



National Pg 2 MPs satisfied with JNHPP progress



National Pg 4 Mponde tea factory impresses MPs



National Pg 6 Tourism doors opening in Lake zone



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Prominent tour operator named consul for Brazil

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

BRAZILIAN authorities have appointed Arusha-based tour operator Mozzah Mauty as honorary consul of the Brazilian Federation in the northern zone of the country.

Antonio Augusto Martins Cesar, the resident ambassador, installed the new consul in her responsibilities at the weekend, noting that her consular jurisdiction covers Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions on the one hand, plus the Lake Zone regions of Simiyu and Mwanza

The well connected tour operator expressed feelings of being extremely honored to represent Brazil, the world's leading country in tourism attractions and with expanding business reach around the world.

Brazilian embassy officials and a cross-section of the travel industry fraternity

“inspiration, motivation and guidance from lots of people, friends and relatives in every step of the way

in the northern circuit attended the ceremony, where the consul similarly noted the facilitation of this appointment by the government, that is, by good offices of the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation.

The ministry endorsed the nomination, thus recognizing her potential in serving in that important and respectable position, she stated, underlining the “pride and dedication,” she stated, vowing to foster deeper understanding and cooperation between the two countries, especially in her area of specialisation, tourism.

She similarly expressed her motivation and passion for intensifying business and cultural cooperation between the people of Tanzania and Brazil, underlining that her appointment has to do with “inspiration, motivation and guidance from lots of people, friends and relatives in every step of the way.”

She cited special mention Ambassador Antonio and his wife Daniela for the confidence shown in her, projecting expectations of helping to cement the good relationship existing between Tanzania and the Brazilian Federation.

Samia: Two weeks adequate to number farmers, deliver inputs

By Guardian Reporter



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa addresses residents of Irugwa Island in Ukerewe District, Mwanza Region, yesterday shortly after inspecting six Irugwa Secondary School classrooms worth 250m/- built with government funding. Photo: PMO

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday expressed surprise at delays to start registering farmers in the fertiliser subsidy scheme in Kigoma Region.

Addressing the gathering in Kasulu shortly after launching development projects, the president directed the concerned department two weeks to ensure the availability of fertilizers and provide numbers to farmers who have registered for the service.

President Samia was informed of the delay in registering farmers and delivering the inputs while the farming season is around the corner, acknowledging that there was increased demand for fertiliser in the wake of the farm inputs subsidy decision.

“The other problem is that there are few agents in Kigoma, making it difficult to reach all the farmers on time,” she stated.

The president linked the increased number of accidents with an improvement of road infrastructure, saying most road crashes are caused by reckless driving, speeding and failure to observe road regulations.

Road users need to be careful and respect traffic laws since it is everyone's responsibility to uphold road use safety, she said.

While in Kigoma, the president opened the 68 kilometres Kidawe-Kasulu road and laid

40,000 animals dead as drought takes hold

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

NEARLY 40,000 animals, mostly herded livestock have died for lack of grazing pastures and water as drought conditions spread over most parts of the northern zone.

Nestory Daqqaro, the district livestock and climate change officer at the border district of Longido made this observation yesterday at a meeting to review recent reports on indigenous communities' resilience to the effects of climate change.

The material collected from recent research activities was placed for discussion in the meeting organised

“The material O collected will be published and distributed, to inform policymakers on the vital importance of indigenous knowledge

by Media Aid for Indigenous and Pastoralist Community (MAIPAC) with sponsorship by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Its agency, the Global Environment Fund (GEF) worked with the Tanzania Natural Resources Forum (TNRF) to discuss traditional protection of water sources and forests in efforts to control the impact of climate change.

During the past few months, the area has been experiencing the loss of large numbers of livestock, estimated at upwards of 39,000 and a scatter of wildlife also perished as water

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Bugando eye facility slashes travel to KCMC, Muhimbili



By Guardian Reporter

OPENING specialised eye treatment

facilities at the Bugando zonal referral hospital will reduce travel inconveniences for those near the Lake Zone who

earlier had to seek treatment at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) in Moshi or at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) in Dar es Salaam.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa made this observation yesterday when launching the facility, noting that the government prizes its collaboration with religious institutions in boosting the provision of social services.

The Roman Catholic Church runs Bugando Hospital, with the premier inaugurating the 3.7bn/- eye department as a special wing of the hospital, part of his three-day tour in

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“A total of 52bn/- was spent per year to purchase fuel for the generators while customers could only pay 14bn/- annually

the foundation stone for the Kabingo-Kasulu-Manyovu road, a 260.6km highway.

She also switched off generators earlier used to produce power and turned on a switch that connects the region to the national grid, noting that government plans are to make Kigoma a strategic region economically.

The generators must be maintained so that they can be used whenever needed, she said, applauding the region for being connected to the national grid. More investors are likely to opt for Kigoma in the wake of improved electricity services, she said.

