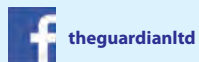
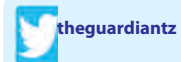




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Opinion Pg 9 Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



'Tourism needs slice of 1.3trn/- to recover'

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

TOUR operators have appealed to the government to grant them a stimulus package out of the \$39.2m (1.3trn/-) released recently by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to revive their businesses.

Willbard Chambulo, the chairman of the Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO) with 300-plus members wants the funds be used to subsidize national parks entry fees for travellers, cheap loans for tour companies to revive the industry and spur other businesses, recover thousands of lost jobs and generate revenue for the

economy. He said in a statement that the funds should be issued to private investors to obtain restructuring loans at long term low interest rates specifically for renovations and new investments. This will revive the industry faster than improved infrastructure will do.

TATO proposed that a portion of IMF funds be directed to reduce VAT on tourism and avail more funds to the Tanzania Tourists Board (TTB) to facilitate destination promotion amid stiff competition. He congratulated President Samia Suluhu Hassan for securing a loan and allocating \$39.2m/- for tourism sector recovery. "We

propose that the ministry issues loans to us to be able to get back where we were before Covid-19, get back our people to work, maintain lodges, tented camps, vehicles and support anti-poaching drives, while we are re-

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A pedestrian pathway in Gerezani area's segment of Msimbazi Road in Dar es Salaam's sprawling Kariakoo market zone far from congested yesterday, the day being the deadline for small traders to relocate voluntarily to alternative spots away from the central business district. For years previously, moving around the area was especially challenging. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Three nabbed after PWA's grave dug up, coffin stolen

By Correspondent James Kandoya

POLICE in Tanga are holding three members of the same family on suspicions of being involved in the desecration and theft of the remains of a man with albinism.

The man has been identified as Heri Kijangwa (45), who died from skin cancer on June 4 last year and was buried at Tanda village in Lushoto District on three days later.

It is reported that the perpetrators dug up Kijangwa's grave on Tuesday last week and stole the coffin contain-

“ We call upon the government to immediately speed up efforts to investigate and prosecute the perpetrators of this crime

mander Safia Jongo told The Guardian in a phone interview that police are still hunting for other suspects. "We have arrested three people, members of the same family, in connection with the incident," she said, adding that police investigations on the matter are in progress. She said Kijangwa's family members are believed to have been involved in the incident "as the grave is just five meters from the household, discounting the chances of anyone from far off villages doing so.

ing his remains. Contacted for comment, Tanga Regional Police Com-

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ACT: Transparency in revenues critical

By Guardian Reporter

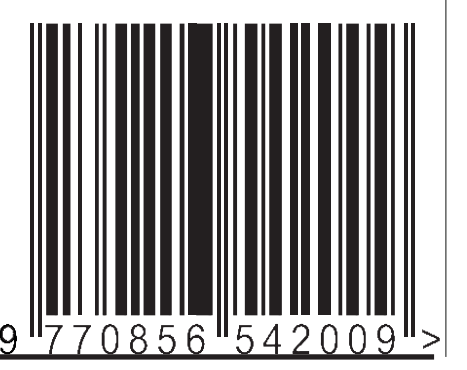
THE opposition ACT-Wazalendo has called for transparency in revenue collection through recently-introduced taxes as well as expenditure on the same. Addressing the party general council meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday, ACT-Wazalendo party leader Zitto Kabwe said transparency will enable the citizenry to track the financing of development projects being implemented. The outspoken former parliamentarian referred to various new taxes signed off by the government for implementation in the current national budget, noting that the government has the responsibility to inform the public on a regular basis the expenditure of such sources of revenue. "In the current national budget the government signed off various taxes to increase revenues. However these taxes have become a burden to citizens, and despite a public outcry to remove the taxes, the government proceeded with imple-

● *Outlines GNU benefits in development efforts, aid*

“ The distribution of these funds is equivalent to 17.5 percent of all the funds from the IMF, which is close to four times the usual standard given to Zanzibar from loans and foreign aid offered to the United Republic.

public that the money would also be spent in the same areas where the new taxes had already been channelled, insisting that the government must remove the taxes that were channelled to bankroll projects that are now covered by funds from the IMF. Addressing Zanzibar economic issues, the party leader said the government of national unity has brought political stability in the Isles, and was contributing to an increase in investments as well as development initiatives with donor partnerships. Projects backed by financial institutions such as the World Bank halted for a long time are now being implemented, including the Zanzibar power project billed at 325bn/-, apart from infrastructure projects slated at 340bn/-, he further noted.

mentation and went as far as outlining areas where these revenues would be spent," he stated. He said that it is contradictory for the government to receive money from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), inform the



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CRDB Bank Plc managing director and CEO Abdulmajid Nsekela pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend releasing a quarterly report on the bank's pre-tax profit. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

CRDB hits 238bn/- in quarterly profit

By Guardian Reporter

CRDB Bank Plc has maintained its stellar performance by posting an increase of 39.9 percent in realised profit thanks to an improving business environment and heavy investment in digital platforms. Third quarter results released last week show that the bank recorded remarkable growth across all performance in-

stances, "replicating the commendable performance in the first two quarters of the current fiscal year," it said in a statement late last week. CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela said in the report that profit before tax peaked at 238bn/- compared to 170bn/- recorded at a corresponding period last year. Profit after tax also rose significantly by 39.2 percent to 168bn/- for the

quarter, up from 120bn/- realised last year. The growth was driven by increases in total revenue across all business segments as the bank maintained a solid balance sheet, with total assets of 8.1trn/- representing a 20.1 percent increase over the 6.8trn/- recorded in the corresponding quarter of

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Three nabbed after PWA's grave dug up, coffin stolen

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During interrogations, each member of the family mentioned at least one person who was part of the crime scenario.

The RPC added that police are working to know the whereabouts of Kijangwa's remains, further noting: "The suspects will be taken to court as soon as investigations are complete."

The police effort is chiefly a follow-up to a statement released in Dar Salaam on Friday by 'Under the Same Sun' (UTSS), an activist organisation for people with albinism, with a copy relayed to The Guardian.

The UTSS statement condemned the particular inci-

dent (in the Lushoto village) and cases of discrimination of persons with albinism which induce such crimes.

"We call upon the government to immediately speed up efforts to investigate the incident and prosecute the perpetrators of this crime," UTSS said in the statement, noting that Kijangwa is survived by a widow and four children.

It said he was a laboratory technician at the Temeke Referral Hospital in Dar es Salaam and was also completing his Master's studies in public health at the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences - as one of the beneficiaries of an education programme sponsored by UTSS.



NMB Bank Plc chief of retail banking Filbert Mponzi (2nd-R) and Britam CEO Raymond Komanga pictured in Mwanza city yesterday exchanging copies of documents on agreements they had just signed at the launch of fisheries insurance cover. Looking on: Livestock and Fisheries minister Mashimba Ndaki (L) and NMB senior Bancassurance manager Martin Massawe. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ACT: Transparency in revenues critical

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In less than a year since the government of national unity came into office, Zanzibar has received funds from IMF to the tune of 230bn/- from the 1.3trn/- given to Tanzania to combat the side effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, he pointed out.

"The distribution of these funds is equivalent to 17.5 percent of all the funds from the IMF, which is close to four times the usual standard given to Zanzibar from loans and foreign aid offered to the United Republic. It has never happened before that Zanzibar receives such a huge cut," explaining that this resulted from ACT-Wazalendo presence in the government.

Being a part of the government will not deter the party from holding the government accountable, he emphasised.

As for the state of politics in the country, Zitto was of the view that political freedom remains the biggest challenge yet, as despite initiatives of the sixth phase government, the Political Parties Act of 2019 remains intact and this also applies to the Registrar of Political Parties.

Anticipated talks between Union President Samia Suluhu Hassan and leaders of political parties would be pointless if the leader of the main opposition party was still languishing behind bars, he added.

CRDB hits 238bn/- in quarterly profit

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Reaping the benefits of its 'digital-first' strategy, where it has witnessed an increase in the agents network during the period by 18.5 percent, customer deposits increased to 6trn/-, representing a 20.2 percent increase from 5trn/- at the end of the last financial year. "The bank's prudent approach to risk management and the efficacy of its 'digital-

first' customer-centric business strategy helped keep loan growth steady while still being able to moderate costs during the period, while core consumer and commercial loans were strong in the quarter," he stated. Total loans stood at 4.6trn/- at the close of the quarter, roughly a 22 percent increase from the previous quarter while credit was stable, with non performing loans reduced to 3.5 percent from 4.6 percent earlier.

"Once again, the bank has shown resilience in delivering on its commitment to shareholders, stakeholders and the investing public, evident in the strong positive financial metrics recorded in the reporting period," the CEO declared. The management is focused on driving efficiency while maintaining strong controls, confident of achieving 2021 targets. "Net interest income was up 11.1 percent to 570bn/- in the nine months, mirroring the improvements

seen in the country's economy as the government continues to implement the coronavirus response plan. Similarly, our non-interest income was up by 12.1 percent to 229bn/-, driven by the focus on the digital offering," he explained. Chief finance officer Frederick Nshekanabo said the good performance witnessed shareholders' funds edged strongly at 1.1trn/-, up by 14.7 percent from 974bn/- recorded in 2020. "Additionally, the bank's cost to income ratio

improved to 55.6 percent while the return on average assets increased to 5.5 percent, indicating solid financial performance during the period," he said. "The performance reflects progressive efforts in building on our robust balance sheet, strong customer base and our people in delivering impressive earnings," he further noted. The bank has great expectations to achieve its targets for the calendar year, he added.



Col Sherif Farag Mohamed (R), Defence Attaché and Deputy Dean at the Egyptian Embassy in Tanzania, gifts Zambian Advisor Brig Gen Mutila Musonda (L) a trophy in Dar es Salaam at a dinner held on Friday to mark the 48th anniversary of Egypt's Glorious October Victory. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Elephants migrate in big numbers from Kenya's Tsavo to Mkomazi

By Marc Nkwame, Same

The number of elephants at the Mkomazi National Park in Same district, Kilimanjaro region has shot up from 70 to more than 1400 jumbos, a massive increase recorded within 8 years.

Mkomazi National Park is located in northeastern Tanzania on the Kenyan border, in Kilimanjaro Region and Tanga Region. It was established as a game reserve in 1951 and upgraded to a national park in 2006.

Zoologists explain the swelling population of the giant mammals in Mkomazi is mostly due to mass migration of their herds that have been trekking from Kenya's two Tsavo National Parks, due to what

they described as ecological stress in their former habitat.

Wildlife species expert, working with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Professor Noah Sitati; however, points out that, while it may be seen as 'good news' for Mkomazi, as far as tourism in the park is concerned, there are some drawbacks.

"A single elephant drinks about 150 litres of water per day putting more pressure on the limited resource; so as good as this sounds for Mkomazi it actually increases the struggle for resources and human wildlife conflicts," he states.

And as it happens, the semi-arid landscape onto which Mkomazi is mapped, suffers from historical wa-

ter scarcity. In fact, even the term 'Mkomazi' means 'spoonful of water,' in the local Pare language.

Pare people who are natural farmers, co-exist with the Maasai who keep livestock and conflicts between the two communities are common when it comes to scramble for the little available water resources, according to Mzee Lekai Ole Milakoni. He was speaking at Mkomazi village of Kisiwani Ward where WWF has just constructed a large water reservoir dam, in efforts to avert human wildlife conflicts driven by the scarcity of this vital survival resource.

"Farmers want water for irrigation, herders want the same for their livestock while the wildlife from the

nearby Mkomazi also storm into the nearby villages looking for water during dry spell," explained Ole Milakoni, the chairperson of the village government.

A team of journalists from Kenya and Tanzania made field trips to Mkomazi as well as around villages surrounding the Park studying how the most iconic wildlife and habitats are inextricably linked to people's survival and well-being.

Taking place concurrently in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda the 'Assigning Value to Nature,' media field studies, were organised and co-ordinated by WWF, TRAFFIC, Environmental Incentives, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) with support from USAID.

'Tourism needs slice of 1.3trn/- to recover'

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slowly" he elaborated.

"We will get back to business again, and this IMF loan must be paid back whether by us or by our children and grandchildren. The loan has to be injected into business to generate profits, create employment and enabling paying taxes," the statement intoned.

He expressed appreciation for the president's appeal that the ministry and tourism stakeholders sit together and agree on priority areas to put money to spur the industry back to life, referring to remarks the president made in a conference on Covid-19 recovery efforts before addressing the United Nations General Assembly in September.

TATO expected that the ministry will take up the president's call that stakeholders sit with the ministry and discuss expenditure of these funds, "but to our shock, we only read on the newspapers how the money was allocated," he remarked.

"As we are talking now, thousands of employees are still at home as we struggle to revive the industry with empty hands. We have bank loans and interests are piling up. As if that is not enough no bank is interested to issue credit to us anymore," he declared, intoning that many travel firms face bankruptcy.

Subdued by a brutal wave of the coronavirus, tourism is a money-spinning industry in Tanzania as it accounts for nearly two million decent jobs, generates \$2.6bn/- annually that is equivalent to 18 per cent of GDP and 30 percent of export receipts, he further stated.

The concessional loan was is-

covering

sued by the IMF to the government to address economic and social impact of Covid-19, meanwhile as recently, the government acquired a \$567.25m/- loan from the IMF to fix health; humanitarian issues and support recovery in key sectors of the economy, particularly the tourism industry, where the government has set aside \$39.2m for the travel and tourism industry to recover, recapture lost jobs and revive businesses.

Dr.DamasNdumbaro, the Natural Resources and Tourism minister, two weeks ago released a statement showing how the package would be spent, prompting an outcry from tour operators.

He said the funds would be used to renovate roads with a combined 4,881 km leading to the Serengeti, Katavi, Mkomazi, Tarangire, Nyerere, Kilimanjaro, Saadani and Gombe national parks, plus the Ngorongoro conservation area.

The money would also go to support the Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFSA) and the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) to improve the conservation of forestry and wildlife, he stated.

A modern glass-bottom boat to cater for Indian Ocean cruising will be bought and placed at Kilwa Island to offer tourists a seamless view of underwater flora and fauna from within the boat, he said.

"These projects will simplify access to different tourist attractions, rollout of new tourism products to diversify tourism activities to capture the emerging tourist market and subsequently revive the tourism industry," the minister had asserted.



Iringa Urban legislator Jesca Msambatavangu (L) samples pairs of khanga presented to widows at an empowerment workshop organised by an NGO in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Emirates, Saudi Arabia to establish major petroleum hub in Tanzania

By Marc Nkwame - Arusha

Middle-eastern countries, UAE and Saudi Arabia, have agreed to establish a giant petroleum hub in Dares Salaam an ambitious projects that will see Tanzania becoming a major supplier of oil to eastern African countries.

The proposed gas hub planned for Tanzania's commercial capital will accommodate an oil refinery to process crude oil into various petroleum products and manufacturing plants.

The hub will be getting consignments directly from the Middle East and ensuring that the country is self-sufficient in domestic fuel supplies and having surplus for export.

Minister for Energy, January Makamba explained that the ambitious developments follow the successful trip of delegates from Tanzania to Algeria, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates, a mission aimed at finding ways of cutting down fuel prices in the country as well as keeping pump prices low and stable.

The crude oil hub and refinery will guarantee security of supply for Tanzania and solve the long existing fluctuating gas prices in the country once and for all.

"Global fuel prices have been on the rise in recent months with Tanzania suffering the consequences, prompting President Samia Suluhu Hassan to issue directives for my ministry to address the problem promptly," Energy Minister Makamba pointed out while addressing a Press Conference in Arusha.

"The first option for us was to start importing petroleum fuels directly from refineries in the source countries, eliminating middle agents," the Energy Minister explained, adding that the move has enabled to slash costs previously topped by middlemen.

In October, the state firm, Tanzania Petroleum Development Company (TPDC) won the tender to import diesel and as result, Tanzania only paid US \$30 per barrel of crude oil when global prices stood at US \$73 per barrel in August.

As worldwide crude oil prices escalated to US \$86 per barrel in October, the TPDC, according to the minister, managed to import Diesel at the cost of US \$20 per such container.

While his delegation visited Algeria and the Middle-East, they held official meetings with Energy Ministers in Algeria, Emirates and Saudi Arabia with plans to hatch mutual trade cooperation with Tanzania, including reinforcing the latter's position in directly procuring oil from the source countries.

Makamba was accompanied by the Commissioner for Petroleum and Gas, in the Ministry of Energy, Michael Mjinja and the executive director for TPDC, James Mataragio.

Tanzania, through the Ministry of Energy also focuses on 'bulk procurement system, as well as initiating strategic national petroleum reserves to ensure that the country has fuel storage to last at least 90 days, instead of the current situation when the reserve was only able to hold up for just 15 days.

RC praises Turkish govt for investing heavily in Tanzania's education sector

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

ARUSHA regional commissioner John Mongella has commended the Turkish government through Turkish Maarif Foundation (TMF) for investing heavily in Tanzania's education sector.

RC Mongella made the remarks here over the weekend when speaking at the second graduation of Form Four and pre-school at Turkish Maarif schools in Ngaramtoni on the outskirts of Arusha. The Turk-

ish ambassador to Tanzania Dr. Mehmet Güllüo lu was the chief guest at the graduation.

"What you have invested here is marvelous. It complements our government's efforts of enhancing the education sector in the country," said RC Mongella, who was represented by the Arumeru District Commissioner, Richard Ruyango.

He said that for the country to develop it needs well trained workforce, and "this is what you're doing here."

"I am satisfied with the edu-

cation investment made by the Turkish government through their Turkish Maarif schools thus providing an opportunity for your people to come and invest in other sectors in the region," the regional chief said, encouraging Turkish investors to chip in Arusha and invest in various sectors.

"I have been told that this school is under the Turkish government and these kinds of schools are 45 countries where you provide great support and contribution as today we are wit-

nessing here you are providing quality education. We thank and congratulate them for seeing Tanzania as one of the most suitable countries for investment," RC Mongella stressed.

"In particular, I urge you to continue to increase education investment in other parts of the country."

"I am happy to hear that this school provides an opportunity for young people to go to study higher education in Turkey this is a great opportunity that Tanzanians get through this

school we congratulate you very much." Turkish Ambassador to Tanzania Dr. Mehmet Güllüo lu lauded parents who brought children to the school while assuring them that the school will continue providing quality education.

"I wish all graduates the best of luck in your future education so that you achieve your dreams of becoming experts in various fields," Ambassador Gulluoglu said.

"Schools and buildings are not enough, we need teachers and parents to raise children with skills, knowledge and values," he stressed.

The Acting Director of Social Sectors at the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat, Stephen Niyonzima, who represented EAC Secretary General Dr. Peter Mathuki also commended the school for putting up all necessary facilities that nurture children talents.

"I'm pleased to see the school encourages sports as it is currently leading in providing the highest paid jobs in the world. We've seen our youngsters play football earning thousands of pounds a day as a salary. So continue to develop young people in sports because apart from earning them income but it develops them mentally," said Niyonzima.

According to him, children studying in East African countries have more opportunities in this region as they are not charged visas when they go to member countries for these courses including teachers and Swahili, English and French are the official languages.

Procurement Opportunities

Tender for Construction of Operating Theatre at Kasulu District Hospital

Medical Teams International is Non-Government Organization (NGO) which was founded in 1979, providing life-saving medical care for people in crisis, such as survivors of natural disasters and refugees.

Medical Teams International, Kasulu Tanzania is inviting interested Contractors to express their interest for Construction of an Operating Theatre at Kasulu District Hospital. All interested and Qualified parties are invited to participate.

Procuring Entity:	Medical Teams International
Tender No:	TN-TAN21.002
Tender Name	Construction of Operating Theatre at Kasulu District Hospital
Site visit date	08/11/2021 10:00am
Source of Fund	Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration.
Eligible Firms	National (Registered in Tanzania)
Method of Procurement	National Competitive Bidding
Mode of Application	Via Email; procurementtz@medicalteams.org (Please send an introduction email for document inquiry)
Deadline for requesting bid documents	5 th November, 2021 5:00pm
Bids Submission Deadline	15 th November 2021

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RTI International (www.rti.org) is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to conducting innovative, Multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. With a worldwide staff of more than 4,000 people, RTI offers innovative research and development and multidisciplinary services.

USAID Tanzania Tuhifadhi Maliasili Project

Research Triangle Institute (RTI) is an independent non-profit research institute dedicated to improving the human condition with over 30 years' experience assisting governments, communities, and the private sector in managing their environment and natural resources. RTI is implementing the newly awarded USAID funded **Tuhifadhi Maliasili Project**, which goal is to address dynamics that hinder habitat connectivity and the long-term persistence of biodiversity in Tanzania.

RTI is looking for a candidate to fill the Private Sector Engagement Officer. The position will be based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania with travels required to the project areas.

Purpose of the position
The Private Sector Engagement officer will provide technical support for activities that cover identification of potential products and services, value addition, quality assurance, and linkages to broader markets for conservation friendly products and services.

Skills & Abilities

- Master's degree in business administration, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, natural resources management, Environmental/natural resource economics, environmental science or/and bachelor's degree and 1 year of experience in private sector development and agribusiness.
- Experience and/or training on agribusiness, value chain assessments, and innovative financing models by different financial institutions.
- Experience working with counterparts at various levels of government, private sector leaders, and other stakeholders preferred.
- Proven ability to work under pressure, and with multiple concurrent demands.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to travel and work in rural areas and difficult terrain/conditions at times; and
- Proficiency in English is required.

Due to the urgency of project need, applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. The shortlist of candidates may be finalized prior to the closing application deadline. Therefore, candidates are urged to apply as soon as possible. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

RTI is an equal opportunity employer. Candidates may apply directly on RTI's careers site or submit an updated CV and cover letter to tuhifadhi_hr@rti.org Please reference the position title in subject line. **The deadline for submitting application is 8th November 2021.**



Judith Karangi, executive director of the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA), briefs journalists at the weekend on the chamber's plan to compile statistics on SMEs as part of a strategy to help them benefit more from opportunities available in the domestic, regional and continental markets. The initiative follows a recent working visit by TCCIA officials to the African Union Commission headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where they submitted a document on the plan. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Rape against women unabated despite laws and policies - RC

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

RAPE and violence against women is on the increase in Manyara despite the presence of laws and policies to protect victims.

A total of 3,641 rape incidents were reported in Manyara Region for the period from July 2020 to March this year, making the region the second in gender based violence incidents in the country.

The report on rape incidents was given at the weekend by Manyara regional commissioner, Makongoro Nyerere at a capacity building meeting for stakeholders involved in the fight against gender based violence (GBV) and stigma for GBV victims and people living with HIV/Aids.

Makongoro said from the GBV research conducted countrywide in July last year Manyara Region came up second with GBV incidents after Iringa Region.

