seven editions.

The squad began battling it out in the games in 2013, then featured in 2014, and 2015 editions.

In 2016 the Umitashumta Games did not take place, in 2017 the squad emerged second, and in 2018 and 2019 the team emerged champion.

In 2020 the Umitashumta Games did not take place but the region was champion last year and again excelled this year.

Betting firm hails Simba for hosting Simba Day

By Guardian Correspondent

FAMOUS betting firm in Tanzania, M-BET Tanzania, which sponsors Simba SC, has been impressed by the success of the club's festival, Simba Day, which took place at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam Monday.

Apart from unveiling the club's new players for the 2022/23 Mainland Tanzania's NBC Premier League, Azam Sports Federation Cup, and CAF Champions League, the event was part of celebrating the club's 86th Anniversary.

The MBET firm's Marketing Director Allen Mushi said that they were relieved at the way the festival was organized and brought together so many fans at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium which can accommodate a total of 60,000 people.

Mushi said that M-BET Tanzania featured in the event for the first time since they signed a lucrative deal with the Msimbazi Street club and the way the event was organized turned out to be highly professional, although in everything there must be shortcomings.

The official revealed: "Apart from various challenges, the event was very good, many fans came and apart from witnessing the team winning 2-0, the entertainment from various artists took the event by storm."

"It is a historical event that saw football fans begin to enter the stadium from 8 am," Mushi noted.

M-BET Tanzania has signed a five-year contract with Simba worth 26.1bn/- and becomes the main sponsor of the club.

The sponsorship makes Simba the most valuable club in the country due to the large amount of money invested in the side.

In the first year of the two parties' contract, M-BET will hand over 4, 670,000,000/- to Simba, and the amount will increase in the second season which will have Simba getting 4.9bn/- and in the third year the firm will present Simba with 5.2bn/-

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It is a historical event that saw football fans begin to enter the stadium from 8 am



Lugala Golf Club Chairman Michael Luwongo (R) receives the sport's equipment from NBC Bank's Head of Retail Banking, Elibariki Masuke, during the unveiling of the 2022 NBC Patron Trophy competition in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The competition, sponsored by the bank, is set to be played at the outfit's course later this month. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Flexibles by David Chikoko