The president commended the African Development Bank (AfDB) for supporting the projects, along with a 360.5bn/- low interest loan for the Kabingo-Kasulu road.

Prof Makame Mbarawa, the Works and Transport minister, said that road construction opens up economic and social opportunities by easing the transportation of people and goods. The new roads will stimulate industrial production, elevating fishing and agriculture sectors as well, he stated.

Trade with Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo will be strengthened as well, with the construction of the Kidawe-Kasulu road fully financed by the government at 64.7bn/-, he elaborated.

Energy minister Januari Makamba said connecting the region to the national grid has helped with operational costs as TANESCO was using 12,000 liters of fuel (144m/-) to generate electricity in Kasulu District alone.

“A total of 52bn/- was spent per year to purchase fuel for the generators while customers could only pay 14bn/- annually. We were spending more than what we were collecting from power purchasers,” he said.

Prof Adolf Mkenda, the Education, Science and Technology minister, said the government plans to construct a branch of the Muhimbili University of Health and Integrative Sciences (MUHAS) in Kigoma Region, for which a plot

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40,000 animals dead as drought takes hold

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sources dry up and grazing areas are reduced to hard stems and host dust.

Other than the cattle, wildlife counted 18 zebras, four giraffes and two gazelles which had so far died from the drought, he said, with 19 donkeys, sheep and goats added to the mix.

He pointed at belated efforts in Monduli District to dig wells and create watering ponds for livestock and wildlife ranges, to shore up the district's economy.

Apart from drought, invasive plant species have been a major problem in grazing areas where the alien outcrops stifle edible grass and cause diseases to animals that consume the strange crops, herders said.

Experts discussed what to do about the invasive plants' problem at the climate change consultative meeting, as background work to the nature-based conservation initiative, focusing on 'forest, water and environment conservation, using indigenous knowledge.'

District officials said this year, the average rainfall for Longido dropped to less than 50mm during the March to May rainy season, whereas the district obtains upwards of ten times that level of precipitation annually.

This year the rain gauges in Longido pooled in an average of 45millimeters of rain, a shocking drop in the district's history, an official remarked.

TNRF executive director Zakharia Faustine pointed at the need for inclusive strategies among the various stakeholders to fight the effects of climate change, pointing at civil society organisations, the government, international

organisations and the various communities.

Collecting traditional knowledge is meant to apply it to fight the effects of climate change by preserving forests and water sources. MAIPAC efforts are part of strategies to get information for regulatory improvement, he stated.

He lauded MAIPAC and the Civic and Legal Aid Organisation (CILA) for initiating the project, linking 12 other environmental projects sponsored by UNDP, involving traditional communities in environmental preservation.

Kilei Mollel, the Kimokoia village chairman in the district, said the government and NGOs including Community Research and Development Services (CORDS) units to uproot invasive weeds, with more than 1,000 hectares of land area invaded by the weeds

MAIPAC Director, Mussa Juma and his CILA counterpart, Odero Charles Odera said activists visited Longido, Ngorongoro and Monduli to collect traditional knowledge in regard to the preservation of the environment.

The material collected will be published and distributed, to inform policymakers on the vital importance of indigenous knowledge, they said

Happiness Masaki, the forest officer for Makuyuni and Manyara divisions, and Ngorongoro forest officer Major Ngolienya said traditional knowledge can be applied in rectifying climate change effects, to protect water sources and forests.

Elie Chansa, the PINGO's forum information officer, said the traditional knowledge database will be provided to the government for use in environmental preservation "just as what the forefathers did."



Zanzibar Tourism and Heritage minister Simai Mohammed Said (C) stands witness as CPS chief commercial officer Tobias Dietzold (R) and Busara Promotions CEO Yusuf Mahmoud exchange documents at Fumba in Zanzibar yesterday shortly after signing a three-year sponsorship agreement for the next edition of the annual Sauti za Busara cultural festival lined up for February next year. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Samia: Two weeks adequate to number farmers, deliver inputs

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of 474 hectares of land has been obtained.

Prof Joyce Ndalichako, the Work, Youth, Employment and the Disabled minister at PMO, praised

the president for development projects conducted in Kasulu constituency. The government

needs to fast track implementation of water projects in the area, the minister and legislator added.

Bugando eye facility slashes travel to KCMC, Muhimbili

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Mwanza Region to inspect various development projects.

He said the government pays salaries for 1,191 employees, roughly two-thirds of its entire workforce, with hospital director Dr Fabian Massaga saying the newly inaugurated eye department will reduce blindness and other preventable eye complications in the Lake Zone regions.

Construction is now complete and the facility expects to open its doors to the public in early February next year, he said, praising the collaboration between the

church and the government in the provision of various social services, including health care.

Archbishop Renuus Nkwande, head of the Mwanza archdiocese and chairman of the Bugando Hospital board of trustees, lauded the government for enabling the hospital to increase eye specialists, pointing out that the increase in eye specialists has helped in improving the hospital's eye treatment services covering the Lake Zone.