He said among these acts include sexual abuse and economic estrangement, and added that the government was spending huge sums of money to treat violence victims instead of being channelled to development projects.

He said in-depth health sources estimate that 8,118 incidents were reported during

the period.

He explained that the violence incidents have contributed to the increase of HIV infections from 1.5 per cent in 2011/12 to 2.3 per cent to 2016/17.

He added that the researches also show that in regard to Manyara Region, child pregnancies have 26 per cent prevalence, saying the increase in HIV infections is contributed by rape cases, sodomy and sex trade.

He added that in the period January to October this year, 49 rape cases were reported to the police, 34 suspects were arrested, and 25 cases were referred to courts.

"My brothers and sisters, I beseech you to change and you must stop hide those committing these acts of violence by settling cases in the family," said RC Makongoro.

For his part, Manyara Region's Community Development Officer Anna Fisso said when a child is sodomized he has a big chance of being infected with HIV.

She said 60 per cent of violence committed in homes is done to children of up to eight years of age by their close relatives.

She called on the members of the community not to trust anyone by entrusting to them with a child.

Government plans to produce 550mw of renewable energy by 2025

By Felister Peter

IN efforts to increase electricity generation and services, the government plans to produce 550mw of renewable energy by 2025.

The government intends to diversify its energy sources to be certain of ample energy supply at all times. Planned renewable energy sources include solar, wind and geothermal whereas a total of 1,000MW will be generated by 2025.

"The anticipated 550MW of renewable energy will be produced by both Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited

(TANESCO) and the private sector which will produce 400MW.

"By 2023/24 we also expect to produce 200MW of geothermal energy," said TANESCO's Commissioner for Electricity and Renewable Energy, Felischemi Mramba over the weekend in Bagamoyo District, Coast Region when closing a one-week workshop for journalists organised by HAKIMADINI, a Non-Governmental Organisation dealing in minerals and community health.

Mramba said as for now the country's electricity production is 1,605MW, includ-

ing 900MW from natural gas, 508MW hydro and 58MW of renewable energy.

Tanzania has a potential to produce 5,000MW geothermal electricity according to research conducted by Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) whereby a total of 52 areas have been identified that are fit for the production in 15 regions including Arusha, Dodoma, Iringa, Morogoro, Mbeya, Kilimanjaro, Kagera, Katavi, Shinyanga, Songwe, Manyara, Rukwa, Singida, Rukwa and Tanga.

For the East African region, Kenya leads in geothermal

electricity production with 890MW, stated Mramba.

According to Mramba, Tanzania is bestowed with ample solar energy and that research finding shows that solar energy can be produced in several regions including Mbeya, Songwe, Singida, Shinyanga and Dodoma.

He said solar energy and other renewable sources of energy are injected into the national power grid through a special process due to the grid's small capacity to withstand a big power injection at one time.

"We have abundance solar

energy, wind and geothermal energy and researches done show that time to exploit this energy is now because in some cases it is expensive to supply TANESCO power to some areas, hence investors producing power in those areas sell it to the people," he added.

Mramba said more than 80 per cent of Tanzanians use wood energy - charcoal and firewood which to a great extent contribute to environmental destruction, whereas between eight and 10 per cent use electricity.

During her presentation on geothermal development

in Tanzania, Eng. Cynthia Kuringe from the Tanzania Geothermal Development Company Limited (TGDC) said geothermal energy can also be used in farming and livestock keeping even including poultry and fish farming.

She said as for now there are 26 countries in world that produce geothermal energy, and in Tanzania, research on the energy is being conducted in Kijejo-Mbaka and Songwe areas.

However, more than 70,000 people in the Mufindi and Njombe districts are now benefitting with power services

generated from renewable sources by local firm, Rift Valley Energy under its Mwenga Power service brand.

RVE General Manager, Degrasias Massawe said they are producing 7.4MW from hydro and wind whereas apart from connecting power to the villagers, they have also connected power to a tea factory for back-up, in case of TANESCO outages as well as running of its irrigation pumps.

Mwenga is also providing electricity to a nearby dairy farm and a local wood processing industry at Igoda village, said Massawe.



Alex Bitekeye, Vodacom Tanzania's public relations manager, pictured at the climax of the CSOs Week celebrations in Dodoma city at the weekend distributing leaflets on Vodacom Tanzania Foundation's strategy and corporate social investment. Photo: Guardian Photographer

'Livestock destroy 350 tonnes of rice every season in Coast region'

By Guardian Correspondent

MORE than 350 tonnes of rice harvests in Coast Region are being lost every season because of destructive livestock.

This was revealed at the weekend by the region's veterinary officer, Ramadhani Mwaiganju at the closing ceremony of Ruvu Irrigation Farmers Union (CHAURU) week.

Mwaiganju said apart from the destruction to the rice crop, more than 100 acres have been destroyed by the livestock in the rice growing valleys within Ruvu irrigation scheme becoming more affected among the 11 schemes in the region.

He said Coast region has 9,363 herders owning 671,000 livestock with Chalinze District leading with 2,160 herders and 257,000, the situation that has affected the Ruvu irrigation scheme compared with other areas in the region.

"This month we shall convene a stakeholders meeting because we have embarked on a special strategy to relocate herders in formal grazing areas, we have 337,000 hectares in 145 villages according to better land planning," he said.

He said herders will be shifted from the valleys and relocated to higher ground soon after the start of off rain season starts to spare farmers of inconveniences.

Closing the Ruvu Irrigation Farmers Union (CHAURU) week, Coast Region Cooperative Registrar, Angela Malimi appealed to the cooperative officials to make sure the rice fields are cleared to get rid of obstructive birds.

Earlier, CHAURU Manager, Victoria Olotu, said poor irrigation infrastructures of the farms contributes to the production reduction by 40 per cent.

She appealed to the government for help to refurbish the road from CHAURU headquarters to the main highway that is estimated to cost 100m/- to enable farmers transport their crops.

China commits to supporting promotion of EAC development projects

By Guardian Reporter

CHINA has reaffirmed her commitment to supporting the East African Community (EAC) achieve regional integration by promoting its development projects.

The Chinese ambassador to Tanzania and EAC, Chen Mingjian, made the commitment while presenting her letter of credence to the EAC Secretary General, Dr Peter Mathuki, at the EAC

Headquarters in Arusha on Friday.

Welcoming the envoy to the Secretariat, Dr Mathuki lauded the Peoples' Republic of China for her immense support to the region, particularly through infrastructure development projects geared at enhancing intra-EAC trade.

Dr Mathuki further hailed China for offering education opportunities to East Africans through the provision of scholarships and exchange programmes, which he said have contrib-

uted in filing the skills gaps in the labour market.

"We appreciate the support that China has given us in our programmes such as the YouLead Summit and this speaks of China's commitment and good relations in the region," he said.

The Secretary General informed Mingjian about EAC's commitment to revitalizing private sector development and urged the Ambassador to rally support in organizing for EAC private sec-

tor benchmarking missions to China to network, sample the latest technologies and exchange ideas.

For her part, Mingjian lauded the Secretary General for the remarkable progress that the EAC had made under his tenure particularly in improving relations with stakeholders and pushing for private sector development.

She expressed China's keen interest in augmenting its cooperation with EAC, adding that it would positively impact

EAC products going to Chinese markets especially agricultural products.

The Chinese envoy also disclosed that her country was ready to implement the process of donating vehicles to EAC to enhance its capacity.

Accompanying the Secretary General at the meeting were the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Planning and Infrastructure, Eng. Stephen Mlote, and the Director General Customs and Trade, Kenneth Bagamuhunda

Govt calls for timely delivery of reports

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

HEALTH, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister, Dr Dorothy Gwajima has called on the Civil Society Organisation (CSO) to timely submit their work reports to the ministry in accordance with the law.

She also urged CSOs to maintain the highest level of integrity and patriotism on their financial expenditures, bearing in mind that they are using donor funds aimed at helping improve the lives of poor Tanzanians.

While acknowledging the good work done by CSOs, the minister said there are still those that do not do perform their duties as require, adding that the law governing CSOs is very clear and whoever deviates faces legal measures.

The minister made the remarks while delivering a special message for CSO Week 2021 during a gala dinner and awards ceremony held at Jesuit Youth Centre in Dodoma. "I have to admit that the CSOs have been doing a lot of work in support of the government's efforts to improve service delivery to the people" she said.

At the same time, she challenged CSOs to continue with the good since many Tanzanians still need a lot of services that the government alone cannot provide. At the same time, she urged the CSOs to ensure they reach wananchi in implementation of various projects.

During the event several CSOs, partners and sponsors got recognition awards for outstanding performances and contributions in different ways. The minister called on those who received the awards to continue cooperation with the government and provide public education on COVID-19.

She added that CSOs should also provide education on the importance of national population and the housing census to be held in August 2021, saying CSOs work directly with people at different levels of the community.

Permanent Secretary in the ministry of Health, Community Development,

Minister wants better terms for loans to local contractors

By Guardian Reporter

Works and Transport minister, Prof Makame Mbarawa has urged financial institutions to put favourable loan conditions for local contractors especially women so as to increase participation of them in various mega projects in the country.

Mbarawa made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during the official launch of the Tanzania Women Contractors Association (TWCA).

"It is true that the majority of our local contractors face challenges of capital, so it is better now for the fi-

ancial institutions including banks to have more loan products that will enable the contractors to access them easily and thus implement their tenders effectively," he said.

He also urged women contractors to be more creative, join forces and form strong companies which would be able to compete in tenders and thus implement major projects in the country.

"If there are laws which you see are in anyway thwarting your progress, inform the government and we will work on the challenges. This is your time to shine, so make good of the available opportunities," he said.

Prof Mbarawa acknowledged that in recent years, women have proven that they are able to bring changes in organizations and other several sectors calling on more women to continue taking part in various programmes which promote their advancement.

He noted that women are the most faithful and ethical workforce, so investing in them by providing more tenders is good for the country's development.

The minister urged the women contractors to always adhere to professional ethics and whenever given tenders, should implement them effectively and efficiently.

WIKI YA AZAKI 2021

INA MAENDELEO - Mchango wa AZAKI katika Maendeleo



Dr Dorothy Gwajima (4th-R), Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, presents a trophy to CBM Tanzania managing director Nesia Mahenge in Dodoma city earlier this week. This was at a ceremony held at the climax of Civil Societies Organisations Week celebrations. Those witnessing the event include the ministry's permanent secretary (Community Development), Dr John Jingu (2nd-R), and Foundation for Civil Society president Stigmata Tenga (2nd-L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Even the presentations and topics for discussion are very relevant to national



Request for Proposals

Request for Proposals

RFQ Title: Procurement of Internet Services Provider (ISP)

RFQ Number: 2022-PACT/10/02

Date of Solicitation: 1st November 2021

Closing Date and Time: 15th November 2021, 11:00 am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Questions and Clarifications: Due by 12th November 2021

Estimated Delivery/ Performance Date: 30th September 2022.

Introduction to PACT:

Pact Inc. is an international non-profit organization with its headquarters in Washington, DC. Pact serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and the government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

Overall Objective:

The overall objective of this assignment is to procure a service provider who will be providing internet services to PACT Tanzania Dar es Salaam's main office and field offices.

A. Requirement/ Scope of Work

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

- Ability to provide equipment and services not banned under Section 889 of the US National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The list of restricted manufacturers and associated telecommunication equipment and services are found in the ToR.
- Ability to initially provides a 1:1 dedicated 100Mbps Internet connection of business-class quality.
- Ability to provide one (1) fiber connection at PACT Tanzania Head Office based in Dar es Salaam and three (3) wireless connections with a minimum bandwidth of 10Mbps per site to regional offices of Dodoma, Shinyanga, and Mbeya sharing/connected under the same subscribed bandwidth in number one.
- Ability to provide online/live bandwidth monitoring system.
- Ability to supply increased bandwidth for any connection in the future.
- Ability to provide connectivity to PACT Tanzania via a Gigabit Ethernet (GE) interface on all connections.
- Submit proof of two different upstream providers for redundancy on all connections.
- Ability to provide total bandwidth 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. Be able to limit the number of planned outages to a maximum of two (2) separate events per year and have a maximum duration of 2 hours. Downtime for planned vendor maintenance during non-business hours should be minimized and approved by the PACT Tanzania no less than 3 business days in advance. Unless otherwise agreed to by the PACT Tanzania, ISP will issue a documented credit if the downtime exceeds the agreed downtime or exceeds the maximum number of planned outages annually.
- Ability to assign a dedicated account representative (single person but may have multiple customer accounts) to the PACT Tanzania. Such representative shall serve in a sales, liaison, and support escalation function at a minimum.
- Ability to provide customer service and network engineering support available for problem resolution 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. Customer problem reporting, status updates, and problem resolution shall follow ISP standard procedures documented and delivered to the PACT Tanzania on contract instantiation.
- Ability to maintain real-time network monitoring capability on all PACT Tanzania connections and notify designated PACT Tanzania contacts within 10 minutes of any unplanned disruptions and outages.
- Ability to provide self-service web-based reporting (utilization, outages/downtime, etc.) on a real-time and historical basis. ISP shall optionally give a report exporting capability.
- Ability to provide a contiguous range of 10 - 15, 24-bit Public Internet Protocol (IP) addresses and allow the PACT Tanzania to use their public IP addresses at each location, if any.
- ISP shall grant PACT Tanzania control over Domain Name System (DNS) services as primary with authoritative control.
- Ability to document and provide a guaranteed quality of service: minimum service availability of 99.99% per month with a maximum of 15-minute response (problem acknowledgment to PACT Tanzania) and a maximum of 4 hours resolution to problems. Unless otherwise agreed to by the PACT Tanzania, ISP will issue a documented credit if the response time and/or downtime exceed these limits.

Interested vendors should request the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through email with the subject line "TOR for Procurement of Internet Services Provider" to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org before Friday, 12th November 2021.

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org with the subject line "Request for Clarification: Procurement of Internet Services Provider" before Friday, 12th November 2021.

B. Eligibility

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

- Ability to meet or exceed the requirements/technical specifications outlined in Section A;
- Ability to deliver the items/services specified in Section A no later than the date(s) required.

C. Submission Instructions

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

- Draft inception report detailing the methodology for providing internet services to the offices (engagement and execution).
- Current company profile.
- Copies of registration, certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TIN certificates, Tax clearance certificate, and any industry-relevant permit or certificate.
- Evidence of similar assignments and at least three (3) names and addresses of clients served.
- Current Audited financial statement.
- Payment terms.

Vendors who wish to answer this RFP should send their proposals in sealed envelopes to PACT Tanzania Head Office by 15th November 2021, 11:00 am. All sealed envelopes need to be marked as: "Procurement of Internet Services Provider."

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

Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.

Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted. As mentioned above, all quotations and delivery dates shall be valid for at least 90 days following the submission. PACT will open all bids on Monday 15th November 2021 at 11.30 am in the presence of Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.



WWF for a living planet

VACANCY: PROJECT EXECUTANT

LIVELIHOOD, FOOD SECURITY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

WWF is seeking to hire a project executant – Livelihood, food security and Enterprise Development for BAF project in RUMAKI plus seascape to be based in Mafia, Tanzania

Major Functions:

The Project Executant Livelihood, Food Security and Enterprise Development, serves as WWF's senior representative in Mafia Island in respect to WWF's Seascape Programmes. He/ she provides management oversight by coordinating and supervising the planning, operations, administration and implementation of Blue Action Fund (BAF) and programme project activities in accordance with relevant project documents, proposals and annual workplans of the projects and ensuring timely implementation in a cost-efficient and effective manner. He/she is the primary point of liaison with senior District staff; oversees management of Mafia WWF field office, assets and personnel in respective district; and provides technical support and mentoring staff below him/her.

The Project Executant Livelihood, Food Security and Enterprise Development will assist the seascape programme to provide guidance on options relating to available coastal resource ecosystems good and services such as fisheries, mangroves, marine transportation, shells, sea weed, coral reefs, seagrasses, salt mining, tourist attraction from Endangered, Threatened and Protected species (ETP) and other economic base including agriculture, livestock, marketing and trading activities for enhancing sustainable production and income generation while improving household food security.

I. Specific Required Functional Skills

- Bachelor / Master's degree on Natural resource management, agriculture development, Community development, development studies and related fields. MSc candidates and technical expertise in marine & coastal resources will have an advantage;
- Seven years relevant professional experience in natural resources management, fisheries, agriculture and livelihood development project with at least two years in a project leadership position including personnel & budget management;
- Understanding of, and sensitivity towards, the culture, gender, religion, race, age and livelihoods context of rural coastal communities in Tanzania;
- A proven ability to work effectively without direct supervision, working in a team and willing to travel regularly and to stay for periods in remote coastal areas and to travel at short notice;
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and good oral and verbal communication skills in both Kiswahili and English, with an ability to develop strong relations with Government, local NGO, CSO, private sectors and community partners;
- Focuses on result and responds positively to feedback;
- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude;
- Remains calm, in control and good humored even under pressure;
- Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities;
- Good inter-personal and teamwork skills, networking aptitude and ability to work in multicultural environment k) Strong knowledge and understanding of national institutional contexts
- Very good command in English & excellent writing skills and the ability to prepare clear, concise reports
- Proven experience in conducting assessment and analysis of fisheries, agriculture and livelihood related options

Additional information, including Terms of Reference, can be obtained through web address:

https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/. Applications must include a complete Cover Letter & CV with full contact details of three referees and should be addressed to the People & Culture Manager, via email to: hresources@wwftz.org by Friday 12th November 2021 at 4:30 pm. Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted and the interviews will take place in Dar es Salaam or via zoom video conferencing.

TARI advises cassava farmers to use research-certified seeds

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

CASSAVA farmers in the country have been advised to use quality seeds that have been researched on and stop the practice of passing the seeds among themselves in order to control the spread of cassava disease.

The call has been made here mid this week by the researcher on root crops, dealing in cassava from the Ukiriguru Centre of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI-Ukiriguru) in Mwanza Region, KaseleSalu.

He said cassava farmers should use quality seeds because there are two main cassava diseases including brown stripes and 'batobato' caused by viruses.

"Earlier, farmers used an informal system of passing seeds among themselves that contributed to the

diseases spread and in some cases contribute to farmers' low harvests," said Salu.

He further said the diseases have no remedies hence TARI has produced seeds that withstand cassava diseases whereby two years ago they produced four types of seeds and last year they produced nine.

He explained that the seeds withstand diseases in the Lake Victoria Zone and they also have a forma system to protect the seeds against diseases by producing them in the tissue culture and later in the screen house.

Thereafter, he said they are taken to the farms and when ready they sell seedlings to farmers selling them at 100/- per twig.

He said as for now they have nine quality seeds hence farmers should understand that cassava plant reaps after one year, but due

to the brown stripes disease that cause the plant to decay, they advise them to harvest after 10 to 12 months.

"The seeds we have been successfully grown in all areas of the Lake Zone, they grow well and produce 20 to 30 tonnes per each two and half acre field," Salu added.



Earlier, farmers used an informal system of passing seeds among themselves that contributed to the diseases spread



Dr Kandore Musika (L), Director of Dar es Salaam's KAM Musika Hospital, pictured at the weekend briefing visitors on the facility. Photo: Correspondent. Miraji Msala

THPS launches new five-year strategic plan to improve national health systems

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TANZANIA Health Promotion Support (THPS) has launched its new five-year strategic plan aimed at improving involvement in strengthening the national health systems in the country as it marks ten years of existence.

The non-governmental organisation (NGO) supports the government to deliver comprehensive HIV prevention, care, treatment and support services, with the core focus being on strengthening the national health system, and specifically the structures responsible for budgeting, planning, implementing, and monitoring health and social services.

It also works towards improving maternal health and TB prevention and treatment. With the advent of the global COVID-19 pandemic, THPS also supports government efforts aimed at preventing the spread of coronavirus as well as creating public awareness on the importance of receiving vaccinations against the disease and mostly by medical practitioners who are on the front line of the Covid-19 fight.

The chief government chemist, Dr Aifello Sichelwe, graced the organisations commemoration of tenth anniversary and the launch of 2nd five-year strategic plan 2021-2025 on behalf of Health minister

Dr Dorothy Gwajima here at the weekend.

The event also attracted a number of beneficiaries detailing how the organization has left a mark in their lives during the past ten years of its existence.

Dr Sichelwe commended the organization for the achievements that it has registered during the past ten years and reminded them to observe President Samia Suluhu Hassan's recent statement where she urged NGOs to call that to come up with alternative ways that would help reduce financial dependence on foreign donors.

Addressing NGOs here earlier last month (October), President Samia also urged the NGOs to come up with agendas that augur well for government plans, pointing out that law observance, traditional values, transparency and accountability were of paramount importance.

"It is very important to observe what the president said and I hope you understand what I mean," said Dr Sichelwe.

THPS executive director, Dr Redempta Mbatia, outlined a number of achievements that the organization has registered during the past ten years, saying its partnership with the government has helped to avail 793 more health workers for employment on contract basis.

"A total of 7.3 bn/- has been spent

on health equipment for the general good of Tanzanians and supporting the government efforts," he said.

She said through the new strategic plan, THPS seeks to raise its institutional capacity in supporting delivery of programme activities efficiently and effectively by putting in place strong governance, finance, human resource, procurement and IT systems by 2025.

She added that as of 2020, THPS had a total of 162 members of staff, up from only 34 in 2016.

It also seeks to support increase and access of quality, person-centred and comprehensive and user-friendly health services delivery by 2025 across all its areas of focus.

The new plan will also seek to increase the availability of quality and accessible health services through supply chain, logistics, laboratory services provided by skilled service providers at all levels of the health systems by 2026.

It will also strengthen the monitoring and evaluation system that ensures tracking and identification of quality data to inform strategic decisions for delivery of quality health services by 2025.

It is also envisaged that the plan will guide the organization in promoting partnerships at national level between THPS and identified private sector bodies for resource mobilisation.

TBS: Refrain from paints not meeting requirements

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIANS have been called upon to avoid purchasing or using lead paints that do not meet the standards set by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

TBS endorsed a standard to limit lead in decorative enamel paints in 2017 which is 90 parts per million (90 ppm) total lead. This means total lead in the enamel decorative paints imported, manufactured, distributed, sold and used in the country should not exceed the set limit.

There is also a common limit for lead in paint for the member states within the East African Community (EAC) which is 90 ppm.

Stakeholders have been raising voices on the impact of lead specifically during the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW) which was globally marked from October 24th to 31st, 2021. This is the 9th year since it was introduced in 2013.

The event was coordinated by The Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP) (a voluntary partnership hosted by the UN Environment

Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO). This year's theme was 'Working together for a world without lead paint'.

Speaking during an online training on lead paints organized by the Journalist's Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) over the weekend, Agenda for Environment and Responsible Development (AGENDA) Executive Secretary, Haji Rehani underscored the need for enhanced public awareness to paint consumers to successfully eliminate lead paints.

Rehani urged that stakeholders such as the Vice President's Office - Division of Environment, Government Chemist Laboratory Agency, National Environment Management Council, Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (TCCIA), owners of paint industries, suppliers of paints raw materials, exporters and importers of paints, NGOs, religious organizations should work together to ensure elimination of lead in paints.

Bernard Kihyo, Executive Director of the Tanzania Consumer Advocacy Society (TCAS), urged Tanzanians to enhance collaboration

in eliminating lead paint through avoiding the purchase of products that are not certified by TBS.

AGENDA is part of governments and many other interested parties around the world including 49 NGOs from 36 countries that are members of the International Pollutants Elimination Network IPEN that are working to sensitize stakeholders to enhance collaboration in controlling lead paint.

IPEN is global network of more than 600 interest organizations from over 120 countries working to improve chemical policies and raising public awareness to ensure that hazardous substances are no longer produced, used, or disposed of in ways that harm human health and the environment.

"Lead can affect children's brain development resulting in reduced intelligence quotient (IQ), behavioural changes such as reduced attention span and increased antisocial behavior, and reduced educational attainment. Lead exposure can also cause anaemia, hypertension, renal impairment, immunotoxicity and toxicity to the reproductive organs.



Government of The Republic of Malawi



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



Government of The United Republic of Tanzania

SECRETARIAT OF THE JOINT SONGWE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
Joint Songwe River Basin Development Programme

MULTINATIONAL STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION AND INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROJECT

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(INDIVIDUAL CONSULTING SERVICES)

Sector: Water

Project code: P-Z1-EAZ-054

Financing Agreement reference: Grant 5550155001701

Date: 1st November 2021

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Malawi have received financing from the GEF through African Development Bank toward the cost of the Multinational Strengthening Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Natural Resources Management (MSTCINRM) Project and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for Procurement Audit of the MSTCINRM Project.

The services included under this project are to conduct a performance audit of the Joint Songwe River Basin Commission by: (i) reviewing the adequacy of the country procurement system used by the Joint Songwe River Basin Commission that was agreed for the implementation of the project. (ii) reviewing procurement, contracting, and implementation processes which have been followed for contracts in the projects to confirm consistency with the country procurement system and the Financing Agreement (FA); and (iii) examining the adequacy of the Joint Songwe River Basin Commission's management capacities

The Joint Songwe River Basin Commission now invites eligible Individual Consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested Individual Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (A minimum of Master's degree in relevant qualification, at least 15 years post-qualification practical experience in Procurement and Contract Management, at least 10 years' experience in donor funded procurement and project procurement auditing, evidence of at least three (3) similar assignments, be familiar with African Development Bank procurement guidelines, policies and regulation).

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development "Procurement Framework of October 2015" which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 8:00am to 17:00pm (EAT).

Expressions of interest for Procurement Audit assignment must be delivered to the address below by 11th November at 11:00am (EAT)

Attn: Joint Songwe River Basin Commission
Rehema H. Omindo
Acting Executive Secretary, Joint Songwe River Basin Commission
P.O. BOX 300
Kyela Tanzania
Tel: +255 25 2957412
E-mail: songweriverbasin@gmail.com, mpangala5@yahoo.com
bnthakomwa31@gmail.com, rehema.omindo@maji.go.tz

University gets modern laboratory for industrial automation technology

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

ARDHI University (ARU) has received a modern laboratory for industrial automation technology worth 47,000 euros (126.24bn/) from the Applied Curriculum in Technology for East Africa (ACTEA) Project.

The laboratory was launched over the weekend by the representative from Belgium embassy, Jasmien De Winne and the Ardhi deputy vice chancellor (academic affairs) Prof Gabriel Kassenga.

Speaking during the launching event, Prof Kassenga said the project has timely arrived as the University is currently implementing ARU Medium Term Rolling Strategic Plan (2019/20- 2024/25).

He said the main objective of the ACTEA project is to train 5,000 people with hands-on industrial technologies by June 2025.

He said the ACTEA project will also contribute towards ensuring generation of competent graduates with skills in electrical and industrial automation.

Prof Kassenga added that the graduates are expected to participate actively in the industrialization process of our nation which is highly given emphasis by the 6th Phase government of Tanzania.

"Through the Applied Curricula in Technology for East Africa project Ardhi University has been supported with equipment for industrial automation, staff capacity building as well as development of competence-based course materials," he said.

According to Prof Kassenga, the availability of equipment at the University is very important not only for development of competent graduates but also graduates with appropriate skills and knowledge required in the local labor market.

He said to date, there is evidence of existing skills mismatch between what is learnt in class and what is required in the industry, as well as availability of graduates with inadequate practical skills mainly in the area of engineering & ICT discipline adding that this has been contributed greatly lack of laboratory resources and outdated curricula to serve local needs.

"Though such limitations have been addressed by universities in the East African region, yet staff and students' access to technological training equipment is still a challenge. This has been one of the reasons for development of the ACTEA project whereby the outcomes of the project are expected to provide a solution," he added.

Furthermore, he said the ACTEA project was established with the aim of improving the quality of education by changing the theoretical type of learning process in Ethiopia, Uganda and Tanzania to a practice-oriented competence-based approach in order to form the competences necessary for the labor market.

He said the established industrial automation laboratory at ARU not only serves the needs of internal stakeholders but will also serve external stakeholders, as companies and individuals will be able to have access to training through the Centre for Continuing Education.

"Therefore, ARU will be able to disseminate knowledge to the Tanzania community who are willing to pursue skills in industrial automation. Those who will be trained using the established facilities are expected to gain skills needed in the labor market and in that way, Ardhi University will be contributing to the national industrialization agenda," he said.

TIRA challenges microfinance institutions to expand services

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) has challenged the microfinance companies in the country to expand their services and start offering banc-assurance schemes to underserved areas including remote places so as to promote financial inclusion.

Speaking at the launching of Faidika Microfinance Bancassurance scheme over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, the TIRA acting director general captain Elieza Rweikiza said Faidika became the first microfinance institution in the country to collaborate with insurance companies to provide insurance products in the market.

He said currently, the contribution of bancassurance was still minimal to the national income adding the government target was to ensure 80 per cent of the public are aware of insurance by 2030.

He said under the country's Financial Sector Development Master Plan 2020-2030, the government has set ambitious goals for the insurance sub sector within a decade to reach 50 per cent population coverage of the adult population.

He said that insurance is key to the country's financial inclusion agenda considering the fact that the bulk of growth of the financial sector in the coming decade is hinged on insurance.

"I call on other financial institutions to introduce bancassurance schemes to increase financial penetration especially in remote areas," he said.

Faidika Chief Executive Officer, Baraka Munisi said the four key Bancassurance products were launched in partnership with Sanlam, Sanlam Life, Alliance General, Britam General, Strategies General and Medical, First Assurance General, Jubilee Life and Jubilee General.

He said the company now offers Life Insurance, Health Insurance and General Insurance products, including assurance cover for assets - all risks, industrial - all risks, fire and allied perils, motor, accident, home insurance, burglary and theft, professional indemnity, goods in transit and marine and cargo insurance cover, among others.



REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR MINISTRY OF WATER ENERGY AND MINERALS

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST(REQI) (CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL SELECTION)

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA ZANZIBAR ENERGY SECTOR TRANSFORMATION AND ACCESS PROJECT

CREDIT NUMBER: 68970-TZ
CTF LOAN NUMBER: TF0B5747-TZ
CTF GRANT NUMBER: TF0B5660-TZ

Assignment Title: Environmental and social safeguards Specialist
Reference No: P169561

The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar (RGoZ), through The United Republic of Tanzania, intends to implement the Zanzibar Energy Sector Transformation and Access Project (ZESTA) with financing obtained from the World Bank. RGoZ intends to apply part of the funding for the consulting services of an Environmental and social safeguards Specialist.

Objective

The objective is to support the implementation of social and safeguard issues under the project. The Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist (ESSS) will be required to coordinate the management and implementation of environmental and social risks and impacts during the implementation of the ZESTA project. The ESSS will be required to develop and implement an Environmental & Social Management System (ESMS) and Occupational Health and Safety Management System for MoWEM and ensure that elements of the ZESTA project implemented by MoWEM (independently or jointly with ZECO) are aligned with the requirements of the environmental and social instruments prepared for the project.

Scope of assignment

The ESSSS shall perform the following duties:

- Provide coordination support to consultants hired under the project to undertake environmental and social assessments.
- Coordinate preparation of the necessary project environmental and social instruments, guidelines, and procedures.
- Coordinate implementation of Environmental and Social Frameworks (ESFs), Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), and Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for the ZESTA project
- Review all environmental and social safeguards reports prepared under the ZESTA project by both the MoWEM-PIU and ZECO-IU.
- Coordinate the preparation and implementation of the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) and supervise firms that are hired under the project to monitor implementation of the RAP and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) in collaboration with ZECO.
- Facilitate submission of the environmental and social risk management documentation, notably ESIAs, RAPs, ESMPs, and audit reports to the relevant authorities and to the World Bank for approval prior to commencement of any works on site.
- Contribute to the preparation of the terms of references for environmental and social assessments and audits of project activities and provide the necessary support during implementation of the assessments and audits.
- Develop and implement an Environmental & Social Management System (ESMS) for MoWEM that provides details of the environmental policy, procedures and operational controls in its business, as outlined in the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).
- Develop and implement an Occupational Health and Safety Management System for MoWEM, as outlined in the ESMF.
- Support ZECO to ensure that the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), as described in the SEP and ESMF, is operationalized timely and follow up on any complaints or grievances raised to ensure their effective and timely resolution.
- Coordinate the monitoring of Gender Based Violence and Violence Against Children (GBV and VAC) and support ZECO to propose mechanisms to prevent, respond to, mitigate, monitor compliance to mitigate risks of GBV and VAC, particularly those associated with labour influx, compensation payment, empowerment and child protection, due to the project.
- Provide capacity building support to MoWEM staff and other stakeholders during project planning and implementation to strengthen the social, environmental, and health and safety management.
- Compile and submit monthly, quarterly, and annual safeguards progress reports as required to the MoWEM-PIU Project Coordinator.
- Perform any other duties as per the requirements of the project or as assigned by the Project Coordinator.

Specific Outputs/Deliverables

The consultant shall be required to provide the following deliverables during the assignment:

- Preparing and submitting monthly and quarterly safeguards progress and status reports for all project activities to the MoWEM project Coordinator.
- Advising the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) on major and/or sensitive matters relating to the project's environmental and social impacts and risks during implementation.
- Serving as the focal point for environmental and social issues including the implementation of Environmental and Social

Commitment Plan, land acquisition and resettlement, livelihood restoration and inclusion of vulnerable groups who may be affected by the project and work closely with implementing teams to address any challenges.

- Advising and/or providing quality operational support on environmental and social risks and impacts at both the design and implementation phases, including advice on identifying environmental and social impacts and mitigation measures during the environmental and social assessment processes.
- Coordinating the mainstreaming of environmental and social aspects into project design and implementation in accordance with agreed Environmental and Social Instruments: Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)/ Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) Resettlement Policy Framework/Resettlement Action Plan (RPF/RAP), Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), and the Labor Management Plan (LMP).

The assignment shall be on full term basis for a period of three (3) years, subject to a probation period of six (6) months. The contract may be extended subject to satisfactory performance and workload requirements. The consultant will obtain his/her own insurance during the contract period. The Environmental and social safeguards Specialist will be based at the MoWEM office Maisara at Zanzibar and travel as necessary to the project sites for monitoring, supervision, and technical support.

The Ministry of Water, Energy and Minerals now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above services. Interested consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services. **The Environmental and social safeguards Specialist** should have at least the following qualifications and experience:

- A Master's degree in Environmental Studies, Environmental Economics, Environmental Engineering, Natural Resource Management, Social Sciences or related field.
- At least eight (8) years' work experience in environmental and social risk management associated with the development and operation of electricity infrastructure such as generation, transmission or distribution systems.
- Prior working experience in environmental and social risk management in infrastructure projects financed by the World Bank Group or other International Financing Organizations.
- Demonstrable knowledge of the relevant Government procedures and regulations, and permitting processes related to environmental and social risk management.
- Experience working with a wide range of stakeholders including NGOs, international organizations, and government agencies at national and local level.
- Experience in wayleaves acquisition and/ or the process of compilation and implementation of a Resettlement Action Plan for infrastructure projects.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and Kiswahili.
- Proven integrity and confidentiality in handling public resources and in executing duties.

The attention of interested consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" November 2020, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the individual selection method set out in the Bank's Procurement Regulations.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: www.majismz.go.tz and/or www.zanzibar-energy.com.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, 07:00 to 03:30pm East African Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below in person (hard copy along with an USB drive), or e-mail by 03:30pm EAT on November 12, 2021.

Ministry of Water Energy and Minerals
Attn: Saleh Said Suleiman (Project Coordinator)
P.Box 1569 Zanzibar
Misara, Zanzibar
Tel: +255 776 858555
E-mail: procurement@majismz.go.tz and copy to saleh.suleiman@majismz.go.tz

Wanted: Action, investment to defeat malaria in Africa

MALARIA is still a thorny health issue in Africa. Cases increased from 137,360 in 2015 to 141,677 in 2017 in ten African countries. Tanzania contributes three per cent of these cases.

Since 2008, the world has become increasingly interconnected and complex. As countries have moved to further reduce and eliminate malaria, the disease

has become more heterogeneous. This led WHO to initiate the development of the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016-2030, which was endorsed by the World Health Assembly in May 2015.

The risk of disease can be reduced by preventing mosquito bites through the use of mosquito nets and insect repellents or with mosquito-control measures such as spraying insecticides and draining standing water. Also several medications are available to prevent malaria in travellers to areas where the disease is common.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has recommended that the spraying of mosquito breeding areas with chemicals or biological agents to kill larvae as a complementary intervention to control malaria along with primary interventions that include sleeping under insecticide-treated nets (ITNs), and indoor residual spray (IRS).

Larviciding was introduced to supplement the current malaria vector control interventions, mainly insecticide-treated bed nets as well as other interventions in the areas and speed up the malaria control pace towards elimination.

Larviciding has been introduced to complement test and treat and other preventive interventions.

A larvicide (alternatively larvacide) is an insecticide that is specifically targeted against the larval life stage of an insect. Their most common use is against mosquitoes. Larvicides may be contact

poisons, stomach poisons, growth regulators, or (increasingly) biological control agents.

The liquid is environmentally friendly, the bio-larvicides we are using produce protein crystals during fermentation.

These microscopic crystals are ingested by mosquito larvae as they feed. In the mosquito's alkaline digestive system, the crystals are dissolved and converted by specific enzymes into protein molecules that bind with unique receptor sites in the mosquito gut wall.

This binding causes changes that destroy the walls of the mosquito larvae's gut. The larvae quit feeding within hours and quickly die.

In order to understand the impact of larviciding, the Ifakara Health Institute (IHI) trained community-based volunteers on how to set up mosquito traps in households.

The principal investigator from Ifakara Health Institute (IHI) said recently in Dar es Salaam that initially, people were reluctant to accept a mosquito trap being set in their houses.

The Institute (IHI) in collaboration with the communities is implementing larviciding in three districts of Coast and Lindi regions, to several communities to control mosquito breeding grounds in malaria-prone areas.

Because, malaria is endemic in Rufiji, Kilwa, and Kibiti districts. The infection rate of the disease by 2017 was 14 per cent - almost double the 7.3 per cent of the national average, according to the National Bureau of Statistics' Malaria Indicator Survey.

The stratification of malaria burden in the country and tailoring of the response has been made possible by using malaria infection rate data taken weekly from the routine health management information system at health facilities along with vector surveillance results.

This is a decisive measure towards addressing youth unemployment

YOUTH in Africa constituted 19 per cent of the global youth population in 2015, numbering 226 million. The United Nations defines youth as people aged 15 to 24 years. By 2030, it is predicted that the number of youths in Africa will have increased by 42 per cent. Africa's population as a whole is very young, with 60 per cent of the entire continent aged below 25, making it the youngest continent in the world, in relation to its population makeup. All of the world's top 10 youngest countries by median age are in Africa.

In Tanzania, the law requires youth to be engaged in agenda setting and participate in decision making and development, but yet a number of them are currently crying of being excluded, the thing that frustrates the younger generation and deters their efforts to move forward.

Youth are concerned that they are supposed to be involved in budget preparation through their various groups, but yet only few of them get chances to air their opinions in such forums. To ensure sustainable development, local governments must prioritize youth involvement and make sure their opinions and requirements are incorporated in development plans.

While local government are said to be an entry point for youth participation and devel-

opment, more should be done about the specifics of young people's participation in local governance in areas of economic empowerment and setting development agendas in youth.

Available statistics from National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) shows that out of approximately 59.4 million population, 23.7 million people equivalent to 40 per cent are youth aged between 15 and 40 years old. In this case, youth have a potential to ensure that development matters are key and are a daily conversation that they engage in.

Some youth engaging in agricultural activities are complaining about the price of inputs which is too high compared to their income, with limited chances to express their challenges as they are being left out in most of the forums for decision-making.

To address their challenge, the United Nations Association (UNA) in collaboration with other youth organizations and the government are implementing a one year project dubbed 'Youth Participation in Decision Making and Policy Process' which focuses on educating youth and inform them on the guidelines for organizing community meetings and provide smooth guide that will help youths to fully participate in decision-making for sustainable development at local government levels.

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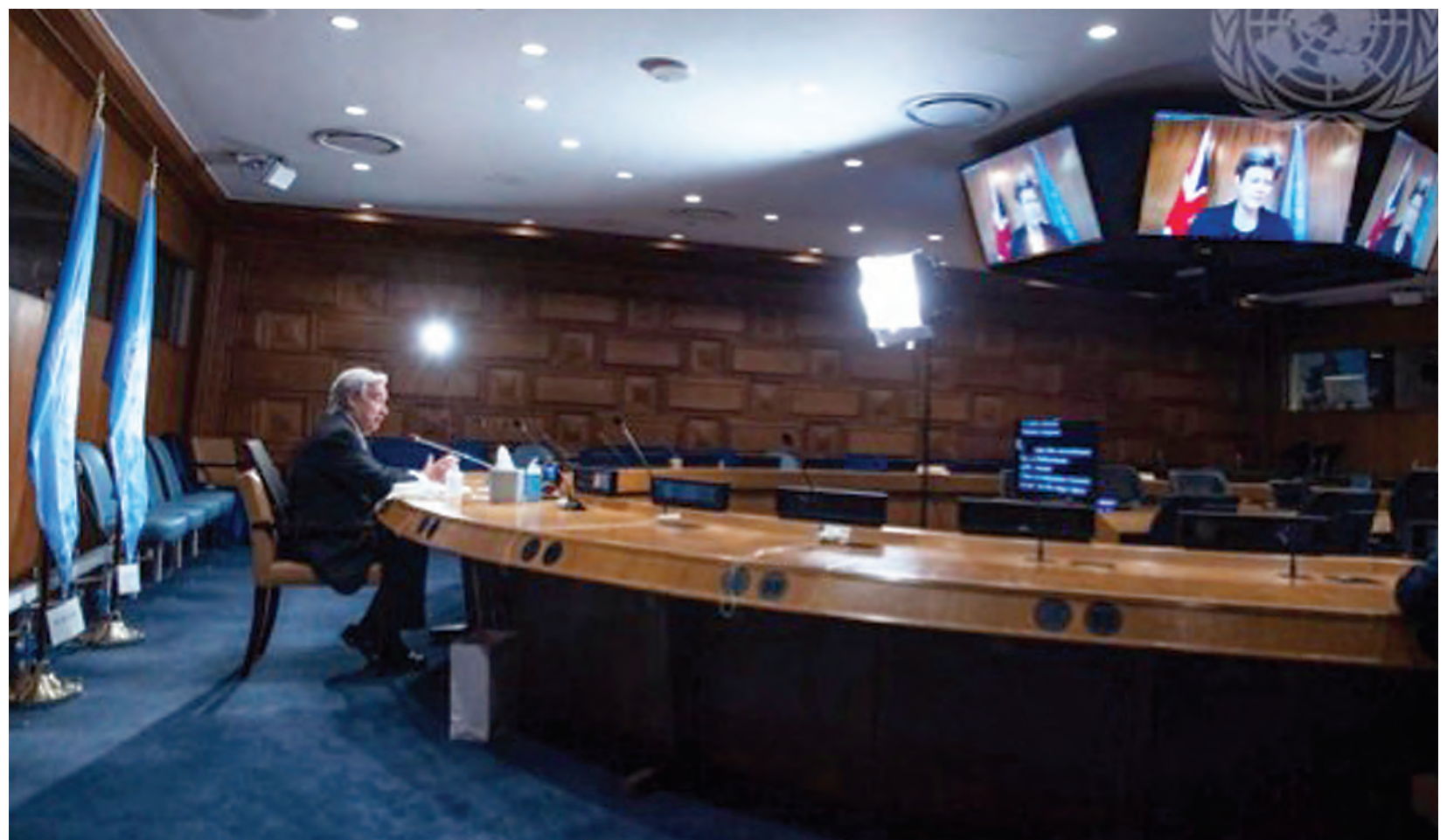
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Leaders at COP26 ought to avoid global 'squid game' where winners prosper and losers perish



UN Secretary-General António Guterres, seated at left, and Alok Sharma, President for COP26, hold a virtual briefing to update member states on preparations for COP26 in Glasgow, August 2, 2021.

By Dr Hans Henri Kluge

"WE must not spiral into a devastating - and lethal - survival game where we struggle for our health, fight for natural resources and livelihoods" writes Dr Hans Kluge of the World Health Organisation

25 years ago, Tombé faced an impossible decision - much like the contestants in the hugely popular Korean Netflix series that has taken the world by storm. But for Tombé, it wasn't fiction, nor was it a game. For generations, his ancestors in Mauritania had lived off the land in a time when seasonal rains were predictable and plentiful, enough to sustain everyone in his village. But that was then. As rain became less regular and cultivating food and livestock became more difficult, 25 years ago Tombé took a momentous decision that would change the course of his life. He left. And in an instant, he became a so-called environmental migrant long before the term was coined by the media and politicians. "When we still had water, no one felt the need to leave," he said.

Tombé migrated between continents to end up in France. His plight seems far away, with little relevance to you and me. But that is a grave miscalculation. Because today, climate change is happening everywhere, affecting everyone, forcing people to move between and within countries.

Last summer I visited one of France's most famous wine regions, not too far from Tombé's home in Paris. Many families have lived there for generations cultivating the distinct grapes that make this region famous. But with the climate becoming increasingly erratic, many of these families are looking at the prospect of relocating or finding other ways to put food on the table.