Since the major hospital was set up over 40 years ago, it had one eye specialist for the entire zone but there are six specialists, he added.

House panel satisfied with JNHPP progress

By Guardian Reporter

THE Parliamentary Energy and Minerals Committee has shown its satisfaction with the progress of the ongoing construction of the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project (JNHPP) aimed to increase the country's power generation.

Speaking during the panel's visit to the project site, its vice chairperson Eng Stella Manyanya said the project implementation was going fast and that her panel was satisfied with the progress that has now reached 74 per cent.

"I should say that 74 per cent is no mean accomplishment, as you now see, all these 27 transformers to be installed in the project show that the project is in its final stages of completion," she said.

Eng Manyanya called on the government to have a procedure to identify the youth implementing the big strategic project to enable them to increase the skills gained so that they can be used in other similar projects as needed

She said the project has provided about 13,000 jobs while 11,800 for indigenous and 1,200 for foreigners and will cost 6.5trn/- upon completion.

She added that JNHPP will add

2,115 MW to the national Power Grid (NPG) which will have a capacity of over 5,000MW by 2025.

For his part, TANESCO Assistant director, Eng Athanasius Nangali said they were ready to implement the project to the required quality to assist in the country's economic growth.

"We shall continue working day and night to ensure the project is completed to the required work standards for the country's development," he said.



I should say that 74 per cent is no mean accomplishment, as you now see, all these 27 transformers to be installed in the project show that the project is in its final stages of completion



Medical Stores Department director general Mavere Tukai addresses journalists in Dodoma city yesterday chiefly on the availability of medical equipment and supplies in the country. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

UN vows to step up its partnership with Somalia on counter-terrorism

MOGADISHU

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the suicide bombing in the Somali capital of Mogadishu on 14 October 2017, the United Nations yesterday joined the people and government of Somalia in remembering the victims and survivors of the deadly attack.

"Time may have passed but the widespread pain caused by this horrific attack remains, and our thoughts go out to those people who lost family and friends as well as to those who were injured," said the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia,

James Swan.

"The United Nations stands firmly with all Somalis in their tireless efforts to end terrorism and to advance Somalia on its path to peace and stability," he added.

The 2017 attack which killed more than 500 people and injured more than 300 others, ranks as the deadliest-ever terrorist bombing in Africa, involving the use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

Assailants with pistols killed one of the clan delegates who elected members of the Somali Parliament in the Warta-Nabada district within Mogadishu.

Abdi Araaye Moalim was shot

several times in the upper part of the body by the gunmen, thought to be Al-Shabaab members early on Saturday morning.

The late Araaye voted MP in the Galmudug constituency at the beginning of this year. Al-Shabaab group claimed his killing.

The security forces of the Somali government reached the crime scene but failed to arrest the killers, who immediately escaped on foot before their arrival.

Meanwhile, The minister of Commerce and Industry Minister Jibril Abdirashid Haji on Saturday issued yesterday a new stiff warning to the business community.

Speaking at a press conference

in the capital, Haji warned the local traders against dealing with Al-Shabaab and heeding the group's directives, including the tax payments.

The minister added that the Somali government decided to revoke the license of any firm that violated or reject the order. He also said the violators' assets will be taken over.

Haji termed it illegal and crime financing terrorism.

This comes amid a nationwide military offensive against Al-Shabaab which led to the liberation of more than 40 areas in the Hir and Galgaduud regions since last month.



NMB Bank Plc chief credit officer Daniel Mbotto (C) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting a sample return air ticket to Paulo Lema (2nd-L), a representative of 15 NMB Bank Club members sponsored by the bank for a tour of an international trade fair in Turkey. With them are NMB head of business banking Alex Mgeni (L), chief of shared services Nyenyuata Menjooli (2nd-R) and NMB Club chairman (Dar es Salaam Region) Awarid Mpendilah. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Bank sends 15 business people to international trade fairs in Istanbul

By Guardian Reporter

SOME 15 business community persons, who are also members of NMB Bank Business Club yesterday left Dar es Salaam for a nine-day visit to the International Trade Fairs 2022 in Istanbul, Turkey.

Presenting them with tickets at the NMB headquarters in Dar es Salaam, NMB Bank chief credit officer, Daniel Mbotto accompanied by his Chief Shared Services Officer, Nyenyuata Menjooli said this is the second time the bank was coordinating such a trip.

Giving history, he said the first time was in 2019 when they sponsored 10 businesspeople to participate at the 125th Canton Fair 2019 in Guangzhou, China, and thereafter COVID-19 interrupted two more trips for 2020 and 2021.

Speaking before handing over the tickets, which were all paid for by NMB, Mbotto said the aim of transporting the businessmen is to give them the opportunity to learn about various issues important for the well-being of their businesses and in turn raise the economy of the country.