The latest report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has reiterated that climate change is rapid and intensifying. We know that climate change knows no borders, although some areas will be affected sooner, some later, with varying intensity. Tombé and his family were affected already 25 years ago. By 2050, an estimated 216 million people will be on the move within their own countries because of climate change. That's nearly half of the population of the European Union. We can already see the effects: from more frequent and intense extreme weather events such as droughts, wildfires and floods to new patterns of infectious diseases.

As devastating floods swept across Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and Luxemburg in July, people lost livelihoods and homes, while southern Europe and

the Mediterranean suffered deadly wildfires. As extreme weather conditions and other climatic changes become more common, we will have to learn to live with the impacts of climate change. For all of us, climate change is - and increasingly will be - a health issue.

As world leaders come together for COP26 in Glasgow, we still have a narrow yet achievable roadmap to reach the 1.5-degree target, and we cannot afford losing this opportunity. Now is the time to collectively address the existential threat before us. If we fail to keep global temperatures at bay, the impacts on our health will be profound and severe, affecting clean air, safe drinking water, food supplies and access to safe shelter. Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year globally from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress. The cost of direct damage to health is estimated to be between USD 2-4 billion/year by 2030. Areas with weak health infrastructure will be the least able to cope without assistance to prepare and respond to these changing needs. One billion children - an almost unfathomable number - are at extreme risk of climate impacts globally.

The time has come to stop think-

ing of climate change in terms of "us" and "them". We must not spiral into a devastating - and lethal - survival game where we struggle for our health, fight for natural resources and livelihoods, and where those less fortunate, pushed out of the arena, are left to perish. We must avoid a real-life 'squid game' at all costs.

Let me be clear: When leaders sit down in Glasgow to negotiate the world's common commitments to tackle climate change, the links between health, climate change and migration must be placed front and centre. We cannot forget that already today, millions of people are suffering the consequences and bearing the brunt of our changing climate, with major impacts on their physical and mental health, not to mention their quality of life.

We cannot accept a world where the privileged few are protected from the ravages of climate change while the rest of the world bears the brunt. Keeping our promise to leave no one behind means honouring the right to health in a changing climate for all, including refugees and migrants, from origin to destination.

Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge is the World Health Organisation's Regional Director for Europe

ASEAN eyes community building, common prosperity

BANGKOK

AS the global recovery still moves in fits and starts amid the COVID-19 pandemic, at this year's East Asian leaders' meetings on cooperation, regional countries were trying to find ways to steer the region through the COVID-19 crisis and towards a comprehensive and sustainable recovery.

Participants of the three-day virtual gathering that concluded Thursday, including leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members as well as China, Japan and South Korea, agreed to enhance cooperation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, promote economic recovery and seek sustainable development.

TO ENHANCE ASEAN COMMUNITY BUILDING

During the 38th and 39th ASEAN summits and related summits, ASEAN leaders reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen the ASEAN Community as well as ASEAN's centrality and unity to address common challenges as well as to advance ASEAN's comprehensive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

They agreed to push forward a wide range of initiatives to strengthen the region's preparedness for future challenges, including the "ASEAN SHIELD," a scheme for better institutional coordination to enhance the region's preparedness and response to future emergencies and disasters; efforts to respond to and recover from COVID-19, including work to procure vaccines as well as cooperation to address mental health issues and nurture a Care Economy for the protection and welfare of the people of ASEAN, which are important building blocks to realize an ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and beyond.

Noting that tourism is one of the sectors hardest hit by the pandemic, ASEAN leaders highlighted the importance of strengthening regional

and international cooperation to safely restart and rebuild ASEAN tourism industry as a significant contributor to economic and social advancements and a major source of employment, income and livelihood for people and local communities in the region.

"ASEAN Community-building will always be a work in progress, and it is thus vital to remain committed to upholding multilateralism and a strong regional architecture to enable meaningful progress for generations to come," Haji Hassanali Bolkiyah, the Sultan of Brunei, who is also the ASEAN chairman for 2021, said at the closing ceremony, before handing over the ASEAN chairmanship to Samdech Techo Hun Sen, prime minister of Cambodia.

"As the chair of ASEAN in 2022, Cambodia will steer ASEAN's collective efforts to accomplish our important tasks, especially expediting the building process of an equitable, strong, and inclusive ASEAN Community, in line with the core spirit of ASEAN: One Vision, One Identity and One Community," Hun Sen said.

CLOSER COMMUNITY WITH SHARED FUTURE

Since they established a dialogue relationship in 1991, China and ASEAN have stood together and supported each other through hard times.

They have jointly coped with the 1997 Asian financial crisis, the 2003 SARS pandemic, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and the 2008 global financial crisis.

With their meaningful, substantive and mutually beneficial partnership, China and ASEAN will play a bigger and leading role in boosting regional cooperation, development and stability, said Natee Taweersrifuengfung, president of the Thailand-based Siam Think Tank.

Again, during the fight against COVID-19, they supported each other by providing vaccines, medical supplies and by sharing prevention and treatment experience.



5G-powered unmanned aerial vehicle of China Telecom is showcased at the China-ASEAN AI Summit held in Nanning, south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, Sept. 7, 2019. File photo

China has provided ASEAN countries with more than 300 million COVID-19 vaccines, and has pledged to carry out vaccine cooperation with more ASEAN members.

Most of the 21st century problems, such as migration, transnational crimes, climate change and pandemics, require solutions that go beyond borders, said Austin Ong, researcher of Manila-based think tank Integrated Development Studies Institute. "Bridges of communication, understanding, friendship will be more critical than ever."

This is where ASEAN and China can blaze new trails together," the expert said. China and ASEAN shall further unleash the energy and potential of their relations with more active steps and more innovative measures, and build a closer com-

munity with a shared future for the benefit of the over 2 billion people in 11 countries, Chinese Ambassador to ASEAN Deng Xijun told Xinhua in a written interview.

TO GROW TOGETHER, PROSPER TOGETHER

Rebooting economic growth was high on the agenda of the three-day meetings as leaders tried to draw plans and strategies to bring economic activity back to pre-pandemic levels and foster new growth drivers. ASEAN countries would look to China to fuel their economic recovery as China is a great example of containing COVID-19 while bringing economic activity back in full force, said Malaysian political analyst Azmi Hassan.

"ASEAN as a whole is looking keen-

ly towards China for its own economic revitalization," he said. Thanks to the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (FTA), tariffs have been coming down, driving a brisk growth in bilateral trade. Shaking off the pandemic impacts, China and ASEAN became each other's largest trading partner for the first time last year.

Bilateral trade maintained growth momentum in 2021, surging 31.1 per cent year-on-year to 630.54 billion U.S. dollars in the first three quarters.

Two-way investment has also been booming and exceeded 310 billion dollars as of June this year in cumulative terms.

Looking ahead, analysts expect greater regional integration in terms of market, supply chains and infra-

structure with several supporting agendas, including the ASEAN-China FTA, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the Belt and Road Initiative.

"China and ASEAN countries need to harness our strengths of geographical proximity and industrial complementarity to pursue regional economic integration at a higher level," said Chinese Premier Li Keqiang at the 24th China-ASEAN leaders' meeting via video link.

To accelerate regional economic integration, Li announced at the meeting that China will work with ASEAN to officially launch a joint feasibility study to further enhance the China-ASEAN FTA.

At the series of meetings, leaders of China and ASEAN agreed to push forward an early implementation of the RCEP, the trade pact between the 10 ASEAN member states plus China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand which was signed last November.

As the pandemic continues to weigh on global economic growth, the mega trade pact, once taking into effect, will not only inject new impetus to China-ASEAN cooperation as well as regional economic recovery and integration, but also boost the world economy, said Wang Liping, minister counsellor for Economic and Commercial Affairs of the Chinese Embassy in Thailand.

Leaders of China and ASEAN also stressed the need to strengthen cooperation to enhance the connectivity and resilience of supply chains in the region by exploring "the development of economic corridors, as well as economic, trade, and industrial parks."

With the development of various regional mechanisms such as the RCEP as well as the ASEAN Plus China (10+1) and ASEAN Plus China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (10+3) platforms, the region will enjoy common development and more vibrant growth, Natee said.

Thabo Mbeki calls for social compact to eradicate poverty and unemployment

By Des Erasmus

FORMER South African president Thabo Mbeki (pictured) has said that a social compact should be agreed upon and implemented to eradicate poverty, inequality and unemployment in the country.

Importantly, this should be done in the form of a commitment – that demands results – instead of a promise, he said.

"This social compact that must produce this plan to eradicate unemployment, poverty, and inequality... some things have already been done. What is outstanding is that the social partners must get together to say, 'We have some vision of where we want to go, and let's make this into an implementable plan.' That is what is missing."

Mbeki was speaking at an ANC-sponsored event at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre in eThekweni. The audience included captains of industry, business owners, academics, NGOs, politicians, ANC affiliates and unions, community leaders and residents.

He referred to the release, in 2020 by Business for South Africa (B4SA), of a 111-page presentation outlining a proposed economic response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The plan required policy interventions and could increase GDP by R1-trillion, create up to 1.5 million jobs and increase tax revenue by R100-billion per annum.

According to the proposal, the private sector would need to commit funding of R1-trillion. B4SA said if the plan was adopted, GDP would, by 2030, increase from \$330-billion to \$550-billion, unemployment would shrink to 15%, business confidence would increase 14-fold and global competitiveness would more than double.

The plan included a 12-point key policy focus that included tackling corruption, improving ease of business, state-owned entity rationalisation, clarity on land reform, simplifying mining regulation and reviewing trade policies.

Mbeki said this was the first time since South Africa entered its democratic era in 1994 that the meaning of "social partnerships" was realised,



when society was "speaking in one voice about one thing".

It was an extraordinary commitment, he said.

Few would disagree that the South African economy and local government were in a crisis, he said, and that corruption had a direct result on how national resources were being managed.

Such things were included in the election manifestos of almost all of the

political parties that he had read, said Mbeki.

"Our economy is in crisis. Those jobs will not come if we don't attend to the economy. Let me read a commitment which the ANC makes in that regard [in its manifesto]: 'We must urgently finalise the social compact with the social partners to achieve our social transformation to eradicate poverty, inequality and unemployment'."

"I like to believe this is not a promise, but a commitment. I think all of us have clearly followed developments in the country regarding [the economy]. All of us as South Africans should take this up with the ANC."

"We must say to the ANC, this is what you promised in your manifesto... and social partners have already produced a vision and a plan [to rescue the economy]," he said.

Of the governing party, he said the ANC had long been warned that those joining for obvious self-enrichment should not have been allowed access. "We failed to deal with this problem."

"These people [eventually increase in number] and they are bound to af-

fect the quality of the party. At Nasrec in 2017, we said there must be renewal, or it will become a matter of life and death for the ANC."

"The ANC understands that if it wants to exist, it must renew itself. That renewal will give us the passion that is needed in governance."

There are commitments that have been made by the ANC... we owe it to ourselves to say that the ANC must live up to those commitments. If the ANC doesn't correct itself in that context, the country is in trouble."

Local government had to be approached in a "rational and intelligent way" he said, touching on the District Development Model (also mentioned in the ANC manifesto) which speaks to better coordination between local and district municipalities.

Using eThekweni metro as an example, he said: "Two years ago, in terms of capital budget, something like 43% came from own resources generated by the municipality. Then take the OR Tambo [ORT] District Municipality in the Eastern Cape. For the same year, the same period, the amount of money

for capital investments generated from local resources was 1%."

"You can't conceivably think ORT is going to develop, so what are we going to do? Financing of local government can't all be the same. One proposal is that the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) – one of the biggest financiers of local government and metros – should concentrate on these districts that can't raise the funds themselves."

"eThekweni can issue municipal bonds, but ORT can't. So why don't we get the metros to take care of themselves? And resources from the DBSA can go to municipalities that can't survive."

More resources were needed to finance development in local municipalities, he said, and citizens had to be informed of what was being done to generate this.

"This challenge to get social partners together is critical to that. As is cleaning up local government. You can generate huge resources, but if you don't have a value system, those resources will disappear into people's pockets." DM

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

LSFs programme on accessing justice helps in reducing congestion in prisons

By Guardian Reporter

AS a universal right, justice is expected to be accessible to all regardless of prevailing circumstances. In an ideal situation probably no one would want to find themselves pressed by the need to use legal aid services, however in many instances ideal situations remain but distant dreams.

Across the breadth of the country people from all walks of civilian life encounter legal challenges of varying magnitudes many of which are resolved successfully within reasonable amounts of time while others may experience protracted procedures with diverse outcomes. For some, these procedures can lead to police custody and in advanced situations incarceration.

When the Legal Services Facility (LSF) rolled out its Access to Justice Programme a decade ago it had understood and taken on board the harsh reality that in a population of some 60 million people most of whom live in rural locations, a very small number had ready access to legal aid services. In other words, most Tanzanians didn't routinely have easily-accessible opportunities through which disputes could be addressed through legal channels neither did they have places from which they could absorb legal awareness. To someone who hasn't worn the shoes of these unfortunate ordinary people this situation may not make much of an impression however it is a fact that has for a long time defined the welfare of countless Tanzanians.

As basket fund LSF avails grants to numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organisations (CSOs) both on the mainland and Zanzibar to facilitate the availability of legal aid services

to the lowest levels of communities with the ultimate intent of having a society built of equality and equity in respect of justice. In essence, this goal establishes the universality of the very concept of justice by establishing a foundation upon which every individual can have access to justice with minimum if not zero hindrance.

Most of the work done by organizations that are supported by LSF is easily visible due to the fact that beneficiaries are women, men and children we see around our communities everyday - at the office, the market place, school, places of worship, hospitals and many others. There is one group, however, that many don't often come into interaction with under ordinary circumstances; these are women and men, and children as well, who are in detention facilities. In all honesty these people can even be considered as "forgotten." This may have been the case in years past, but LSF's Access to Justice Program does provide them also with another chance at justice and fairness, implying that being behind bars isn't necessarily the end of one's story.

Among organizations that work with support from LSF is Envirocare, a non-profit organization first registered in 1993 and working to address environmental conservation, human rights, gender equality and good governance. Envirocare began engaging in the provision of legal aid services in the years that followed after meeting the legal requirements for doing so, and proceeded to reach out to children, men and women who couldn't afford the services, and also to those held in custody in police cells and prisons around the country.

The drive to concentrate the or-



LSF chief executive officer Lulu Ng'wanakilala

ganization's focus on people held in such institutions started early in 2000 catalysed by the state of prisons which was predominantly characterized by congestion, a problem that has defined prisons around the country for decades.

A survey conducted jointly by Envirocare and the Prisons Service in 2012, the year that the organization also received its first round of funding from LSF, revealed that there were 4,737 remands in custody which was twice the capacity of surveyed facilities. A vivid example of this situation was Keko Prison which at the time of the survey held between 1,100 and 1,500 inmates against its official capacity of just 340, held in unsafe and inhumane conditions. According to Envirocare conditions in police cells aren't different either.

In essence the aim of the organization's first project under LSF funding which was conducted from 2012 - 2015 was to reduce congestion in 20 remand prisons and 4 juvenile retention facilities along with ensuring all persons held in remand around the country have access to justice.

Regarding this project, Envirocare's Deputy Director Catherine

Jerome says, "This undertaking allowed us to identify and train 88 paralegals based in prisons; we helped enhance the work capacities of 25 police officers, 25 magistrates and 50 prison wardens in respect of pertinent laws, human rights and investigation. Just as importantly we reached out to 3,961 adult remands, of whom 546 were women, 3,415 men, and 145 children. Out of these 3,961 cases 1,284 were bailed, 510 were released, 484 remained in custody and 1,683 cases remained on-going.

"We are delighted that to date amongst other accomplishments there has been effective and beneficial work relations we cultivated with other stakeholders in the realm of criminal justice, the establishment of legal aid desks inside prisons, reduction in prison congestion, improved relations between paralegals, the police and magistrates in areas we carried out the project and the establishment of a database that aids these functions. It is further vital to note that this initiative also increased the number of police posts in project regions".

These results make a unique and direct contribution to LSF's Access

to Justice Program by including people that most other initiatives don't expressly target but still need functional access to legal aid services. Very often it is perceived that this program is mostly intended to help ordinary citizens, however access to justice is a wholesome concept and it is designed to bring into its fold those charged with discharging justice just as much as those expected to benefit from it regardless of their circumstances.

In the second phase which began in 2017 and is expected to end late in 2021, Envirocare has been working to decongest urban remand prisons through the provision of more intensive legal aid. Additionally, its work within this period also includes ensuring justice is provided timely, and that there's improved coordination and cooperation among relevant stakeholders in the criminal justice system.

In implementing this grant cycle the organization has disseminated legal education publications, trained 272 paralegals of whom 160 are police officers and 112 prison wardens, and trained 27 liaison officers. To date, 21,841 remands have accessed legal aid as well as 292 juveniles.

During the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, a review of outreach methods enabled the organization to establish a hotline through which 3,292 people continued to benefit from legal aid services. Targeting remands and inmates serving sentences in prisons, legal education was extended with the collaboration of the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs and the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Police and Prisons Service to reach a total of 8,881 adults and 197 juveniles. Envirocare also utilizes radio programmes and other platforms for effective outreach around the country and as the second funding phase of its mandate draws to its close already 35,297 people in custody have accessed legal aid services.

LSF's senior programme manager, Deo Bwire says, "The dedication and creativity that Envirocare has shown in addressing justice deficits in our custody system have helped to alleviate the suffering of thousands of people around the country who find themselves in the wrong end of the law.

Justice is a universal value and we continue to support every noble initiative that aims to ensure there is sufficient access to legal aid services anywhere in the country regardless of the beneficiary's situation. The enormous contribution Envirocare in close partnership with other stakeholders has been making throughout these years means that our program is very effective and that a significant number of Tanzanians are seeing the light of day in regard to their human rights".

As LSF reaches its 10-year milestone, the impact of the Programme can be attested to in the results that its partners including Envirocare continue to record. The extensive work to decongest prisons allows more and more men, women and children in custody to have increasingly unimpeded access to justice while also helping to strengthen the criminal justice system as a whole.

Media practitioners empowered on safety and health reporting amid pandemics

By Guardian Reporter

UNESCO has supported a series of virtual capacity building workshop to journalists on health reporting and safety while covering the COVID -19 pandemic in East Africa.

This is due to the fact that media practitioners across the world have faced unprecedented challenges in engaging and informing citizens and public about the on-going global health crisis.

The training was held between October 7th and 15th 2021 and was facilitated by Africa Centre for Peo-

ple Institutions and Society (ACEPIS) in partnership with World Health Organisation (WHO) and Africa Infodemic Response Alliance (AIRA) with funds from the European.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been increased rise of false information about the vaccines, cures for the virus, wild conspiracy theories on the origin of the virus and harmful health advice disseminated on various media platforms, especially social media.

The training involved 278 media practitioners drawn

from 149 media organizations across -Burundi, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Sudan, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Sergio Cecchini, Information Management Officer, and Coordinator of the Africa Infodemic Response Alliance (AIRA) at World Health Organisation (WHO) informed participants that the COVID-19 pandemic was accompanied by another form of pandemic related to overproduction of information on the pandemic.

He said the pandemic has affected the ability of governments, national agen-

cies/institutions, civil society organizations and academia to deploy health interventions to counter and respond to the impact and spread of the virus.

Cecchini said: "Such joint collaboration and engagements provide opportunity for various actors to share best practices, experience and also challenges. This is the most effective way to counter the spread of misinformation and disinformation. It is important that we join expertise, skills and also networks to timely detect misinformation to define strategies and tactics

to counter it".

John Okande, UNESCO National Programme Officer for Communication and Information Sector in Eastern Africa informed participants of their important role in reporting responsibly, staying physically and mentally safe, healthy, and countering disinformation and misinformation related to the pandemic.

"UNESCOs support to this training represent our continued commitment to providing more opportunities for capacity building of media practitioners and other actors to report and

disseminate authentic and factual content related to the pandemic while at the same time ensuring their personal and physical safety during their work", he said.

Rachel Olpengs, Programmes Manager at Africa Centre for People Institution and Society (ACEPIS) thanked UNESCO, WHO and AIRA, among other partners, for the resources, partnership and continued support towards the success of this intervention in Eastern Africa.

She encouraged participants to use the gained

knowledge to improve the way they prepare, cover and disseminate content while ensuring more professionalism, responsibility and accountability in their work.

Celestine Awirema, a journalist from Rwanda said that COVID-19 has affected all sectors including journalism and changed the way they used to report stories and their editorial practices, and a good reminder to journalists that their intervention in the battle to fight disinformation and misinformation related to COVID-19 is crucial.

Agency produces over 2,000 tonnes of sunflower seeds in effort to limit shortage of oil

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

EFFORTS by the government to contain edible oil shortage have started to produce positive outcomes following a successful move by the Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) to produce at least 2,000 tonnes of improved sunflower seeds.

The development is part of strategies by the state-owned agency to comply with directives from the government.

The country experiences an acute shortage of edible oil due to poor cultivation of the oil-based raw material crop, the situation which pushes the country to spend around 500bn/- to import the oil annually.

In June this year, Agriculture minister Adolf Mkenda tasked ASA to embark on a strategic project for the vast production of sunflower seeds and distribute to the farmers at fair prices.

In an interview with The Guard-

ian, ASA production manager, Dr Justice Ringo said the produced improved seeds are of good standards and with high oil content.

"We have started with 2000 tonnes by the vision to keep on producing in order to supply local farmers from across the country with abundant seeds," he stated.

Dr Ringo appreciated efforts so far made by the government in assisting the agency to run its top activities well, especially in the area of sunflower seed production.

During this fiscal year, the government increased budgetary allocation towards the Agency, from 5.52bn/- to 10.58 bn/-

According to Prof Mkenda, the government was also in a move to ensure ASA's farms are installed with modern irrigation schemes as well as other necessary agricultural infrastructures, including modern warehouses.

"We want to see ASA make full utilisation of all of its 13 farms that



are scattered at different areas of the country in order to curtail the shortage of seed varieties for key crops in the country," he insisted.

On her part, ASA chief executive officer, Dr Sophia Kashenge said in a period of four consecutive years the agency managed to improve its seed production capacity from 557 tonnes during 2016/17 to 1,750 tonnes in 2019/20, the impressive trend which enable ASA to stand fifth amid the companies that produced improved seeds during 2018/19.

"Our mission is to ensure ASA's general production of improved seed varieties increases from 1,750 tonnes to at least 3,750 tonnes by 2022," Dr Kashenge unveiled.

Production of sunflower in the country is currently at 290,000 tonnes which is higher than the 205,000 tonnes produced during last year.

Sunflowers contribute to at least 68.9 percent of all edible oil produced in Tanzania, with the remaining 30.1 percent coming from other crops, including palm oil.

Reports show that increased human population and sunflowers processing industries, as well as economic growth stands as among the reasons that push for the increased demand for edible oil in the country.

Statistics depict that demand for seeds in Tanzania stands at 186,500 tonnes per year, but the amount that is produced is only 71,000 tonnes.

Public trust and coalitions: Voter turnout crucial as politicians haggle for power

By Marianne Merten

At least four of the eight metros are set to be governed by coalitions – Johannesburg, Tshwane, Ekurhuleni and Nelson Mandela Bay – perhaps eThekweni too, even though it's an outlier. That pattern is set to hold true across many of the 205 local municipalities.

The role of independents – at 1,546 almost double the number who stood in 2016 – cannot be underestimated, alongside that of community, residents and religion-based municipal candidates, plus newcomers like the Good party and ActionSA.

While the ANC looks set for a national result of just above 50% – it scored 55.68% nationally in the 2016 municipal poll – that support would largely be on the back of support from more rural provinces such as Limpopo, Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal, signalling a further shift in character.

The DA could well be the biggest loser in the wake of electioneering that moved from emphasising how it is getting things done to raising the EFF as the bogeyman radicalising the ANC, and such.

The DA is now pegged at winning around 20% of the vote – a more than four percentage point drop from the 24.57% it clinched in the 2016 municipal poll. Look for some creative maths from DA Federal Council chairperson Helen Zille, who massaged the numbers to turn her party's loss of nine wards into an increase of support in the November 2020 so-called Super Wednesday by-elections.

The EFF is poised to benefit from an increasingly disenchanted electorate, to whom the party's jobs and land motto appeals. The EFF, which in its 2016 municipal debut scored 8.3% support, is looking to be king-maker again, particularly in hung metros.

ActionSA leader Herman Mashaba

makes no bones about wanting another stint as Johannesburg mayor, now that he's shot of the DA. While the party's own polling of 30% support in South Africa's economic centre is widely seen as overly ambitious, ActionSA may well make a respectable election debut, possibly nudging into double figures. This would strengthen its hand in coalition talks.

The Freedom Front Plus has been trending up since the May 2019 general elections, after its MP numbers increased from four to 10, and hopes to boost its number of councillors, currently at 83. It's open to coalitions, as is the IFP, although that party may well decide to take different tacks in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng – given the different provincial dynamics for the IFP.

The role of independents or community organisations such as the Makhanda Citizens Front, which emerged from protests over Makhanda municipal failures, from providing water to removing refuse, can't be underestimated at a micro level.

Regardless of how messy the coalitions of Johannesburg, Nelson Mandela Bay Metro and Tshwane have proved over the past five years in a toxic mix of economic muscle and political egos, the 2016 municipal poll and subsequent by-elections show the trend is towards coalition.

Any coalition politicking can only unfold after ballots are cast on 1 November.

Electioneering SA-style has a certain rhythm, often accompanied by protests as communities try to make the most of the attention politicians focus on them in a search for votes.

The grim mood has not gone unnoticed by the ANC, which fielded its president Cyril Ramaphosa as the face of the local government poll, banking on his popularity – it outstrips that of his party. Still, Ramaphosa had to tell hecklers to keep quiet – not once or twice, but consistently across various cam-



From left: EFF supporters hold the party flag at a rally, Pieter Groenewald, leader of the Freedom Front Plus leader of the DA John Steenhuisen and ANC President Cyril Ramaphosa.

aign stops.

With apologies for past mishaps and promises of doing better, the ANC 2021 pitch was essentially, "Give us another chance!" This revolves around being able to pull national issues like social grants into the local sphere and hoping that loyalty trumps simmering frustration.

"I wish the Buffalo could find the soldier," said one person during Ramaphosa's Cape Town tour, in a play on the president's Buffalo Soldier nickname arising from his game farming interests.

"We are waging this campaign on a non-existing budget. There's just no budget at all," Ramaphosa told ANC supporters in Cape Town's Rylands Ward 46 on 21 October. "Comrade Mbalula thought there was a certain budget. But there's no budget at all. The people are the budget."

ANC elections boss, Fikile Mbalula, also transport minister, sparked controversy after claiming the ANC had a R50-million budget for the 2021 municipal elections. It's a tiny fraction of the R1-billion the party spent in 2016, according to then elections head Nomvula Mokonyane, although the ANC later somewhat distanced itself from her statement.

In some ways, the 2021 ANC election campaign is a flashback to 2016, when the ANC hit the road "to explain itself" after accepting its then president Jacob Zuma's apology for the Nkandla debacle following the landmark Constitutional Court judgement in March of that year which upheld the Public Protector's powers.

That didn't work then. The ANC dropped eight percentage points in national support and lost control of South Africa's economic hub, Johannesburg, the administrative capital Tshwane and Nelson Mandela Bay metro. That's the heart of the Eastern Cape's economy. Elsewhere, the ANC remained in charge only courtesy of coalitions, as happened in Ekurhuleni and Rustenburg, the main town

in South Africa's platinum belt.

It remains to be seen whether the latest apologetic appeals for yet another chance will motivate ANC voters to cast ballots for the party which, according to a City Press-commissioned poll, just over 60% of supporters themselves regard as corrupt.

The DA's tightly choreographed electioneering gigs limit potentially embarrassing interjections. Instead, it was a case of scoring own goals – like the Phoenix posters that were roundly criticised as racist and celebrating vigilantism, and as undermining the attempts at reconciliation after mostly black residents from Inanda were killed in Phoenix during the July unrest.

The official line seems to be that this debacle was a storm in a Twitter cup, and has had no impact on DA polling. But the DA's 20% target is down from actual 2016 performance – a first for the party that touts growth at the hustings as a core indicator of success.

The DA has resigned itself to dropping about 11 percentage points in Cape Town, where, after clinching control 15 years ago, it now holds a two-thirds majority. A mid-50s percentage poll is anticipated.

That lower DA polling will not extract a heavy political price as Cape Town mayoral candidate Geordin Hill-Lewis is the newcomer. A price might be paid later – not just in the metro, but elsewhere in the DA-run Western Cape despite the delivery track record the DA claims where it governs.

Getting things done was a central slogan for much of the DA electioneering, but delivery is skewed to town and suburbia as GroundUp reports in Witzenberg and Midvaal.

When in the May 2019 elections the DA dropped support to 20.77% from 22.23% in 2014, then leader Mmusi Maimane accepted that the buck stopped with him and

he resigned. The question in 2021 will be, if the DA comes in below the 20% it currently talks about – some polls put the party at around 17% – whether party leader John Steenhuisen will also fall on his sword. Or perhaps even Helen Zille, who has chosen her moments to dip in and out of electioneering. These moments include television and radio ads invoking the EFF as a threat and as a party that is radicalising the ANC.

Such DA scaremongering tactics echo the 1999 "Fight Back" campaign – popularly dubbed "Fight Black" – by then Democratic Party leader Tony Leon. But this campaign took the DA from a 1.7% party after the 1994 elections to 9.56% in 1999. DA lore deems this "Fight Back" campaign a success.

But how fear-mongering about the EFF in particular and the ANC in general plays out, alongside an admonition that a vote for "smaller parties" would weaken the DA, remains to be seen.

The EFF has pretty much promised everything to everyone in a campaign strictly focused on its leader, Julius Malema. But its manifesto, fine-tuned to provinces, shows grassroots work, identifying how this ward in that town needs a hall, library or decent housing.

And the red beret campaign trail has been energetic, brisk and, yes, fun. Whether that translates into more votes also remains to be seen.

The profiles of independents and community organisations, seen from a national perspective, have been very subdued – unlike other parties such as the IFP, which for the first time fields a candidate in every ward in eThekweni.

With 257 councils – eight metros, 205 local municipalities and 44 district councils (the third ballot everywhere except metros) – the possible permutations of political control at local government are plentiful. **DM**

The ugly truth behind Washington's 'fair competition' myth

BEIJING

U.S. intelligence officials issued a warning recently to American companies against working with China in key emerging technologies including artificial intelligence and semiconductors, saying that such ties threaten America's superiority in these industries.

Such a move is a flagrant and unscrupulous obstruction of normal global exchanges and cooperation and gravely runs counter to the principle of fair competition that the United States has long chanted. It is now increasingly clear that American-style "fair competition" is all about keeping "America First," and playing zero-sum games.

Judah Grunstein, editor-in-chief of World Politics Review, an online publisher of in-depth news and expert analysis on

global affairs, said in an article that the United States is "seeing everything through the prism of contest."

"The danger of seeing everything through the prism of a U.S.-China contest is that it reduces the world's regions to playing fields and its countries to prizes, rather than engaging with them as actors with their own interests and needs," he wrote.

History does not lack stories of the United States attempting to protect its selfish interests in the global market in the name of "fair competition." In the 1980s, it took unprecedented strict protective actions to hammer Japan's growing semiconductor industry, including launching anti-dumping investigations against Japanese companies, forcing the country to limit exports, and levying high retaliatory tariffs.

In the early years of this century when the U.S. steel

industry was facing competition from Europe, Washington did not focus on boosting the market competitiveness of its products.

Instead, the United States, under the pretext of unfair competition, chose to impose punitive duties and import restrictions on the steel products of its European allies. Over the past few years, Washington politicians have turned their sights on Chinese firms in order to contain China's development.

They have deliberately stirred up trade disputes with China, imposed bans on Chinese investments, and abused the concept of national security to batter Chinese enterprises. But have such detestable moves benefited the United States?

The answer is negative. As a matter of fact, Washington's bullying has shot itself in the foot, eroded foreign investors'



Photo taken on Aug. 20, 2021 shows a new container terminal at the Port of Long Beach in California, the United States. (Xinhua/Gao Shan)

confidence in the United States, and undermined the country's credibility in the global market.

According to a study commissioned by the U.S.-China Business Council earlier this year, the Washington-initiated trade war with China in 2018 resulted in a loss of over 200,000 jobs in the United States, as well as a 49-percent fall in foreign direct investment in the country.

In a survey conducted by U.S. media outlet Protocol which focuses on technology, nearly 60 percent of 1,578 U.S. technology workers believe that "U.S. restrictions on Chinese technology companies have gone too far," and "a Cold War with China could cripple U.S. tech companies."

Washington should abandon its hypocritical "fair competition" theory and learn to work with others in the spirit of mutual respect and mutual benefit. **Xinhua**

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS NACHO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS DJ SHOW 21:05 HRS DJ SHOW 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

BUSINESS



Exxon senior vice president Neil Chapman.

RELIEF

Exxon to go ahead with its US \$30 billion LNG project in Mozambique

MAPUTO

Exxon Mobil Corp remains focused on hydrocarbons and plans to press ahead with a \$30 billion liquefied natural gas project in Mozambique, a top executive said on Thursday.

"We've been in hydrocarbons for over 130 years... it's the core part of our business and it will be for a long time," Exxon Senior Vice President Neil Chapman said at a conference in the northern Italian city of Verona. Chapman's comments come after a report that Exxon's board was questioning whether to pursue several major oil and gas projects as investors call on fossil fuel companies to be more cost-conscious and green-energy friendly.

Activist investor Engine No. 1 shocked the industry earlier this year when three of its four nominees were elected to the board by Exxon shareholders. The appointment of activist Jeff Ubben in March put a third of the 12-member board in new hands.

"Yes we've had changes in the boardroom but it's the responsibility of management to lay out a clear strategy for stakeholders," Chapman said. He said Exxon's capabilities in oil and gas would support its pivot to the new technologies it was working on of

carbon capture and storage, hydrogen and biofuels.

"It's the pace issue we have to manage and that requires a flexible strategy," he said. As oil and gas demand falls in the energy transition, Exxon believes the world is better served by companies supplying the lowest cost barrels with the lowest emissions, he said.

Chapman said the group had not changed its plans over multi-billion-dollar gas investments in Mozambique and Vietnam. "We don't know the date (for the Mozambique final investment decision) right now but there's no change and what was reported in the U.S. media was not correct," he added.



It's the pace issue we have to manage and that requires a flexible strategy," he said. As oil and gas demand falls in the energy transition, Exxon believes the world is better served by companies supplying the lowest cost barrels with the lowest emissions

DIVERSITY

NMB Bank, Britam team up to give fishing industry insurance cover

By Guardian Reporter

INDIVIDUAL fishermen and their equipment will now afford to buy an affordable insurance cover thanks to a partnership forged between NMB Bank Plc and Britam Insurance.

Dubbed, 'Jahazi Insurance' the new product which was launched in Mwanza last week will be offered to small and medium size fishing individuals and their vessels plus associated machinery.

NMB's Chief of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi said the insurance cover will allow fishermen, fishing companies (small and medium) and employees conduct their business with full confidence because risks are contained.

"We are excited to see this product go live with Britam and to be part of their new frontier in bringing all sorts of fisheries insurance products and services - for the good of our current and all of the future customers," Mponzi said. It brings us one step

closer to becoming a one stop shop of all financial needs and solutions for customers."

Under the strategic partnership, Britam will offer insurance covering the vessel, machinery and fishermen against accidents with compensation of up to 2m/- for death and permanent disability medical expenses of up to 500,000/- and funeral expense of up to 200,000/-.

"NMB Bank is committed to providing innovative solutions to our customers and we are continually

investing and partnering strategically with companies to enhance our ability to deliver to the market," Mponzi stated.

Speaking at the same ceremony, Britam Insurance's CEO, Raymond Komanga said through the partnership with NMB, customers can now have access to one of the best marine insurance policies in the market.

"Successfully operating in this industry for years now, it was Britam's strategic goal to add another important service for our

fishermen and at the same time unlock yet another big revenue stream for the company," Komanga said.

He said with NMB, Britam has a robust and professional partner providing the much needed wide network to reach one of the very important groups in the economy. "With the bank's help, we shall bring onboard more vessel owners, and employees conducting fishing activities in the Indian Ocean and other water bodies in the country," he added.

IMPRESSIVE

Lutheran Hospital's neonatal care spearheads medical tourism drive



ELCT Northern Central Diocese Bishop, Dr Solomon Masangwa and Prof. Stephen Swanson of Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre in a souvenir photo with the hospital's management and board members. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

By Guardian Reporter

THE government's plan to turn the country's into a medical tourism destination has received a boost from Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre (ALMC) whose quality neonatal care services are already attracting foreign patients.

The latest developments indicate that the survival rate for extremely premature babies and critically ill newborns at ALMC's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit has exceeded 92 percent, the highest ratio yet for the country.

Because of such an impressive record, the ALMC is now attracting patients from several African countries which also send their medical personnel to learn some best practices. "As a result, over 20 hospitals and clinics started sending us their sickest and smallest babies. Importantly, this work was being accomplished without the benefit of advanced NICU technologies - mechanical ventilators," said Professor Stephen Swanson, the man behind the ALMC's success story.

Prof Swanson told participants to an International Neonatology Conference held in Arusha

last week that sharing the best practices that what they have realized is that equipment does not replace the skilled and motivated staff.

"Our heavy investment was made in equipping staff more than purchasing expensive technologies, as we sought to build the NICU and a competent team that can thrive in our African context," he said, amidst applause from the floor.

Prof Swanson also admitted that the road to success wasn't stress-free as the initial death rate for premature babies was so high - nearly 25 percent of admitted toddlers. "Our NICU grew out of duress and necessity. We made plenty of mistakes along the way. I can recall the NICU was a single room accommodating up to 12 babies, hot, and a sad place to be in," he added.

Prof Swanson explained that through collective efforts, particularly by the ALMC's nurses, who rose above the challenge, the main NICU was founded. The nurses learned, internalized protocols as they wrote them down.

"Our neonatal unit began to transform, and miracle babies

became a regular story. We wrote protocols in response to the challenges we were facing, and we learned by doing and always choosing to improve ourselves," he noted.

Seconding Prof Swanson's narration, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT)'s North Central Diocese Bishop, Dr Solomon Masangwa, said they have developed a five year plan to make the ALMC an icon in health-care delivery to complement state efforts in saving lives of Tanzanians.

"I, particularly feel indebted to Prof Swanson and his dear wife, Dr Jodi Swanson for their passion, devotion, and commitment to bring about the revolution in neonatal care service. I'm grateful that neonatal care has become among key flagship services we export internationally," Dr Masangwa said.

Speaking at the conference, the ALMC CEO, Elisha Twisa said the hospital's NICU team, along with colleagues from the USA, CCBRT and Muhimbili National Hospital have organised the conference to share best practices in a bid to ease the neonatal mortality rate.

"A child born in Sub-Saharan Africa is 10 times more likely to die in the first month of life than a child born in high-income countries," Twisa said, adding: "Sub-Saharan Africa carries the highest neonatal mortality rate at 27 deaths per 1000 live births."

In Tanzania, Twisa observed, the neonatal mortality rate stands at 20.3 per 1000 live births even higher than the global neonatal mortality rate of 17 deaths per 1000 live births. "A preterm birth complication is listed as the leading cause of this high mortality rate and it cuts across all categories of mortality rates in children," he told the conference.

The ALMC CEO said about a third of newborn deaths could be prevented with simple, feasible, cost-effective interventions such as essential care during birth - the golden minute and in the post-natal period - timely assessment and proper interventions, adequate and proper feeding, and temperature regulation.

The three days conference attracted participants from Kenya, Uganda, Botswana, Malawi, Ethiopia, and 47 local hospitals personnel.



Kahama-based businesswoman Mamuu Makere (R) displays boxes loaded with chalk sticks she makes during last year's Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair under the sponsorship of Barrick Gold Corporation's subsidiary, Twiga Minerals Corporation. President Samia Suluhu Hassan (L), who was then Vice President was chief guest at the fair. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

Green energy investors to get insurance boost

NAIROBI

Kenyan insurers and the UK government-backed Financial Sector Deepening (FSD) are teaming up with UK-based energy and climate risk finance company Parhelion to cushion local investors in renewable energy projects from unexpected losses.

FSD said the parties will launch a first-of-its-kind underwriting facility, backed by local insurers, to de-risk early stage development of geothermal energy projects in Kenya and Ethiopia with the capacity to significantly expand electricity access. The initiative is expected to create 2,600 jobs in renewable energy and insurance sectors while bringing electricity to 5.25 million people who currently live without

power, said FSD.

"Kenya and Ethiopia have large geothermal potential; however, growth in the sector is held back by high upfront investment coupled with the risk of drilling wells that are found to be commercially unviable," said FSD.

"Parhelion will work with East African insurers to create an underwriting facility that mitigates the low probability, high-cost risk of unviable wells. This will use insurance capital to de-risk the early-stage development of geothermal projects, making it easier for projects to attract private investment."

Parhelion is also planning to launch the GeoFutures Fund, which would invest in nascent geothermal projects. High upfront costs are

associated with infrastructure development in greenfield projects hampering efforts to harness geothermal energy.

A geothermal well costs about Sh650 million to drill, highlighting the capital-intensive and risky nature of the investment. East Africa has a potential geothermal capacity of 15,000 megawatts (MW), FSD said, with Kenya accounting for the bulk of installed capacity at about 860MW, while Ethiopia has seven megawatts.

"With support from the programme, Parhelion and FSD Africa forecast a 20 percent increase in geothermal output for Kenya and a 500 percent rise in Ethiopia, preventing more than 515,000 tonnes of CO2 per year."

CONFIDENCE

Absa Group CEO commends Zambian appointed to head regional franchise



Absa Regional Operations new group executive, Saviour Chibiya.

By Guardian Reporter

ZAMBIAN Saviour Chibiya who was named as new Group Executive for Absa Regional Operations, is a highly qualified and experienced banker hence very promising to deliver on the job.

In a statement released on Friday, Absa Group's interim CEO, Jason Quinn said Chibiya is a seasoned banker with deep institutional knowledge of the group, as well extensive and diversified banking experience, at both country and regional level across the continent.

"We are proud that this appointment is drawn from within our leadership structures. Saviour's experience will contribute immensely to the strength and diversity of our executive leadership

team and we are excited about the perspectives that he will bring," Quinn said.

Commenting on his latest appointment, Chibiya who is a fellow of Zambia Institute of Banking and Financial Services and holds an Economics degree from University of Zambia, said, "I am excited to be embarking on this journey, and look forward to collaborating with colleagues, customers, regulators and the communities in which we operate to bring Africa's possibilities to life."

He said Absa Group's strong franchise across ARO is critical to the future growth of the banking group. "In most of the countries in which we operate, we are among the top financial services providers and we have strengthened this position through innovative product and service offerings cater-

ing to both our local customers and global clients," he noted.

In his new capacity, Chibiya will be responsible for the group's ARO businesses and strategy, collaboration and relationships with its key stakeholders across several African markets. Absa operates in 14 African countries.

The group owns majority stakes in banks in Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania (Absa Bank Tanzania and National Bank of Commerce), Uganda and Zambia and has insurance operations in Botswana, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia. Absa also has representative offices in Namibia and Nigeria, and securities entities in the United Kingdom and United States.

INVESTMENT

Egypt's B2B marketplace Kuzlo closes a pre-seed funding round by Nama Ventures

CAIRO

Kuzlo, an Egyptian B2B marketplace that connects FMCG small retailers with wholesalers available in their area providing full transparency on product availability and prices, announced that it has raised an undisclosed amount in a pre-seed funding round by Nama Ventures.

FMCG market is changing due to the high competition from the mega stores and chains that are creating high pressure on the traditional supermarkets and groceries. Kuzlo provides FMCG players with a better supply network to ensure business success using technology.

Kuzlo was established in March 2021 by 4 co-founders Ayman, Tarek, Bassem & Gebril with the main focus of operations in Alexandria providing its customers with better customer service and gaining their trust in delivery times.

"Digitalization is becoming the main driver for transformation of many industrial sectors and the B2B marketplace in Egypt has just started its journey towards a digital future. Kuzlo is helping small retailers shift into the new future challenges and support them to strengthen their business value using new digital trends of E-commerce and E-finance in the near future". Said Ayman Elgarem, Co-founder and CEO of Kuzlo

"Part of our investment thesis at Nama is to look for great teams that are disrupting traditional businesses leveraging technology. This had become most evident in the supply chain in the grocery space in MENA. Ayman, Mohammed Gebril, Bassem, and their great advisor Tarek are a true example of a complementary team with deep knowledge in the industry, technology expertise, and operational excellence to take a shot at this space in Alexandria. "We have no doubt that this team is on to something special and we are honored and privileged to be this sole pre-seed investor and backer."

GREED

KQ, partners now accused of operations amounting to monopolism

NAIROBI

Kenya Airways and its partners have been accused of commercial collaborations that amount to monopolistic practices on the routes they control, according to a report by Africa's regulatory agencies. KQ, as the national carrier is known by its international code, has commercial agreements and joint ventures with Tanzania's Precision Air and Europe's Air France and KLM.