Mbotto pointed out that the businessmen will start the tour on Wednesday and visit the exhibitions to give them business insight, adding: "Among the places, they will visit are factories that produce products with a large market in the country, which they have a relationship with, where they will see for themselves the production of various products including medical equipment, construction equipment, clothes, cosmetics and so on. "NMB believes that the visit will be of great benefit to these businessmen and the nation as a whole, since their commercial growth is an increase in employment and benefits for all Tanzanians."

Elaborating, he mentioned the criteria that were used to get the businessmen as including their good history of borrowing and loan repayment, passing their business by 95 per cent in NMB Bank, helping them connect businessmen to join the bank and the ability to contribute a small percentage of the trip.

Mbotto asked the businessmen to ensure that the visit brings about a change in their businesses, they make good use of every opportunity they will see and return home with great knowledge, along with expanding the

business network to promote their business and the national economy.

"Let me remind businessmen more, there are many opportunities within NMB Bank and do not hesitate to choose us to do your business with productivity and benefits, where apart from good services, we have great opportunities like these for business visits which are the catalyst for their part, a representative of the 15 businessmen in the journey, Paulo Lema, thanked NMB for the various opportunities it provides to their clients of various cadres in increasing their power to grow economically and emphasized that the more they are supported, the easier their business growth will be.

"The more NMB you support our businesses by giving us loans, financial education and opportunities like these, the more you speed up our development and commercial prosperity, we assure Tanzanians that we will return better from the fruits of this visit.

"The intention is to develop our ability to provide employment to our fellow Tanzanians through opportunities like this, which we also call on NMB to continue to care for us and reach more customers, entrepreneurs and businessmen to increase their understanding of commercial and economic issues," stressed Lema.

Speaking on behalf of the businessmen who had such an opportunity in 2019, Awarid Mpendilah, who is the Chairman of the NMB Business Club Dar es Salaam Region, admitted that their visit to the Canton Fair has helped them change systematically, operationally in business.

"It is a visit that gave us various benefits, which have been the catalysts for our commercial growth nationally and internationally and we have now reached the milestones of signing various agreements with our colleagues from developed countries and thus supporting Industrial Tanzania which is being processed by the Government.

"The empowerment we continue to get from NMB is great and productive for our businesses, our companies, institutions and organizations. My call to you who got this opportunity this year, realize that you represent thousands of businessmen and thus become good ambassadors of the bank in Turkey," he said.

CPB opens doors for crop purchases

By Guardian Reporter

CEREALS and Other Produce Board (CPB) in the country has opened doors for the purchase of various crops from farmers, especially food crops.

This was revealed at the weekend by CPB Commercial Officer for Lake Zone, Frank Bubelwa, saying the aim is to help to reduce market challenges facing farmers.

He said after buying the crops, the Board will add value thereon and sell them locally as well as export, and added that the crops will be bought at current market

prices. "We have decided to start buying the crops after seeing many farmers complaining about lack of markets after harvesting and even those available used to be defrauded by big businessmen," said Bubelwa.

He added: "In the circumstances, we saw that and decided to help as a way to motivate them to continue farming, even though some of them despaired."

He mentioned some of the crops they buy including rice, maize, beans, and all leguminous crops for food and nutrition.

"The criteria in buying the crops

include that they should be clean without any impurities or sand in regard to rice, and we weigh them in the presence of farmers themselves," Bubelwa said.

"We also buy the crops at current market prices. For example, if the beans are sold at 2,000/- a kilo, we also buy them at the same price. In addition, we add value to them after purchase for both local and external markets," he said.

He said already they have opened up branches for selling crops in all East African countries and called on farmers to continue farming cash crops.

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Tender

TEMBO NICKEL CORPORATION: KABANGA NICKEL PROJECT

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the provision of Catering, Cleaning, and Camp Management Services

Tembo Nickel Corporation ("Tembo") is an operating company formed via the Framework Agreement (19 January 2021) between Kabanga Nickel Limited ("Kabanga Nickel") and the Government of Tanzania ("GoT") for the development of the Kabanga nickel deposits in the Ngara District in the Northwest of Tanzania. Under the Framework Agreement terms, Tembo (owned 84% by Kabanga Nickel and 16% by GoT) has been formally established for the mining, processing, and refining of Class 1 nickel with cobalt and copper co-products.

Kabanga is the largest development-ready nickel sulphide deposit in the world, unmatched in scale and grade, with at least 30 years life of mine and further exploration upside. Once in operation, the Kabanga Nickel Project will produce Class 1 battery-grade nickel, cobalt, and copper refined metals in Tanzania. The cradle-to-gate operation will use hydromet technology that is significantly more cost-efficient than smelting. The hydromet process will reduce the carbon footprint, minimize environmental impact, lower capital, and production costs, and contribute significantly to the economic growth of Tanzania.

Tembo Nickel Corporation, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced, and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the following Services.