"The joint venture that Kenya Airways has with Precision Air, KLM and Air France have facilitated their market share growth in the respective regional and international markets," says a report by African Competition Forum (ACF). "There is little to no price competition among members of these joint ventures. Therefore, these routes are monopolistic in nature."

The cross-country airlines study was commissioned to understand the continent's aviation market and address competition concerns, with regulators representing a total of 24 African countries including Kenya participating in the initiative. The report says that airline alliances may help to facilitate cartel behaviour among airlines to the detriment of consumers.

It could create disadvantages for travellers, such as higher prices and poor quality of services due to limited competition on certain routes or less frequent flights. The commercial agreements have helped KQ and its partners expand their reach including through code share deals.

A code share flight is a flight that is marketed by one carrier and operated by another. Code share flights come about as a result of agreements between airlines to sell seats on each other's flights in order to provide passengers with a wider choice of destinations. The ticket would be booked on the flight number of the airline that you have booked your travel, however it may be operated by another carrier.

GROWTH

Mdundo registers over 16 million users in Q3 of 2021

By Guardian Reporter

PAN-African music streaming service, Mdundo, announced last week that its platform has recorded 16.4 million users during the third quarter of this year for the month ending September 2021.

The figure represents a 10 percent growth compared to the previous quarter, mainly driven by significant increase in Tanzania, Kenya and South Africa. During the period, the country had the platform's biggest user base with over 4.1 million subscribers while Nigeria and Kenya followed closely with 3.1 and 2.6 million respectively.

According to a statement issued by the company's in Tanzania, Mdundo grew by 36 percent to 4.1 million users which contributed 24 percent of the platform's total audience during the period. "The rapid growth across the region further establishes our platform as a strong consumer touch-point for our advertising clients at Mdundo For Brands," said Mdundo Head of Brand and Partnership, Rachel Karanu.

Karanu said the company is working closely with leading consumer brands across Africa to drive consumer influence, and thus increasing the reach for the brand and its advertising



Mdundo head of brand and partnership, Rachel Karanu.

partners. "We are looking forward to the last quarter of the year where we expect to further grow our platform reach as well as drive value for our brand partners," she added.

The company furthermore announced that it has been working with some of top brands across Kenya, Nigeria and Tanzania within the quarter by offering brand solutions for Sportpesa, Safaricom, Chrome Gin, Standard Chartered Bank, Captain Morgan, Coca Cola, BetKing and Guinness Smooth, among others.

The brand projects are centred around the newly launched Mdundo Brand Lift Tool, available for free on mdundoforbrands.com, providing key customer and brand performance insights. Through the brand lift tool, Mdundo is able to measure campaign performance in real time, giving valuable insights to marketers on the impact their campaigns have on brand awareness, consideration, favourability and purchase intent, the statement added.

"This also means that Mdundo offers advertisers a data driven solution to growing their brands among the platform's users," the statement explained noting that Vodacom grew its purchase intent by 76 percent after advertising with Mdundo.

GROWTH

Nigeria's currency set for biggest weekly drop in eight months

ABUJA

Nigeria's currency is poised for the biggest weekly drop in eight months, signalling the central bank's tolerance for more flexibility in the exchange rate.

The naira traded at 418.55 to the greenback as of 11:48 a.m. on Friday in Lagos, the commercial hub. The official rate plunged to a record 420.40 naira on Tuesday before recovering. The measure has depreciated 0.8% in the past seven days, the most since the week ended February 26. The Central Bank of Nigeria closely manages the spot exchange rate of the naira keeping it within a desired range.

Nigeria's Vice President Yemi

Osinbajo has called for the currency to be traded more freely, adding that the central bank's approach favours those able to obtain dollars at the official rate, because they can then sell the foreign currency in the more expensive parallel market where the greenback is freely traded around 575 naira. There has been more flexibility in the spot rate since the vice president's comments.

The depreciation "seems to reflect a CBN bias for relatively more foreign exchange flexibility," said Samir Gadio, London-based head of Africa strategy at Standard Chartered Bank. "The market is still trying to ascertain the scope and end-goal of this FX adjustment."

A more market responsive exchange rates would ease the pressure on the naira, Shubham Chaudhuri, the World Bank's country director for Nigeria, said this week. "This will reduce the effective exchange rates that most Nigerians deal with," he said.

Africa largest economy hopes that the completion of a 650 000-barrel a day refinery by Aliko Dangote would save 30% of the foreign exchange currently used to import refined petroleum products and ease the pressure on the naira, Minister of Finance Zainab Ahmed said on Tuesday. "The export of refined products will also earn the country foreign exchange," Ahmed said.



Nigeria's Finance minister, Zainab Ahmed.

BREAKTHROUGH

G20 endorses global minimum tax plan as guideline for handling multinationals

ROME

Leaders of the world's biggest economies have endorsed a global minimum tax on corporations, which will be the linchpin of new international tax rules. They are aimed at blunting the fiscal advantages that some multinational giants enjoy with strategic regional headquarters in low-tax countries.

The deal did fall short of US President Joe Biden's original call for a 21 per cent minimum tax but he was still pleased with the result. "Here at the G20, leaders representing 80 per cent of the world's GDP - allies and competitors alike - made clear their support for a strong global minimum tax," the president said on Twitter.

"This is more than just a tax deal - it's diplomacy reshaping our global economy and delivering for our people." G20 finance ministers in July had already agreed on the 15 per cent minimum tax but it still needed formal endorsement at the summit on

Saturday in Rome.

"There are good things to report here. The world community has agreed on a minimum taxation of companies. That is a clear signal of justice in times of digitalisation," departing German Chancellor Angela Merkel said.

"From the pandemic, to climate change, to fair and equitable taxation, going it alone is simply not an option," Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi said. Summit's host Italy had put health and the economy top of the agenda for Saturday, setting aside Sunday for climate change.

The corporate tax deal was hailed as evidence of renewed multilateral co-ordination. Major corporations face a minimum 15 per cent tax wherever they operate from 2023 to prevent them from shielding their profits in offshore entities.

G20 leaders also broadly backed calls to extend debt relief for impoverished countries and pledged to vaccinate 70 per cent of the world's population against Covid-19 by mid-



Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi welcomes outgoing German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

2022. Many of the other G20 leaders will fly from Rome to Glasgow for the Cop26 climate summit. Others, including the leaders of Russia, China and Brazil will not attend the Scottish summit in person.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson acknowledged the G20 and Cop26 talks would be difficult, but warned that without

courageous action, world civilisation could collapse as swiftly as the ancient Roman empire, ushering in a new Dark Age. "It's going to be very, very tough to get the agreement we need," he said as he stood next to the ruins of the Colosseum amphitheatre - a symbol of once mighty Rome.

COMPETITIVENESS

Microsoft becomes world's most valuable stock as Apple drops

NEW YORK

The slump in Apple's shares on Friday propelled Microsoft Corp to the position of the world's largest listed company by market capitalisation.

Apple fell 1.8% after reporting fourth-quarter revenue that came in below the average analyst estimate, which gave the iPhone maker a market value of \$2.46 trillion. Microsoft rose 2.2% to hit a market value of \$2.49 trillion, blowing past Apple after reporting estimate-topping results for an 11th straight quarter earlier this week.

"If you're looking for safety in tech, Microsoft probably seems like a safer bet to me than Apple," Michael Matousek, head trader at US Global Investors, said in a phone interview. "If there was a downturn in the economy, I would expect Microsoft to stand up better, because its products are diversified across more businesses." The last time Microsoft dethroned Apple was in the first half of 2020 as investors flocked into growth stocks amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Microsoft notched its best weekly gain since November.

ANGEL

Spanx CEO extends to each employee \$10k, first class air tickets after Blackstone deal

NEW YORK

It was celebratory atmosphere at Spanx when CEO and founder Sara Blakely surprised all the employees with two first class plane tickets for each employee and \$10,000 to spend.

Blakely did this to celebrate the sale of majority stake in Spanx to Blackstone, a leading global investment firm. Blackstone agreed to buy an undisclosed majority stake in the company at a valuation of \$1.2 billion - with Blakely maintaining a significant equity stake in the business.

Sara Blakely started Spanx 21 years with \$5,000. In a story that's now been told and retold, Spanx came to life as a way for Blakely to deal with an irritating problem. Unable to find suitable undergarments to wear under cream-colored pants for a party, Blakely cut the feet off her control top pantyhose and wore them underneath...but they rolled up on her all night long. "I remember thinking, 'I've got to figure out how to make this.' I'd never worked in

fashion or retail. I just needed an undergarment that didn't exist," Blakely once told Forbes.

Twelve years later, her hosiery company was netting 20% profit margins on nearly \$250 million in annual sales, and Wall Street analysts valued Spanx at \$1 billion. At age 41, Blakely became the youngest self-made woman to join Forbes' World's Billionaires list in 2012, earning her a spot on the cover. "Why am I spinning a globe?" she asked her assembled employees in the middle of her speech.

Then, to roomful of stunned employees, she announced: "I'm spinning a globe because to celebrate this moment, I have bought each one of your two first-class tickets to anywhere in the world." And that wasn't all.

"You know, if you have a trip, you might want to go out to a really nice dinner, you might want to go out to a really nice hotel," Ms Blakely continued. "So with everybody's two first-class tickets to anywhere in the world, you are each getting \$10,000."



Spanx CEO and Founder, Sara Blakely.



ITV	21:15	20:00	8:00	Thurs 04 Nov
MONDAY 1 Nov	Kipindi Maalum: Tanzania Yetu	Habari	Al Jazeera	06:00 Al Jazeera
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	21:45 Chetu ni chetu	21:00 Malumbano ya hoja	09:00 Watoto Wetu	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
6:00 HABARI	22:20 Soap: Love to Death	23:00 The Base	10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
6:40 Kumekucha	23:00 Habari	00:00 Al Jazeera	11:35 Bongo Movie rpt	12:00 Our Earth rpt
7:30 HABARI	23:30 The Base	02:00 DWTV	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	00:30 Al Jazeera		15:30 Mwangaza	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
8:55 Habari za saa	02:00 DWTV		16:30 ITV Top 10	16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo		FRIDAY 5 Nov	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	16:30 Business edition rpt
9:30 Soap: Uzalo		5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	18:00 Jiji Letu	17:00 In good shape
9:55 Habari za saa		6:00 HABARI	18:15 Mapishi	17:30 Meza huru
10:00 Watoto wetu		6:40 Kumekucha	18:30 Matuku ya wiki	19:00 Turning the spotlight
10:55 Habari za saa		7:30 HABARI	19:30 Igizo: Rebeca	19:30 Tanzania yetu
11:00 ITV Top 10 rpt		8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	20:00 Habari	20:00 Series: Beats of Love
11:55 Habari za saa		8:55 Habari za saa	21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko	20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love 21:30
12:00 Al Jazeera		9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	21:10 Mizengwe	22:00 Capital Prime News
12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Huru Talk Show		9:30 Soap: Uzalo	21:30 Mjue Zaidi	22:00 Capchat rpt
12:55 Habari za saa		9:55 Habari za saa	22:15 Bongo Movie:	23:00 Al Jazeera
13:00 Mjue Zaidi		10:00 Watoto wetu rpt	00:00 Soap: Love to Death rpt	
13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt		10:30 Usafiri wako rpt	02:05 Al Jazeera	
13:55 Habari za saa		10:55 Habari za saa		Frid 05 Nov
14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt		11:00 The Base rpt		06:00 Al Jazeera
14:10 Soap: Love to Death		11:55 Habari za saa		07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
14:55 Habari za saa		12:00 Al Jazeera		09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
15:00 Meza Huru		12:30 Jajina la wanawake rpt		12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt
16:30 Watoto Wetu		12:55 Habari za saa		12:30 Dw News Africa rpt
17:00 The Base		13:00 Dakika 45 rpt		13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00
18:00 Jiji Letu		13:55 Habari za saa		16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
18:10 Albu yako rpt		14:00 Soap: Love to Death		16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt
18:15 Mapishi rpt		14:55 Habari za saa		17:30 Meza huru
18:30 DWTV: Kesho leo		15:00 Meza huru rpt		19:00 Rev
19:00 Afya ya Jamii		16:30 Watoto Wetu		19:30 EcoAfrica
19:30 Soap: Uzalo		17:00 The Base (DJ Show)		20:00 Albu Yako
20:00 Habari		17:30 Kisiam		20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition
21:05 Dakika 45		18:00 Jiji Letu		20:45 Telenovela Laws Of love 21:30
22:00 Kipindi Maalum: Bundesliga na DW		18:15 Chetu ni Chetu		21:00 Capital Prime News
22:15 Soap: Love to Death		19:00 Ijue Sheria		22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt
23:00 Habari		19:30 Soap: Uzalo		00:00 Al Jazeera
23:30 The Base		20:00 Habari		
00:30 Al Jazeera		21:05 Albu Yako		Sat 06 Nov
02:00 DWTV		21:35 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco		08:00 Al Jazeera
		22:10 Soap: Love to Death		09:00 Rev rpt
		23:00 Habari		09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt
		23:30 The Base		10:00 Culinary delight rpt
		00:30 Al Jazeera		10:30 Innovation rpt
		02:00 DWTV		11:00 Out 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: Emperor of the Sea
				14:30 Telenovela Laws Of love 17:15
				17:45 Bundesliga kick off
				18:15 Capchat rpt
				19:15 Mizengwe
				19:30 The Decor
				20:00 Korean Drama: Emperor of the Sea
				21:00 Out n' About
				21:30 Movie: Delicious (tape no 5571)
				23:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
				01:00 Al Jazeera
				Sun 07 Nov
				08:00 Al Jazeera
				09:00 In good shape
				10:00 Capchat rpt
				11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
				11:30 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the Sea
				12:00 Jajina rpt
				12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
				13:00 In good shape rpt
				13:30 Series rpt: Beats of Love
				15:30 Albu yako
				16:00 Rev rpt
				16:00 Dakika 45 rpt
				16:45 Mizengwe rpt

WORLD

Tedros sole nominee as WHO chief - UN

GENEVA

TEDROS Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who has steered the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic, is on course to serve a second five-year term as head of the World Health Organization after being the only candidate nominated by 28 countries.

Tedros, a former health and foreign minister of Ethiopia, was the first African elected WHO director-general in May 2017. The clean slate for the May election comes even as the European Commission suspending funding to WHO programs in the Democratic Republic of Congo over a major sexual abuse scandal, as reported exclusively by Reuters on Thursday.

Some 83 aid workers, a quarter of them employed by the WHO, were involved in sexual exploitation and abuse during Congo's 2018-2020 Ebola epidemic, an independent probe said last month.

Health ministers from the WHO's 194 member states are also due to hold an exceptional assembly in November amid mounting pressure for reform pursuant to the organization's handling of the pandemic.

Tedros drew support from France and Germany, among other European Union members, and three African countries - Botswana, Kenya and Rwanda - the official nomination list showed.

"WHO can announce that a single candidate was proposed by member states by the 23 September 2021 deadline: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who is the incumbent director-general," the agency said in a statement. The nominations were kept secret to limit lengthy campaigning.

I wish you all luck in your endeavor and I salute your staying power and your ability to keep focus on this agenda, servicing your broad membership and the

whole world.

Jonas Gahr Stoere, Norwegian Prime Minister

Earlier, the agency sent a letter to member states informing them of the confidential nominations contained in the sealed envelopes submitted by the deadline.

'Staying power'

The United States and Germany have led major donors in demanding fundamental reforms to the WHO's structure, financing and capacity to deal with outbreaks.

The European Commission informed the WHO on Oct 7 that it was immediately suspending funding to its Congo programs due to concerns over its handling of the sexual abuse scandal. Tedros went to Congo 14 times during the epidemic but says that he was unaware of the allegations.

"We have received the (EU) letter and we are now considering a response," WHO spokesperson Margaret Harris told a briefing on Friday.

A European source, asked whether the Congo scandal could have an impact on Tedros' re-election, said: "Nope. He personally is taking the right steps and measures. As long as there is not a direct link to him. Which I don't see."

An African ambassador in Geneva, declining to be identified, said: "Dr. Tedros has done a very good job dealing with a severe pandemic with severe repercussions. He has tried to contribute within the capacity and the resources of WHO and to realize a more equitable distribution of vaccines at the global level."

"He is a friend of Africa, he has done a lot of work and deserves a lot of support," the ambassador said.

Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Stoere, speaking at a news briefing with



WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Tedros on Thursday, where the WHO launched a \$23.4 billion plan to bring COVID-19 vaccines and drugs to poorer countries, told him:

"I wish you all luck in your endeavor and I salute your staying power and your ability to keep focus on this agenda, servicing your broad membership and the whole world."

Earlier, the agency sent a letter to member states informing them of the confidential nominations contained in the sealed envelopes submitted by the deadline.

'Staying power'

The United States and Germany have led major donors in demanding fundamental reforms to the WHO's structure, financing and capacity to deal with outbreaks.

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Agencies

Rise in budget deficits worldwide carries risk of high global inflation, Putin says

WASHINGTON

MOSCOW, October 30. /TASS/. A rise in budget deficits in countries across the world carries the risk of high global inflation, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in a video conference address to a G20 summit on Saturday.

"Excessive stimulus programs have led to overall instability and an increase in the prices of financial assets and goods on certain markets, including the energy and food markets."

A serious budget deficit facing developed economies is the basic cause of these processes," Putin pointed out, adding that it "creates the risk of high global inflation in the medium term."

He noted that the Russian government had been able to ensure a budget surplus in 2021 and tighten monetary policy.

"As for the G20 nations in general, the situation is slightly different. In 2017-2019, the average budget deficit stood at 3.8% of the GDP but it rose to 11.2% in 2020 amid the coronavirus pandemic, and this year, though the rate has dropped, it still remains rather high at 8.7%."

I would like to point out that it is the United States that accounted for 40% of the G20's overall budget deficit in 2020-2021," the Russian leader stressed, adding that the entire global economy depended on the United States' economic situation.

According to Putin, it is important to take steps to normalize budget and monetary policies, improve ways to manage the economy's demand patterns and set economic priorities to resolve inequality issues and raise living standards.

UN Security Council adopts resolution on protection of education in armed conflict

UNITED NATIONS

The UN Security Council on Friday adopted a resolution on the protection of education in armed conflict.

Resolution 2601, which won the unanimous support of the 15-member council, strongly condemns all violations of applicable international law involving the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict as well as their re-recruitment, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, and abductions.

It also condemns attacks against schools and hospitals as well as denial of humanitarian access by parties to armed conflict and all other violations of international law.

The resolution urges UN member states to develop effective measures to prevent and address attacks and threats of attacks against schools and education facilities, and, as appropriate, develop domestic legal frameworks to ensure respect for their relevant international legal obligations.

It condemns the military use of schools in contravention of international law, and recognizes that use by armed forces and armed groups may render schools legitimate targets of attack, thus endangering children's and teachers' safety as well as their education.

It calls on member states to protect schools as spaces free from all forms of violence, noting that girls may be the intended victims of attack on their education, which can lead to serious violations such as abduction and rape and other forms of sexual violence, and urges member states to take steps to address girls' equal enjoyment of their right to education.

The resolution calls on member states to halt and prevent recruitment and re-recruitment of children by parties to conflict, through, inter alia, quality education provided in a safe environment in conflict areas.

It underlines the importance of providing assistance to children with disabilities who are affected by armed conflict, and encourages member states to take appropriate measures to ensure access to education on an equal basis provided in the context of armed conflict.

It calls on member states to take necessary steps, within their national jurisdictions, to provide assistance for the continuation of education for refugee and displaced children, and calls on national, regional, and international partners to support efforts for including refugees into schools with adequate financing and specialized support.

It emphasizes the need for member states to facilitate the continuation of education during armed conflict, including, when feasible, through distance learning and digital technology.

Xinhua

Wang calls for objective, scientific attitude in origins tracing

ROME

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said here on Saturday that an objective, scientific, and responsible attitude should be adopted for tracing the origins of COVID-19.

During his meeting with Director-General of the World Health Organization Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Wang said vigilance against all kinds of political hype is needed while tracing the origins of COVID-19, and all member states should be treated equally and the sovereignty of each country earnestly respected.

China is willing to discuss future cooperation with the WHO on this basis, he added.

For more than a year, Wang said, under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, the Chinese people have fought a people's war against the pandemic and made major strategic achievements.

He said that while handling its own affairs well, China has always upheld the concept

of a community of common health for mankind and at a time when the world was in dire need of help, China overcame its own difficulties and carried out the largest emergency humanitarian operation since the founding of the People's Republic of China to help countries meet their pressing needs.

China has given full play to its advantages, demonstrated its responsibility, and made due contribution during the global fight against the pandemic, he added.

Wang said that China attaches great importance to the role of the WHO, which is the key agency for the global fight against the pandemic, stands ready to strengthen cooperation with the organization in promoting the fair distribution of vaccines, the research and development of new anti-virus drugs, and supporting African countries in their anti-pandemic fight, and has contributed positive energy to the global anti-pandemic cooperation.

Wang said that solidarity is



Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi

the most powerful weapon in the fight against the pandemic, which is a major test for multilateralism.

He expressed the hope that the WHO will adhere to a scientific attitude and put people's lives and health first, maintain solidarity and cooperation, as well as oppose moves of politicization, labelling and stigmatization under the pretext of anti-pandemic fight.

He added that the WHO also appreciates China's support for and participation in COVAX, as well as its active contribution to the equitable

distribution of vaccines. Describing COVID-19 as a common enemy facing the world, Tedros said that the WHO appreciates China's adherence to the spirit of solidarity and its offer of help and support to countries during the anti-pandemic fight.

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Xinhua

LHASA-NYINGCHI Railway, the first electrified railway in southwest China's Tibet autonomous region, has brought significant changes and benefits to people living along the railway route since it opened to traffic on June 25.

According to railway authorities, the railway linking Tibet's Lhasa and Nyingchi cities had handled more than 400,000 passenger trips from the beginning of its operation to early October.

The Fuxing high-speed trains that operate on the railway line have been specially adapted for complex plateau conditions, though their interior looks just the same as regular Fuxing bullet trains, said an attendant on a Fuxing bullet train running from Nyingchi to

Lhasa-Nyingchi Railway leads residents in Tibet to happy life

Lhasa.

The carriages are equipped with diffuse-type and distributed-type dual-mode oxygen supply, and the trains can switch between internal combustion and electric engines as needed, the attendant said as train No. 8982 left the Nyingchi Railway Station for Lhasa.

Surrounded by mountains, the red and white main building of the Nyingchi Railway Station was particularly eye-catching because of its ingenious design that integrates the traditional Tibetan style and modern architecture.

"Little Jampa, don't you move about. Just stay in your seat quietly," a female

passenger named Luo Xiaofang said to her 6-year-old nephew Jampa Tashi on the train.