- Preparation of menu for breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- Provision of kitchen equipment, and crockery based on Tembo Nickel requirements
- Cleaning and laundry services
- Supply and installation of 100 accommodation units (prefab containers)
- Supply and maintenance of all equipment as approved by Tembo Nickel
- Comprehensive analysis of current kitchen equipment and laundry machines for the Tembo Nickel review
- Providing strategies (short, medium, and long-term) based on business requirements which if deployed for the management of the camp will be of benefit to the Tembo Nickel

The above services are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. If your company would like to be considered for **pre-qualification to receive the invitation to tender**, please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile
- Company registration documents i.e., Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate and any other business supporting documents.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, and affiliated registration
- Proven experience in catering services
- Years of service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to the project
- Required equipment availability to perform the specific work
- Indicate the above reference number **TEMBO-2022-10-001** and description on your Expression of interest submission.

Kindly send your response by email to tenders@kabanganickel.com by the close of business on **26th October 2022**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote the reference number in the subject line of your email.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of Tembo Nickel Corporation.

For and on behalf of **TEMBO NICKEL CORPORATION: KABANGA NICKEL PROJECT**

Health ministry issues warning on possibility of outbreak of cholera

By Guardian Reporter

THE Ministry of Health has issued a warning against cholera, especially in the regions and districts bordering the country of Malawi due to the interaction of economic and social activities between the people of those countries.

Dr Aifello Sicalwe, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) issued the warning yesterday after the Malawian Minister of Health on October 14, this year gave information about the outbreak of the disease in the southeastern African nation.

Reports have it that so far the disease has spread in 25 districts in Malawi, with 132 deaths reported along with the infection of approximately 4,604 people.

Due to that Dr Sicalwe, said that the disease is contracted by eating food or drink contaminated with bacteria called 'Vibrio cholerae', explaining that those bacteria are found in the faces and vomit of a cholera patient or an infected person who has not yet shown symptoms.

He said that in order to control the disease from entering and spreading in the country, everyone should pay attention to washing their hands with soap and clean and safe running water after going to the toilet or bathing a child who has defecated.

"The main symptoms of cholera disease are continuous diarrhoea with watery stools similar to the color of the water that has been washed with rice that does not give off an odor, continuous vomiting, fever, lethargy, thirst and exhaustion, the patient may lose his life if he does not receive medical care within a short time," said Dr Sicalwe.

Dr Sicalwe asked the citizens to wash their hands with clean and safe water after attending to the patient, to wash fruits with clean water before eating, to stop the flow of water from the toilet.

He said that people should give information and go to the health

care center if they get diarrhea or vomiting while emphasizing the construction of toilets, use them and keep them clean at all times so that pathogens do not enter the environment including water and food.

He also insisted on giving information if there are people with symptoms of cholera in the community by calling the free phone number 199.

"Another thing that should be considered is to boil drinking water or treat it with special medicine and take good care of it during use, avoid contamination of water sources, shower, wash, throw away waste and avoid eating food that has cooled or prepared in an unclean and unsafe environment," he said.

He also asked health officials to manage the cleanliness of the environment in their areas and people to follow the instructions given by health experts on protecting themselves against various diseases.



Another thing that should be considered is to boil drinking water or treat it with special medicine and take good care of it during use, avoid contamination of water sources, shower, wash, throw away waste and avoid eating food that has cooled or prepared in an unclean and unsafe environment

Parliamentary committee satisfied with investment by tea factory in Lushoto

By Guardian Correspondent, Lushoto

THE Parliamentary Committee on Public Investment and Capital (PIC) members have expressed their satisfaction with the investment made in the Mponde Tea factory located in Lushoto District, Tanga Region.

They said this after visiting the factory located in Mponde factory in Bumbuli constituency to see the investment made by the Workers' Compensation Fund (WCF), the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) and the Registrar's Office of the Treasury (TR).

"On behalf of the committee, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you, I think you have seen our faces, we are satisfied with what we have seen, please do not diminish this spirit that you started with and continue with it," said George Malima, PIC vice chairperson.

Malima who is an MP for Mpwapwa said the task of his committee is to look at where the government has invested.

"President Samia Suluhu Hassan has allowed a lot of money to come to this factory so that you can invest and thus provide enough jobs and raise the lives of Tanzanians that is exactly the intention of the president," he said.

Manyoni MP and PIC member Dr Julius Chaya said: "When the investors met with the committee in Parliament in Dodoma, they saw that the idea of investment is very good because investment has been able to promote employment in various areas of the world."

"We congratulate you when you revive the industries like this, the people get jobs, the farmers also

get a place to sell their produce, we really thank the government but we also thank all the funds for the good work."

However, some members have given advice that the management of the factory must make sure that they are well organised in the area of markets, especially those outside, because big buyers of agricultural products, despite emphasizing quality, also like the guarantee of getting products throughout the year.

Emmanuel Humba, WCF's board of trustees chairman said they are very relieved by the arrival of the committee as it is a sign of recognising the efforts made by the three investors.