As the transport conditions are getting better and more means of transportation are available in Tibet, residents in the region have found it more convenient to travel. Luo, a resident in Zayu county of Nyingchi city also a student in Shanghai Normal University, told People's Daily.

As Luo talked with People's Daily reporter, Sonam Lhamo, Luo's mother leaned back comfortably in her train seat designed according to ergonomic principles and looked at the changing landscapes outside the train. While enjoying the views of mountains, high-

land barley fields, and rivers through the window, she took pictures of the beautiful scenery outside the train with her mobile phone, just as many other passengers did.

The Lhasa-Nyingchi Railway, which has become a beautiful scenic route, results from the painstaking efforts of numerous railway designers and construction personnel.

With a total length of 435.48 kilometers and a designed speed of 160 kilometers per hour, the railway passes through 47 tunnels and 121 bridges and crosses the Yarlung Zangbo River, China's longest plateau river, 16 times. More than 90 percent of the sections of the railway are located at an eleva-

tion of over 3,000 meters.

"We used to go to Lhasa by coach. Even though road condition is much better now, it takes nearly six hours to go to Lhasa from Nang county by coach on a good day and much longer on rainy and snowy days," said Lhasang Dondrup, a passenger who got on the train No. 8982 from Nyingchi to Lhasa at the railway station of Nang county, Nyingchi, with his wife and daughter. It was the first time the family had taken a train trip.

Sonam Lhamo, the daughter, was admitted to Tibet University in Lhasa this year. The couple took the train to accompany their daughter on her trip to her new school.

"Now, it only takes us about two hours to go to Lhasa by the high-speed

train, no matter it blows or rains. The railway is so convenient, and it enables us to go to Lhasa or Nyingchi anytime we want," Lhasang Dondrup said.

Besides residents, people who often take business trips to Tibet have also benefitted from the railway.

"My company conducts business both in Nyingchi and Lhasa. The launch of the high-speed train is such great news for us. In the past, I often suffered severe altitude sickness when I flew directly from Chengdu, located at an altitude of 500 meters, to Lhasa at an elevation of more than 3,600 meters," said a male passenger on the train. The man surnamed Liu lives in Chengdu, the capital of southwest China's Sichuan province, and often takes

business trips to Tibet. **People's Daily**

Attempts to settle Donbass conflict by force to result in incalculable tragedy – diplomat

MOSCOW

THE conflict in southeastern Ukraine cannot be settled by military means and the attempts to solve this problem with the use of force will have most deplorable and incalculable consequences, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova told a briefing on Thursday.

"I would like to mention once again that the conflict in southeastern Ukraine has no military solution, as was acknowledged by all those countries that so much fret over civilians and, generally, the situation in Ukraine. The attempts to settle it by force will have very deplorable and somewhat incalculable but generally tragic consequences," the Russian diplomat stressed.

Western countries' incessant deliveries of armaments and ammunition to Ukraine bolster Kiev's confidence that the conflict in Donbass can be resolved with military means, the Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman pointed out.



woman pointed out.

This is also facilitated by the deployment of military training missions by NATO member states on Ukrainian territory and numerous military drills, she added.

"We call on Western countries that are beefing Ukraine up with weapons, and this primarily relates to Washington and also to Berlin and Paris as the Normandy format participants, to stop encouraging the country's militarization and use their influence to put Kiev back on the track of achieving a durable peace in Donbass by political and diplomatic means," Zakharova said.

Biden admits to Macron that sub deal handling was 'clumsy'

By Bloomberg

US President Joe Biden said that his administration had been "clumsy" in handling a new defense pact with Australia while meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron on Friday, as the US continues to work to repair a key alliance.

"What we did was clumsy, it was not done with a lot of grace," he said, sitting next to Macron in Rome as they talked ahead of the Group of 20 leaders summit. "I had been under the impression long before that France had been informed" of the deal.

"There's too much we have done together, suffered together, celebrated together," he said. "France is an extremely, extremely valuable partner."

Macron, who greeted Biden with a friendly pat on the shoulder, said that Paris and Washington have been working on stronger coordination and on strengthening the partnership between the European Union and NATO.

"What really matters now is what we will do together in the coming weeks, coming months, coming years," he said. The French president signaled that the dust-up may be settled, but it's important to prevent a similar flap in the future.

Macron suggested that the bilateral exchange could dissipate fear from some EU partners that his push for European sovereignty in defense might alienate the transatlantic relationship, telling reporters later. "There was a tension, a misunderstanding that sometimes creates tensions between Europeans on the compatibility of EU and NATO."

Asked if the crisis is over, he said, "Trust is like love, declarations are good. Proof is better."

The in-person session was the culmination of six weeks of diplomacy aimed at getting the oldest US alliance back on track after Australia's decision to cancel a \$66 billion submarine contract with France in favor of a new security pact and nuclear-powered submarine deal with the US and UK.

The French have said they were not notified about the submarine deal ahead of time, in a slight that amounted to "a stab in the back," French Foreign Affairs Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said on Sept 16, the day after the agreement was announced. The Biden administration had anticipated some backlash

from France but was surprised by just how forceful it was.

'Brutal, unilateral'

Some anger was directed at Australia and the UK, but Macron's team focused on the US and began likening Biden to Trump. "What concerns me as well is the American behavior," Le Drian said. "This brutal, unilateral, unpredictable decision looks very much like what Mr Trump used to do." Other French officials and commentators have offered the same comparison.

While the spat was prompted by diplomatic missteps, Macron has sought to use it to his domestic political advantage ahead of his next election in 2022, in which multiple far-right candidates are running to unseat him. Marine Le Pen, one of his rivals, has called the incident a "humiliation" for France.

Macron took the unusual step of recalling his US and Australian ambassadors on Sept.17. The Biden administration, meanwhile, was conciliatory in its diplomatic outreach, asking French officials what they needed and conceding that it had let down a key ally.

When Biden and Macron spoke several days later, they "agreed that the situation would have benefited from open consultations among allies on matters of strategic interest to France and our European partners," the two countries said in a joint readout. "President Biden conveyed his ongoing commitment in that regard."

When French Ambassador to the US Philippe Etienne returned to Washington after two weeks away, top Biden officials made sure to welcome him back, with National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan hosting him at the White House and Secretary of State Antony Blinken also meeting with him. Blinken and Sullivan have also held high-level meetings in France.

Even so, nearly two weeks after returning to the US, Etienne told Bloomberg Television that there's "still a lot of work to do" to mend the relationship. The two countries have identified European security, the Indo-Pacific region and counterterrorism in the Sahel region of Africa as key areas for future cooperation.

Vice-President Kamala Harris plans to Paris in November for a pair of conferences and to meet with Macron. The Elysee said the French president was "pleased" to be able to host her.

Concrete actions urged to tackle climate change in Glasgow

THE HAGUE

WITH the world already lagging behind in curbing global warming, the international community should use the Glasgow climate conference as an opportunity to make new commitments and take ensuing concrete actions, experts say.

The 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) is set to open on Sunday in Glasgow, Scotland, where countries are expected to reach new consensus on further curbing carbon emissions.

"My expectations are not very high," Leo Meyer, a former project leader at the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and current director of the Netherlands-based ClimateContact Consultancy, told Xinhua in an interview.

"At the moment we are more on the way to 3 degrees (Celsius) global warming instead of 1.5 degrees. Hopefully that will improve when a number of countries on the spot in Glasgow come with improved national contributions."

During the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris, countries agreed to work together to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and aim to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Moreover, countries were committed to bringing forward national plans setting out how much they would reduce their emissions, called Nationally Determined Contributions.

"So far it doesn't look good," Meyer said. "In addition to the degrees Celsius, we need better agreements about money. That is a stumbling block to get parties involved. The pressure is very high, higher than ever."

Sible Schone, advisor of climate bu-



A power plant fires coal from the nearby Garzweiler open-cast mine near Luetzerath, western Germany yesterday. The village of Luetzerath, now almost entirely abandoned as the mine draws ever closer, will be the latest village to disappear as coal mining at the Garzweiler mine expands. AP

reau HIER, a Dutch foundation focusing entirely on climate change, told Xinhua that negotiations at the upcoming Glasgow conference will not be easy, but the implementation of commitments will be key.

"Besides the commitments that will surely come, we also need the practical implementation," Schone added. "This summit is about objectives, but implementation is much more complicated."

He noted that it is not impossible to replace coal-fired power stations with gas, but really major changes like speeding up the switch to electric vehicles, changes in air travel, etc. are much more difficult to achieve."

At this summit I do foresee commitments approaching 2 degrees, but the real problem is whether these commitments will become practice," Schone said.

At present, more is expected from

rich and developed countries to set an example by translating targets into fast action.

"The Netherlands and the European Union have made a significant commitment to a 55 percent CO2 reduction by 2030," Schone said. "That is a commitment and the European Commission has also made clear proposals to reach that in terms of measures." "But talks have yet to start about that. Europe must also take an extra step for acceleration. In addition, if the United States fails to make a hard commitment, the summit has a problem. I am not very optimistic," Schone said.

"China is in a fantastic position to win the race to the top of the world in terms of sustainability," said Meyer. "They have excellent scientists, universities, good projects, all knowledge and possibi-

ties are available." "China has gold in its hands to make energy more sustainable."

But yes, the current economic growth figures are a bottleneck ... in the long term it is possible," Meyer added. China has announced that it will strive to peak carbon emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060, which means that it has to realize an unprecedented reduction in carbon emissions and move from carbon peak to carbon neutrality faster than any nation in history. "It is clear that China is taking steps," Schone said.

Xinhua

US, EU end Trump-era tariff war over steel, aluminum

WASHINGTON/ROME

THE United States and European Union have agreed to end a festering dispute over US steel and aluminum tariffs imposed by former president Donald Trump in 2018, removing an irritant in transatlantic relations and averting a spike in EU retaliatory tariffs, US officials said on Saturday.

Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo told reporters that the deal will maintain US "Section 232" tariffs of 25 percent on steel and 10 percent aluminum, while allowing "limited volumes" of EU-produced metals into the United States duty free.

It eliminates a source of friction between the allies and lets them focus on negotiating a new global trade agreement to address worldwide excess steel and aluminum capacity and reduce carbon emissions from the industries.

EU trade chief Valdis Dombrovskis confirmed the deal, writing on Twitter that "we have agreed with US to pause" the trade dispute and launch cooperation on a future global arrangement on sustainable steel and aluminum. Dombrovskis said the deal will be formally announced by Biden and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen on Sunday.

US officials did not specify the volume of duty-free steel to be allowed into the United States under a tariff-rate quota system agreed upon with the EU. Sources familiar with the deal, speaking on condition of anonymity, have



US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo speaks to the press during the inaugural US-EU Trade and Technology Council in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on Friday /AFP

said annual volumes above 3.3 million tons would be subject to tariffs.

The deal grants an additional two years of duty-free access above the quota for EU steel products that won Commerce Department exclusions in the past year, US officials said.

The agreement requires EU steel and aluminum to be entirely produced in the bloc - a standard known as "melted and poured" - to qualify for duty-free status.

Europe exported around 5 million tons of steel annually to the United States prior to Trump's imposition of the tariffs on national security grounds.

The deal will eliminate Europe's retaliatory tariffs against US products including bourbon whiskey, Harley-Davidson motorcycles and motor boats that were set to double on Dec 1, US officials said.

"The end of this long tariff nightmare is in sight for US distill-

ers, who have struggled with the weight of the tariffs and the pandemic," Distilled Spirits Council President Chris Swonger said, also urging Britain to lift its tariff on American whiskeys.

Record Steel Prices

Raimondo said the deal will reduce costs for steel-consuming US manufacturers. Steel prices have more than tripled in the past year to records topping \$1,900 a ton as the industry has struggled to keep up with a demand surge after COVID-19 pandemic-related shutdowns, contributing to inflation.

US primary aluminum producers, which had dwindled to two companies by the time Trump imposed the tariffs, will be able to maintain their investments in reviving domestic capacity because the quotas are set at very low levels, well below pre-tariff volumes, said Mark Duffy, CEO of the American Primary Aluminum Association industry group.

American Iron and Steel Institute President Kevin Dempsey said the quota arrangement will help "prevent another steel import surge that would undermine our industry and destroy good-paying American jobs."

Due to its exit from the EU, Britain's steel exports remain subject to the tariffs, as are those of other US allies including Japan. The US Chamber of Commerce, which opposed the metals tariffs from the start, said the duties and quotas should be dropped from "close allies."

Agencies

China moves into high gear in preparing for 2022 Olympic

PREPARATIONS for the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games, which are scheduled to arrive in less than 100 days, have entered a critical stage characterized by high gear, general readiness and decisive homestretch.

Venues and facilities for the event have not only been constructed, but will be optimized for better services; the coordinated development of Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region and industry upgrading have witnessed new drivers and marched onto a fast lane because of the Winter Olym-

pics; and people look forward to and are more than willing to be a part of the sports event—all indicating that China's dream of hosting a fantastic, extraordinary and excellent Winter Olympics is gradually turning into a reality.

All 12 competition venues for the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games full of technological innovations are basically prepared, and operation teams of the venues have already switched to a work mode for the grand sports event.

The construction and improvement of non-competition venues is gathering pace, with the three Olympic Villages neatly designed. Besides, the renovation of venues for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Beijing 2022 will soon be completed.

The Beijing, Yanqing, and Zhangjiakou competition zones of the Beijing 2022 are all ready to welcome athletes from across the world with open arms.

One of the highlights of the venues for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter

Games is their pursuit of green and sustainable development.

All venues will be powered by green electricity, and ice-making technology with nearly zero carbon emissions has been adopted. Meanwhile, Beijing has done its utmost to reuse the venues and facilities for the 2008 Summer Olympics, including innovatively changing the former Water Cube, an aquatics competition venue in 2008, into a winter sports venue now known as the Ice Cube.

The Beijing-Zhangjiakou high-speed railway, with a top speed of 350 kph, has made it possible to travel from Beijing to Zhangjiakou within one hour; and the Yanqing-Chongli expressway that stretches among green mountains and lucid waters has connected the Yanqing and Zhangjiakou competition zones.

An improving inter-city transportation network and joint prevention and governance of the ecological environment of Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei will not only

improve the quality of the Winter Olympics, but will fuel the coordinated development of the three regions.

Thomas Bach, President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), believed that the 2022 Olympic Winter Games was "placed in safe hands" when Beijing won the bid in 2015.

With strong determination and confidence, China intends to show the world that it is a country true to its words. "We are confident in the success of the Beijing Winter Olympics," Bach said

recently ahead of the 100-day countdown for the opening of the event.

From Oct. 5 to the end of December, a series of test events, including 10 international competitions, three international training weeks, and two domestic testing activities, have been held or will be held at eight competition venues at the Beijing, Yanqing, and Zhangjiakou competition zones, which involve over 2,000 overseas athletes, team officials and other personnel.

People's Daily

Gomes departure has potential for Simba SC sliding back to 'normal'

By Correspondent John Kimbute

INABILITY for a substantial portion of the Simba SC fan base and club leadership to stomach the 3-1 home game result against Botswana champions, Jwaneng Galaxy FC, brought about an intolerable situation for then Simba SC head coach Didier Gomes da Rosa.

The French tactician was being pressured from different sides, and the only way to avoid mental destabilization from expectations of the fans and the leadership, and their contending ideas for solutions, was to step aside so that everyone remains patient as someone else guides the club side.

As coaches are hired to be fired, that looked altogether normal, but it has a price tag.

As coaches aren't players where it is always easy to see if their exit is a result of being at the top of their game or not, this departure ought to bring mixed feelings among club well-wishers, if they have just lost their best coach - and if they are in a position to recruit the same caliber of the coach.

In both these



Didier Gomes

spheres there is no straightforward answer, as the problem with the hiring is the sort of contract they want to impose on the incoming coach - and whether this would be a problem to get the right person - or it won't.

Finally, it is also an issue of what sort of pressures there are in the club as to technical bench spending, since three people just left after the Galaxy debacle, and too many people think they have good ideas.

What is also at issue is whether the Msimbazi Street side still has the nerve to maintain its superiority in the local premier league in like manner even as in the past season, as it has slid to obtaining rather normal if not painful positive results against a series of clubs.

Simba's most recent outing against CAF Confederation Cup hard hitters, Biashara United, was illustrative

of this situation, with a disappointing null after a 1-0 result against the inland capital club side, Dodoma Jiji FC, which many would take as also-rans in the premier league contention.

That does not mean their age-old rivals are doing much better, but they enthuse by these results.

To be fair, based on experience in African continental championship runs, coaches, who lost substantially in a crucial return match after an excellent performance earlier, tend to lose their positions.

This was the case after Simba SC beat Kaizer Chiefs 3-0 in the return game following a 4-0 drubbing in Johannesburg, which the South African side would have seen more or less as appropriate, and could not stand a sharp reversal days later.

That was duplicated as Simba SC had earned a 2-0 favourable result in their away match against Jwaneng Galaxy FC, confirming their image of themselves and their 'objectives,' before a sharp reminder.

When looking at internet entries on the series of fixtures involving Simba SC and top clubs in Africa up to early September, it is

clear the side was being put somewhere in some kind of comparison with the best, as ex-Kaizer Chiefs head coach Gavin Hunt was saying the fact that Simba SC beat Pitso Mosimane's Al Ahly in this season's CAF Champions League's Group Stage was reason enough for the Jo'burg side not to have taken their encounter lightly.

Meanwhile, he was sacked after the return match, and in a similar vein, the same sites picked remarks from Simba SC head coach, Didier Gomes, earlier in May, refusing to make excuses after the 4-0 drubbing by Kaizer Chiefs in away leg of the CAF top club competition. Still, he had to leave later.

Looking at these results and scores of others earlier, it is a fact that African top clubs take much harder a negative turnaround in their expectations, compared to UEFA circuit top clubs, and the leagues involved generally.

The competing atmosphere is often unforgiving for relative incompetence or apparent inability to handle an outfit in a crucial encounter, for instance, Young Africans SC let their coach leave as he

raised prospects of accepting defeat by the city rivals well ahead of the match, an inadmissible posture at Jangwani Street.

When such expectations are demonstrated to have been misplaced, the best option is to break the mirror, as a principal facilitator of those expectations and his utter failure to get them.

What is unmistakable is that a different sentiment reigns at the Msimbazi Street side at present, despite all the progress in placing the club at a fairly comfortable level materially, preparing a new training pitch, and even playing some of their local matches, etc.

There is not just a post-MO environment where his presence is confined to a basic investment as an assurance, but also a post-Chama/Miquissone atmosphere that pins down club expectations to normal results, not seeing how it could get back to the top.

This situation puts in threat the club's ability to seek out the best coaches (by alibi of not affording them just as concerning the players), while it is possible to get a good coach, push up current players, plus groom new stars.



Prominent dance musician, Ally Choki, in action during a recent show, which was staged by Morogoro's Waluguru Original Band. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT SABATO KASIKA

Musician Ally Choki rejoins Twanga Pepeta troupe

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

PROMINENT dance musician, Ally Choki, is no stranger to Tanzanian music lovers' ears, he has long held sway in the dance music scene in East Africa through his compositions and singing.

His background in music officially started in 1988, when he joined the band, Lola Africa.

Choki, a singer/songwriter, recently stated he is tired of entertaining short stints with music troupes and, instead, he has now decided to settle with African Stars Band, alias 'Twanga Pepeta', a troupe he had successfully served for many years.

The singer noted he is getting old and it is time to settle in one place.

Choki cited the reason for settling in the band as the need to get a chance to stay close to his family.

"My last band was Mwanza's Super Kamanyola, when I came back I decided to stay without a band thinking about how to develop my talent and now I have decided to settle down," Choki revealed.

He, at one point, left Twanga Pepeta and then returned to the troupe and has said he does not expect to do so again, stressing he hopes to retire from music at the troupe.

He stated that he has, several times, tried to bring his previous troupe, Extra Bongo Band, back but unfortunately, he was not successful.

Choki disclosed he has seen he should accept he cannot do so, adding that one who does not accept defeat is not a competitor.

In 1999, Choki returned to Tanzania after a short stint in one of the East African countries and joined Twanga Pepeta, a troupe he served for several years.

The artist then felt he ought to work independently via setting up his band,

Extra Bongo.

The troupe, under Choki's leadership, brought forth several talented musicians, including Khalid Chuma, Greyson Semsekwa, Abdallah 'Dulla Ngoma', and Saul John, and dancers.

Choki managed to turn Extra Bongo into a serious competitor in the genre's scene, successfully challenging established troupes like Twanga Pepeta and experienced bands.

Extra Bongo came up with popular compositions that include 'Mtenda Akitendewa', 'Extra Bongo 3x3', 'Regina', 'Double Double', and 'Mjini Mipango', which won it lots of supporters.

However, the troupe lasted for a few years, Choki decided to return to Twanga Pepeta, then left again and resorted to bringing Extra Bongo back but it did not last long, he returned to Twanga Pepeta.

He left the troupe and joined the Mwanza-based Super Kamanyola, after his contract expired, he returned to Dar es Salaam and stayed for a long time without working for any of the troupes and has now decided to return to Twanga Pepeta.

"I tried very hard to expand the scope of employment for young people, especially in the music industry, but those efforts did not bear fruit and I am also getting older, so I don't see why I should force something that I feel has failed," he asserted.

He also disclosed that the presence of many dance music bands has helped to increase employment and also to develop many talents, but he noted that many bands have collapsed and caused unemployment.

"Generally, I have settled with Twanga Pepeta and I am in the process of releasing a new song that we are still working on and, when it is ready, I will incorporate with the fans to give it a title," he revealed.

Simba SC, Biashara United performance highlights Tanzania's competence in soccer

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SOME incidents in life are very disturbing, when an individual gets the impression that Tanzania has taken a step forward in the right direction in soccer, suddenly a strange incident, which brings about disappointment, arises and proves that a lot needs to be done to see the country scale great heights. It is very irritating.

It is still a difficult and painful time for Simba SC and Biashara United after the latter came close to embarrassingly facing an exit from this season's CAF Confederation Cup because of negligence.

Simba SC crashed out of 2021/22 CAF Champions League's second preliminary round after losing to Botswana's Jwaneng Galaxy FC.

CAF Confederation Cup playoff clash against Zambia's Red Arrows now awaits Simba SC.

Mara-based Biashara United's fate in CAF Confederation Cup is still not known given CAF has yet to issue a decision on the outfit's second preliminary round's second leg clash versus Libya's Al-Ahli Sports Club.

I am not talking about Azam FC because for them there was no negligence, they did all they could to qualify for the CAF Confederation Cup playoffs, but, at the end of the day, the best team won and moved on to the next stage.



Tanzania's Biashara United forward, Atupele Jackson (R), dribbles past Libya's Al-Ahli Tripoli right fullback, Mohammed Eshewi, when the squads locked horns in 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup second preliminary round's first leg which took place in Dar es Salaam recently. Biashara United commanded a 2-0 victory. PHOTO: COURTESY OF BIASHARA UNITED

The difference between Pyramids FC and Azam FC is death and sleep. Pyramids FC is way better than Azam FC.

Today we are going to discuss a little about Simba SC and Biashara United.

Who should we start with? Let us start with Biashara United, an outfit which is located somehow far away from Dar es Salaam.

After Biashara United's 2-0 victory over Al Ahli Tripoli at home, the Tanzanian club could not travel to Libya on time for the return leg, because of what was said to be a failure to secure flight permits from South Sudan and Sudan, a route the club was set to use for its trip to Libya.

CAF has nevertheless included the club in the next knockout phase's fixture.

The story of failing to get to the stadium on time? a case of failure to travel on time? They lacked the funds for transport.

That is where the sadness begins. How can a team that participates in the Premier League in the 21st century, again if it is among the league's top four clubs in the country, lack money for a trip?

The answer shows how poor Tanzania's football outfits are. Yes! Poor! Forgive me for being a bit harsh.

Clubs' poverty makes Mainland Tanzania's Premier League poor.

Poor league causes everyone and everything

involved in it to be poor.

The poor league produces poor players, poor referees, poor coaches, and poor team leaders.

This poverty is what brings about the noise of corruption in our football.

But then we realize how poor we are in terms of governance and planning. Biashara United knew they would be taking part in the CAF Confederation Cup since the league ended four months ago.

They knew they would travel for knockout matches. They had to prepare in advance, even if it meant soliciting support from individuals as long as the outfit avoided this embarrassment that the country has faced.

I do not believe that Biashara would not get well-wishers that can transport the side.

If some are willing to hand over cash so that Biashara can defeat Simba in a domestic league fixture, I do not believe the same people will not contribute cash for the outfit so it can participate in the continental competition.

If CAF's decision on Biashara United's fate in CAF Confederation Cup hardly favours the side, I will accept the decision.

Simba SC frustratingly crashed out of CAF Champions League after comfortably winning 2-0 against Jwaneng Galaxy FC away in Gaborone.

Simba failed to defend their victory in the second leg fixture which took place at home in

Dar es Salaam.

After going into the break leading by one goal and later letting in three goals within 45 minutes of the second half, the hosts were ultimately eliminated.

After seeing them lead by three goals on aggregate against Jwaneng Galaxy at the breather, Simba players believed the match was over, they believed their opponents were weak.

What happened was that Jwaneng Galaxy FC's players ran twice as much as they did in the first leg and then managed to open up Simba SC's defense and knock them out of the competition, with three goals that took them to the group stage.

And a football fan can ask himself how can a top outfit like Simba SC fall into the trap of despising its opponent before the match is over?

An outfit can be safe if it despises its opponent in the Mainland Premier League, but not the CAF Champions League.

In such a competition an outfit must pay the penalty for its contempt. Other grievances came after the Simba SC vs Jwaneng Galaxy FC return leg clash ended and some of the former's officials poured the blame on social media.

At the end of the day, we accept the fact that we have a very long way to go in football as a nation.

Starting with players, leadership, fans, leagues, and everyone else involved in football. We have a long way to go.

Barca's Aguero taken to hospital for heart exam

BARCELONA

BARCELONA striker Sergio Aguero has been admitted to hospital for a cardiac exam after experiencing chest pain during Saturday's 1-1 draw with Alaves.

Aguero, 33, had to be taken off before half-time after being attended to on the Camp Nou pitch by Barca's medical team for a lengthy period of time.

The Argentina international was eventually able to walk off the field before being transferred to hospital where he will undergo tests to determine the nature of the problem.

"The first team player Sergio Aguero reported chest discomfort and has been admitted to the hospital for a cardiac exam," Barca said in a brief statement after the game.

Barca also lost Gerard Pique to a calf strain against Alaves to further increase their injury woes. Sergi Roberto, Ronald Araujo, Pedri, Frenkie de Jong, Ansu Fati, Ousmane Dembele and Martin Braithwaite all missed Saturday's game with various fitness issues.

Aguero, who joined Barca from Manchester City in the summer on a free transfer, only made his debut for the club earlier in October after he injured his calf in preseason training.

He scored his first goal in the Clasico defeat to Real Madrid last weekend and followed that up with his first start in Wednesday's surprise loss to Rayo Vallecano.

The game against Alaves marked his second start in a week as Barca's winless run stretched to three games in LaLiga.

With interim coach Sergi Barjuan on the touch line following the dismissal of Ronald Koeman in midweek, Memphis Depay gave Barca the lead in the second half.

Luis Rioja equalised almost immediately for Alaves to earn a point for the Basque side and leave Barca languishing in ninth in the league table with 16 points from 11 games.

"It's a bad point," defender Jordi Alba told reporters after the game. "Anything other than three points is bad for Barca, but especially now seeing where we are in the standings.

"We did enough but we are struggling to score and it takes very little for teams to score against us. We are all trying but it's tough."

Barjuan will remain in charge for Tuesday's must-win game against Dynamo Kiev in the Champions League as the search for a new manager goes on.

Sources have told ESPN that talks with Al Sadd coach Xavi Hernandez are at an advanced stage, but an agreement for the former midfielder to return to the club is not yet finalised.

(Agencies)

Zaha urges Instagram to take racism 'seriously'

LONDON

CRYSTAL Palace forward Wilfried Zaha has been subjected to racist abuse online and the 28-year-old shared screenshots of some of the comments after Saturday's 2-0 Premier League win over Manchester City.

Zaha, who scored the opening goal of the game at the Etihad Stadium, was brought down by Aymeric Laporte which resulted in the City defender receiving a straight red card in first-half stoppage time.

The Ivory Coast international, who has previously been targeted online, posted images of the racist messages that he received on Instagram after the game and asked social media companies to take the problem seriously.

"This message isn't for me to get a million messages saying 'we stand with you' and 'it's disgusting' or about me getting sympathy," Zaha wrote on Instagram. "I'm not here for all the nonsense that's being done instead of fixing the actual problem.

"I don't mind abuse because nowadays it comes with doing the job I do even though it's not an excuse but my colour will always be the real problem but it's fine because I'll always be BLACK AND PROUD.

"Speak to me when you actually take this issue seriously."

Facebook, which owns Instagram, did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment.

Several players have been subjected to racial abuse online in recent months, especially in the Premier League, and English soccer has been urging social media firms to do more to tackle the problem.

Instagram had previously announced new measures and Twitter vowed to continue its efforts after taking action on cases of abuse related to soccer in Britain.

Earlier this year, Zaha said he would stop "taking a knee" before games as part of English football's anti-racism campaign because he believed the meaning of the "degrading" gesture had been lost.

(Agencies)

Respite for Solskjaer, Man Utd against struggling Spurs

LONDON

THERE was only a short handshake between the managers at the end of Manchester United's 3-0 win against Tottenham Hotspur, but by that point, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer had already passed the baton to Nuno Espirito Santo as embattled boss of the Premier League's crisis club.

Thousands of Tottenham supporters had already left, but many who stayed did so mainly to boo Nuno off the pitch as his opposite number strode across the turf to the section of United fans, who had been singing Solskjaer's name for most of the second half as their club ended a difficult week with a much-needed victory.

Spurs followers opted for a more toxic repertoire, which ranged from chanting "you don't know what you're doing" at Nuno for his first substitution of the game, when Lucas Moura was replaced by Steven Bergwijn with the score 1-0 -- to calling for club chairman Daniel Levy to quit.

Solskjaer is hardly out of the woods and his position remains precarious with a tricky Champions League trip to Atalanta and next weekend's Manchester derby to come, but his team's display was a response to recent days, which have seen competing narratives emerge from Old Trafford.

On the one hand, there has been a feeling that United's players and fanbase are losing faith in their under-fire boss, while Solskjaer himself countered that the group were working well on the training ground



Ole Gunnar Solskjaer

to right the ship knocked so badly off course by last weekend's 5-0 humiliation at the hands of Liverpool.

Given the way this game played out, with United ending a four-game winless run in the Premier League and turning in their most complete display of the season, the 48-year-old was not about to pass up a chance to question some of the coverage, praising "brilliant" fans and calling out those who wanted to, in his words, "portray a different story."

This performance provided vindication for Solskjaer's belief that his squad remains sufficiently behind him and his players executed a game plan, which saw just two changes to the side that started against Liverpool, but featured a three-man defence, in which Raphael Varane made a significant difference on his return from a groin injury.

Solskjaer has used three at the back on occasions previously, but whether this is a blueprint for the future or an emergency measure designed to galvanise a beleaguered team remains to be seen. One conclusion that is difficult to escape, though, is that the success -- or otherwise -- of re-signing Ronaldo will be the main factor that determines the manager's immediate.

The 36-year-old's deployment as a lone centre-forward has largely disrupted United's attacking rhythm, even accounting for his marvelous individual quality, but here he was paired up front with Edinson Cavani, whose presence gave United more dynamism with and without the ball.

The forward line has a combined age of 70, but Ronaldo and Cavani have scored more than 1200 career goals between them and the fact that each added to their

tallies at Tottenham encapsulated their team's display and settled the game as a contest with a third of the match to play. It was, Solskjaer said, something that had been hinted at during the week.

"Tuesday morning's training session by Edinson Cavani is probably the best I've seen by an individual since I've come here," Solskjaer said. "He led the line, he went as a good example for everyone, how to go about changing the mood and the two of them were told early on they were going to play up front as a two. They've been like two peas in a pod, really close, and it worked."

After Cristian Romero had had a goal disallowed for offside and Son Heung-min shot over from close range, United went ahead six minutes before half-time when Bruno Fernandes found Ronaldo with a superb angled pass. The

Portuguese gambled that Ben Davies would be unable to stretch himself to intercept, then fired a right-foot volley into the far corner with devastating precision.

Ronaldo turned provider after 64 minutes, perfectly timing a through ball for Cavani, who lifted a deft shot over Hugo Lloris and into the net. Substitute Marcus Rashford, on for Ronaldo, added a late third as he ran through a chasm in the middle of Spurs' defence to continue his promising form after returning from shoulder surgery.

Ronaldo's exit prompted what appeared to be a prolonged explanation from Solskjaer why he was withdrawn: "OK, OK," Ronaldo replied as he took his place on the bench. In less dramatic fashion than his Champions League winners against Villarreal and Atalanta, he had avoided further dissent or indifference that would have been another blow to Solskjaer's credentials and provided cutting edge to a professional performance.

Contrast that with Harry Kane. While Ronaldo may be motivated by returning to his former club, Kane continues to look like he would rather be somewhere else -- specifically Manchester City -- after being denied a move in the summer. He managed one blocked shot and a once ruthless link-up with Son was practically non-existent.

Yet Spurs' issues are collective, going far beyond their big two. They failed to muster a single shot on target for the first time in a home league game since De-

ember 2013 and it is two hours, 16 minutes since they forced an opposing goalkeeper into making a save.

That points to a manager yet to identify a coherent way of playing, an unappealing inertia that could hardly be further removed from the proactive Mauricio Pochettino era, in the shadow of which the club continues to live. So passive were the hosts that a wounded United side was allowed to grow into the game, rediscover confidence and eventually emerge with a comfortable victory.

Both Solskjaer and Nuno are seeking to take a team on from Jose Mourinho's regressive style. Due to the absence of fans resulting from COVID-19 restrictions, Tottenham last permanent manager did not face the same hostility from fans at what they saw as a betrayal of the club's attacking heritage; Nuno can be under no such illusions.

"I'm only thinking about the next training session because there are no words that are going to solve the situation," Nuno said. "The booing and disappointment of the fans is understandable. When they don't see the team that they expect -- and I truly expect we are better than we showed today -- they are going to boo. It is up to us to change the mood."

By then, having earlier paused his media duties to sign autographs, Solskjaer was on his way to boarding the team bus, soundtracked by cheers from the few United fans still in attendance. How quickly things can change. **ESPN**

Relief for Solskjaer, boos for Nuno as Man U beats Tottenham

LONDON

IN the end all the boos were for Nuno Espirito Santo as Tottenham fans chanted: "You don't know what you're doing."

Joy had returned for Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Manchester United, for now at least.

After collecting one point from four games, Solskjaer's changes worked -- going to a three-man defence and starting Edinson Cavani up front with Cristiano Ronaldo.

It was the strike force with a combined age of 70 that scored the first two goals before Marcus Rashford came off the bench and sealed a 3-0 win on Saturday with a curling strike.

"It's been a difficult week for the players, for the club, for the fans, for me," Solskjaer said. "I've stayed away from most of the noise, but you know what's happening out there. You know that you have to put a performance ... but for us, we needed this week.

"We needed a whole week to work on this, this performance and it's probably the first, or the last time for a while we have a long week to work, so it was an important one, just to work on fitness, mentality and of course we changed the tactic."

It helped that United faced a side that gifted space in defense and couldn't manage a single shot on target -- the first time that's happened for Tottenham in a home league game since 2013 -- on a woeful night for striker Harry Kane.

It leaves Nuno with five losses from his first 10 league matches in charge, a far cry from the team that had four consecutive top-four Champions League finishes from 2016 to 2019 under Mauricio Pochettino.

The chants against Nuno when Lucas Moura was taken off in the second half were followed later by "We want Levy out". It's more likely there is managerial change rather than chairman Daniel Levy leaving, so toxic was the atmosphere.

"We have to improve all of us," Nuno said. "It's not about individually. As a team we have to do much better. It's not only about our offensive game. We are vulnerable in defense. We concede. We keep the ball, yes, we make 10 shots, none of them on goal.

"We have to be more accurate. The final pass. It's always not the right line. It's behind, it's front. So we have to improve. We have to improve."

Solskjaer vindicated the decision for United to stick with him fol-



Nuno Espirito Santo

lowing last Sunday's 5-0 humiliation to Liverpool

but tougher tests could be ahead in the next

week -- with a Champions League trip to Atalanta and a home match on Saturday against Manchester City.

With City surprisingly being held 2-2 by Brighton on Saturday, the defending champions remain in third place -- with United now only three points behind in fifth.

Tottenham is two points further adrift, having slipped from first place after three games to eighth place after 10 matches.

The hosts held out until the 39th minute when Ronaldo got on the end of a high ball from Bruno Fernandes and peeled away from defender Ben Davies before netting from a first-time volley across goal in the 39th minute. Ronaldo turned

provider for Cavani, who clipped in the second in the 64th before Rashford came off the bench and produced a curling strike.

Tottenham never looked like even threatening a comeback, particularly with Kane looking a shadow of the player who was top scorer and assist-maker in the league last season.

The dismal form casts doubts on how long Nuno can stay in the job after leaving Wolverhampton last season to become Jose Mourinho's permanent successor at Tottenham.

"It sounds absurd," Nuno said, "but the only solution is we try and stick together and work, and work, work together."

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Relief for Solskjær, boos for Nuno as Man U beats Tottenham

PAGE 19

Yanga yet to reach expectations, says coach Nabi



Yanga's winger, Ducapel Moloko (C), dribbles past Azam FC players, fullback Edward Charles (R), and striker, Rodgers Kola, when the clubs met in a 2021/22 NBC Premier League clash which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Azam FC succumbed to a 2-0 loss. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AFTER guiding Yanga to a comfortable 2-0 win over Azam FC in a 2021/22 NBC Premier League clash at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, Yanga's head coach Mohamed Nabi has said that his team has not yet reached its target.

The Tunisian gaffer pointed out so far about 45 to 50 percent of what they expect has been achieved.

The statement comes after Yanga's goals were scored by Congolese footballers Fiston Mayele and Ducapel Moloko in

either half of the match.

Mayele registered the opener in the first half and Moloko netted in the second half, guaranteeing Yanga the top spot in the league log with 12 points after four games without conceding a goal.

Nabi said that after three months the team will have reached its 100 percent expectations, he earlier said so at the beginning of the season.

"It's still two months and we're at 45 to 50 percent of our expectations. I said at the beginning of the season I need three months to make this team more competitive."

"Today's result (Sunday) against Azam FC is due to good preparation to read the strengths and weaknesses of the opponents, then we knew the ways to beat them and leave with three points, Yanga is a great team and the results we get now are normal because of our size."

Coach Nabi also congratulated his team's physio for keeping the players fit.

"A lot of people criticized our fitness coach, but you can see how the players had a high level of morale, in today's game they were fit and they would play even for another 30 minutes after

the 90th, just remind you this fitness coach is a doctor by profession, and he deserves his respect," the Tunisian gaffer revealed.

Nabi also congratulated his players for showing a high level of performance in the game against Azam FC and was satisfied with the new signings for this season due to their quick and quality adaption into the team system.

Azam FC assistant coach, Vivier Bahati, revealed he has been saddened by his team's failure to follow instructions and lack of quality in the 90 minutes of the game.

The Burundian stated: "We are disappointed with the level of our players who were on the field, they were overwhelmed in every department and we did not show that we wanted in the match, as for now, we look forward to the next match and make adjustments towards the mistakes we made."

"We played five different league games that had different tastes, I think we played better on those games against Coastal Union, Polisi Tanzania, and Namungo but, against Yanga, we were awful."

"Missing Mudathir Yahya in this match has not affected us as a team, because football is a game of instruction and we have 30 players who all have a chance to do well, so failing to follow instructions has affected the team, Yanga was better today and I congratulate the squad," Bahati noted.

5 EATV

TONIGHT @ 9:00

UJENZI

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SSPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

Tonight on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghul Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanfix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planef Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

2022 Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon registration gains momentum

By Guardian Reporter

ORGANIZERS of the prestigious 2022 Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon have confirmed that the registration process that started last week is progressing well and the early discounting period is currently on.

A statement issued in Dar es Salaam said registration is being done online through Tigopesa by dialing "149*20#" and through the official Kilimanjaro Marathon website-www.kilimanjaronmarathon.com.

According to the organizers, the earlier participants register, the better for them as it will give them ample time to prepare.

"We are concerned about early registration to ensure that we have all important aspects are taken care of on time for example water, ambulances, fruits, and medals," read the statement in part.

The organizers also reminded participants to take advantage of the early discounting period which is from October 17 to January 7, thereafter the entry fee increases.

"After the discount period is over there will be no more offer, all participants will be required to pay the normal registration fee after January 7, 2022," the organizers revealed.

The organizers stated that offers for the marathon are communicated only through the official Kilimanjaro Marathon platforms and media.

The organizers also reminded participants that Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon will be marking the 20th Anniversary hence it will be a special and big event for all to mark this important milestone.

Sponsors of the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager-42km, Tigo Kili Half Marathon-21km, and Grand Malt 5km.

The race's water table sponsors are Absa Tanzania, Unilever, Simba Cement, Kilimanjaro International Leather Industries Co. Ltd, Kilimanjaro Water, and TPC Sugar. while

The event's official suppliers are GardaWorld Security, Keys Hotel, Kibo Palace Hotel, and CMC Automobiles

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, which will be held at the Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU) on February 27 next year, is organized by the Kilimanjaro Company Limited and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.



Balakrishna Foundation's patron, Balakrishna Sree Kumar, executes a shot to inaugurate this year's edition of Balakrishna Foundation DC-MCC Cricket Cup at Leaders Club venue in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

2021 DC-MCC Cricket Cup gets underway in Dar

By Guardian Reporter

THIS year's Balakrishna Foundation Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC)- Malabar Cricket Club (MCC) Cup got rolling at Leaders Club venue on Sunday.

The tournament, which is organized by MCC in association with DC and Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA), was officially inaugurated in Dar es Salaam in 2016.

The tournament, which was not held last year due to the coronavirus outbreak, involves 16 teams this time around.

The teams participating in the tournament are Estim, Aga Khan SC, Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Center (SKLPSC),

Tamil Nadu Sports Club, GP, Alaf Aces, K&P Constructions outfit, and Caravans Cricket Club.

Lions Cricket Club, Union SC, Sandy's Super Strikers, Annadil Burhani, Dar Cricket Club (DCC), Dar Black Panthers, Upanga SC, and hosts, MCC, complete the list.

The 16 teams, the organizers revealed, are divided into four groups playing against each other in the round-robin phase, with the top two winners in each group qualifying for the quarter-finals.

The eight teams will proceed to the knockout stage into the semi-finals with the last two reach-

ing the finals.

The tournament will witness 31 matches being played during the next seven weeks, with the final due to be played in December at Leaders Club ground.

Other matches will be played at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club oval.

Balakrishna Foundation is the competition's main sponsor. Other supporting sponsors include Estim Constructions Limited, Alliance Insurance Limited, Canara Bank Limited, Nida Textiles Limited, NTS-Bosch, Tanzanair Limited, Kivingu, Cosmos Group, Alliance Finance Limited, Eleven

Agri Limited, and Rickshaw Travels Limited.

Unoplast Tanzania Limited, Honest Logistics Limited, Davis & Shirliff Limited, Hitech Sai, METL Group, Abacus, UC Unity, ABC Emporio, Flashnet, A-One Products, and Bottlers Limited are also the co-sponsors.

Essar Life of Style, Gathani Tanzania Limited, Aurobindo, Xtreme Fitness, Target Brands, Ahead Africa Solutions, Regal Pharmaceuticals Limited, Unity Computers, Tanzindia Assurance Company Limited, and Wipro Technologies Tanzania Limited complete the co-sponsors list.

Swimmers set for CANA Zone Three Championships

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA will compete in the African Swimming Confederation (CANA) Zone Three Championships scheduled to take place in Kampala, Uganda from December 9-14.

Tanzania national swimming head coach, Alexander Mwaipasi, stated during the climax of the CANA Zone Four championships held at the International School of Tanganyika (IST), Masaki in the city yesterday.

CANA Zone Three Championships will feature seven countries including the hosts, Uganda. The countries are Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, and Tanzania.

Other countries in the remaining zones have also been invited to compete in the event scheduled to start early next month.

Speaking yesterday, Mwaipasi said most of the swimmers to form the Tanzania national team will come from the team that competed in the virtual age group of CANA Zone Four events due to their performances.

Mwaipasi said he will use the CANA Zone Four's results to select the final team ahead of Uganda's championship which is just around the corner.

"So far, I have seen many swimmers who can compete in Uganda's Zone Three championships. I am sure if the same moral and fighting spirit would be maintained, we will crown the title for the third time in history in Kampala."

"I have been impressed with the standard of the swimmers in the Zone Four Championships and wait for the final event of the year," Mwaipasi disclosed.

Tanzania won the first CANA Zone Three Championships title in 2016 during the event held in Kigali, Rwanda, and later defended the top honour in the event held in Dar es Salaam in 2017.

The country managed to finish in the third position in editions in Khartoum, Sudan, and Nairobi, Kenya.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