"This factory is about the people, us investors, are only adding strength, but the people who will make this factory work properly are the people themselves," he said.

Anselim Peter, Mponde Tea Factory board chairperson said that the purpose of reviving the factory is to enable the people of Lushoto, Bumbuli and the surrounding areas to earn an income and thus raise them economically as many depend on the crop.

"We expect that the factory will benefit about 70 percent of the tea farmers from Lushoto, Bumbuli, Korogwe and the surrounding areas, this factory is important for the economy of this region and almost 100 percent has been completed," Peter emphasized.

He said the first phase of reviving the factory was to repair the buildings and machines that were completely dysfunctional, while the second phase was to improve the factory as a whole and create management.



Dr Amos Nungu, Director General of the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (Costech), addresses journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday when launching a week-long Sahara Sparks event. He is with Sahara Ventures CEO Jumanne Mtambalike (L) and Clouds Media Group representative Shafii Dauda. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Stakeholders commend govt for coming up with Universal Health Insurance bill

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

STAKEHOLDERS have commended the government for coming up with a Universal Health Insurance (UHI) bill saying apart from improving the provision of health and facilitating quality healthcare, it will reduce poverty amongst Tanzanians.

They were concerned that most Tanzanians who were hardly paying medical bills from their pockets would now save the money for other development activities.

Director, Mbeya Zonal Referral Hospital, Dr Godlove Mbwani said that most families were falling into poverty by selling some of their properties to clear medical bills for their relatives.

"Once a family member fell sick and required specialized medical care; relatives were forced to sell some properties to settle hospital bills. This resulted in increased poverty at a family level," said Dr Mbwani when speaking at a journalist training in Mbeya Region.

He added: "The universal health coverage plan would ensure access to quality health care to all Tanzanians. People will get quality medical treatment without having money to pay for bills. No one will be forced to sell his/her property to clear medical bills at hospitals."

Head of the Treatment Department at the hospital, Dr Uwesu Mchepange said the universal health coverage plan will

increase the number of Tanzanians registered at health insurance schemes.

Dr Mchepange noted that only 15 percent of Tanzanians have health insurance schemes while the remaining 84 percent had to pay medical bills from their pockets.

"Only 15 percent of the population have health insurance; out of them, 8 percent are enrolled with the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF), 6 percent have been registered with the Community Health Fund (CHF) and 1 percent use health insurance services provided by private companies.

He said there are a number of countries that have succeeded in fully enrolling their people with

health insurance schemes such as Rwanda, which has almost 90 percent of its citizens enrolled with health insurance schemes. He said Ghana has 40 percent of the population with health insurance.

The Universal Health Coverage bill was ready for the first time in the National Assembly yesterday with various proposals including imprisonment and a 5m/- to 100m/- fine for suspected dishonesty in the use of health insurance schemes.

The bill also proposes moves to scrutinize private health service providers including the appointment of National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) authorities in boards of private hospitals to facilitate regulation.



Fulgence Massawe, Director of Advocacy and Reforms at the Legal and Human Rights Centre, pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend taking journalists through the pros and cons of effecting the death penalty - which the centre wants abolished. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Ensure your activities are in line with conservation efforts, govt tells residents of 46 villages in Simiyu

By Guardian Reporter, Simiyu

THE government has allowed residents of 46 villages in Simiyu region who were in land use conflicts in protected areas to continue with their activities as long as they do not threaten conservation efforts within the 500 metre fenced area.

On the same note, 48 villages which were in similar conflicts are now being evaluated to facilitate annexation of land from the Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

The villages which have been allowed are those operating within the 500 metre fenced land around

Serengeti National Park, Maswa Forest Reserve and Kijereshi forest reserve.

Minister of lands and human settlement development Angelina Mabula made the remarks when a committee of eight ministers from various sectors visited the region after a tour in various districts to address land conflicts in 975 villages.

According to Dr Mabula who is the chairman of the committee said when the decision is issued, the region will have the mandate to oversee implementation.

"A committee of experts from the national level to the lower level

started an evaluation exercise in September," she said.

Dr Mabula said the evaluation involved local leaders up to the village level to ensure land conflicts are addressed.

Deputy Minister of Agriculture Anthony Mavunde said his ministry is there to implement the Agriculture Act to facilitate sustainable farming which is friendly to the land.

Some of the proposals in the ministerial committee on addressing land conflicts include retaining villages in protected areas; identify protected areas which have lost titles so that they

are divided to the people and to conduct demarcation of wildlife and residential land.

The proposals also include dividing the land and giving it to residents and pastoralists as well as proper land use management systems namely water sources which also speaks of 60 metres and deregistering undeveloped farms.

Recently president Samia Suluhu Hassan approved 67 villages within reserved areas in Morogoro Region to continue existing to enable their residents to continue with their activities.

The move by the Head of State was one of the efforts by the sixth phase government to find lasting solutions for land conflicts in 975 villages and streets across the country.



Members of the Parliamentary Energy and Minerals Standing Committee are briefed on transformers lined up for installation at the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power project site, which they toured in Coast Region at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Z'bar energy minister identifies 14 residences that use power illegally

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Minister for Energy and Minerals Shaibu Hassan Kaduara has identified 14 residences that use power illegally by bypassing electricity meters, a practice that deny revenue to the Zanzibar Electric Company (ZECO). The houses were located in Mazizini, Chukwani and Mbuyu Mnene during a special crackdown that aimed to connect power to various houses as well as hunting people using power illegally in various areas of Unguja and Pemba.

Addressing reporters at Mbuyu Mnene area at the weekend, Kaduara said ZECO lose a lot of revenue in this way, adding that those found will be penalized.

He further explained that the culprits will also be charged for the power they used illegally by identifying the electric appliances in the house and the period owners thereof had been using power illegally.

"Within two days I have identified 14 houses using power illegally, with some who tampered with the meters and some who bypassed them," said the minister.

Earlier, the minister addressed ZECO workers and told them that whoever among them will be found to have colluded with power thieves will be sacked, and added that he had earlier announced that if any ZECO worker who had colluded with the culprits come forward he or she could be forgiven for the crime, but no one came forward to admit.

He said he already has some of the names of ZECO workers who colluded with power thieves, and added that he will fire them as he is not ready to be sacked himself for protecting criminals.

He also directed ZECO officials to pay benefits to workers who were reinstated after being sacked.

Meanwhile, the Ministry's Permanent Secretary, Joseph Kilangi called on members of the public who want the power to be connected to their houses to directly call him by phone (0777420741).

He also stressed discipline at work saying discipline starts with early attendance at work, cooperating with others and must be accountability in order to reduce complaints from members of the public.

The exercise to connect power to people seeking power services and identify power thieves dubbed "Kaduara Operation" involved various officials from the Ministry of Energy and Minerals.

World Food Day: AfDB marks key goal in interventions to feed Africa

By Guardian Correspondent

THE African Development Bank (AfDB) has launched the African Emergency Food Production Facility to enable the production of 38 million tonnes of food over the next two years.

The idea is to mitigate the impacts of soaring food prices and grains, worsened by Russia's war in Ukraine.

The \$1.5 billion facility stepped into action, with the bank approving initial programmes in 26 African countries at a value of \$1.257 billion. The Bank Group's African Emergency Food Production Plan will provide 20 million farmers across Africa with seed varieties of primarily wheat, maize, rice, soybean and oil palm, as well as access to fertilisers to produce additional food worth \$12 billion.

"Africa should not be importing food. Africa should become a major food-producing region and export its surplus to the rest of the world. If there is one thing Africa can do - it is to help the world feed itself," said African Development Bank Group President Dr Akinwumi Adesina at a knowledge exchange event organised by Yara International. Yara International, a Norwegian chemical company, produces, distributes, and sells nitrogen-based mineral fertilisers.

"Africa offers enormous opportunities in agriculture, with 65% of the world's uncultivated arable land still available to feed the world's population, so its actions will determine the future of global nutrition. Furthermore, Africa's food and agriculture market will reach \$1,000 billion by 2030," Adesina assured Norwegian businessmen at the Norwegian-African Business Association (NABA) summit on 29 September.

The bank's initiative has drawn global support, including from UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and US President Joe Biden. The Government of Japan, through the

Japan International Cooperation Agency, has partnered with the bank to boost agricultural production in Nigeria, Tanzania, and Côte d'Ivoire. In early October, Norway announced a \$9.2 million allocation for the African Emergency Food Production Facility. International development agencies have also lauded the bank's initiative.

African countries expect to record a significant boost in agricultural production as a result. With African Emergency Food Production Facility assistance, Senegal, for example, aims to harvest an additional 600,000 tonnes of cereals like rice, maize and millet, as well as about 120 tonnes of cowpeas and 150,000 tonnes of potatoes. In Côte d'Ivoire, the bank's support will help produce an additional 546,987 tonnes of maize, 796,323 tonnes of rice, and more than 1 million tonnes of cassava.

The bank's African Emergency Food Production Facility aims to deliver climate-smart seeds and access to affordable fertiliser to 20 million farmers across the continent.

For the Bank Group, progress towards achieving these goals is irreversible, given the African Emergency Food Production Facility will center on another successful bank initiative: Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) programme.

TAAT provides producers with climate-resilient seeds and innovative agricultural technologies. Launched in 2018, the programme has been a resounding success. In Ethiopia, heat-tolerant wheat varieties have helped the country become wheat self-sufficient within just three years. Next year, the country expects to become a net exporter of wheat to Djibouti and Kenya. The programme has provided improved agricultural technologies to nearly 12 million farmers and supported the production of 25 million tonnes of food.

UNECA launches Africa Hall renovation project

By Special Correspondent,

Addis Ababa

THE United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) officially launched the renovation project of the Africa Hall in its endeavor to modernize the building and ensure it complies with international standards.

The ground-breaking ceremony of the project was held over the weekend in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, where officials of the African Union (AU) and UNECA were in attendance.

"The modernisation of the Africa hall will preserve and restore the historical and cultural values of Africa to enable the continent to tap into the global creative industry," said Antonio Pedro, acting executive secretary of the UNECA.

The Africa Hall was built in 1961 by the then government of Ethiopia with the then state-of-the-art technology. It is the birthplace of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which is now the African Union, and whose founding charter was signed in the hall in 1963.

"The Africa Hall is the first representation of where the continent has come from, where it is now, and where it is headed," said Pedro, while urging Africa to make use of its heritage for its economic growth and diversification.

The hall stands as a living symbol of African history, culture, and noble aspirations of

African people for peace and unity on the continent, which is free of colonialism.

The renovation of the African Hall is designed to strengthen its resistance to earthquakes and includes the development of new security buildings as well as improving the building's accessibility, to make the hall modern, safe, and functional.

The renovation project will also see the creation of a visitors' center and permanent exhibition space, according to Pedro.

Monique Nsanabaganwa, AU Commission deputy chairperson recalled that the Africa Hall was built when most of the African people were under colonial operation and human rights were basically unknown.

Nsanabaganwa said the renovation of the

hall will be used to strengthen the concept of the establishment of the great museum of Africa, a flagship project of the AU's Agenda 2063.

She said the AU will launch the temporary site of the great museum for Africa in December this year to showcase, protect and promote the rich cultural heritage and history of Africa, adding that the AU is working on the restoration of looted heritage from Africa.

"High on the agenda of the Union is the issue of restitution of African heritage resources. In that regard, the commission has drafted a common African position to ensure speedy return of looted heritages from the continent," she said.

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ActionAid calls for establishment of special safe houses for victims of GBV

By Beatrice Philemon

ACTIONAID Tanzania has called for the establishment of special safe houses to ensure the safety of Gender Based Violence (GBV) victims and to facilitate proper investigations.

Joyce John, ActionAid Tanzania's programme officer made the remarks recently at an event to mark the International Day of the Girl Child in Kilwa- Masoko in collaboration with a women's platform—'Tumaini Jipya kwa Wanawake Kilwa (TUJIWAKI).'

The event involved police, students from both primary and secondary schools, Resident Magistrates in Charge, local communities from different villages across the district, and Social Welfare Officers.

"Safe Houses are very important as they will accommodate survivors of GBV, preparation for the legal process, obtain psychosocial support services, keep the survivors from any further potential harm from the alleged perpetrators and allow them to report GBV incidents comfortably to the responsible authorities," she said.

She said in a bid to help GBV survivors get their rights and even benefit from the safe houses, ActionAid Kilwa through Kilwa Rights Programmes has been training communities on violence against women and girls.

Joyce said the training ranges on the meaning of GBV, types of GBV, how it happens and how to report incidents once occurred within their localities.

"Through the knowledge and skills gained from ActionAid Kilwa at least women are now becoming aware of the GBV issues and they are now reporting GBV cases to the responsible authorities," she said.

So far GBV cases have been reported to the Police Gender Desk, Tumaini Jipya kwa Wanawake Kilwa (TUJIWAKI) platform and social welfare officers in the district and perpetrators are taken to justice/court.

Currently, ActionAid Kilwa is implementing the programme to prevent violence against women and girls in Kilwa district council.

According to Social Welfare Officer in Kilwa District Council, in 2022 a total of 55 gender-based violence (GBV) cases were reported at Kilwa District Social Welfare Officer desk.

Among those, 46 cases are abandoned children, nine are matrimonial and child maintenance cases, and 5 cases were reported to the court.

She said among those five cases, three cases were convicted and two are still pending in court.

"Before ActionAid -Kilwa intervention there were many unreported cases and the GBV situation was bad in the district which has a population of 190,000 according to the 2012 census," she said.

She said, at the local level, ActionAid Kilwa is working with TUJIWAKI platform, Kilwa Youth Development Organisation (KIYODI), women's reflections to create awareness on GBV against women and girls.

At the district level, they are working with the district social welfare officer, police gender desk, court and religion leaders.

TUJIWAKI's chairperson, Theodora Mkundi lauded ActionAid Kilwa for implementing the programme in the district.

"Right now women and girls are aware of GBV-related challenges and we are seeing women getting their rights something which wasn't the case in the past," she said.

Kilwa District Magistrate In-Charge, Alice Mkasela called on parents and guardians in Kilwa district to protect girl child and assist them to meet their dreams.

Also, ActionAid Kilwa and TUJIWAKI should continue to provide training on GBV issues for parents, girls and religious leaders to help more people understand what is GBV and the effects it has on them, how to report GBV incidents and religion leaders should also offer religious education.



Lutogo Development Initiative founder Lulu Mwalubandu (L) teaches students of Kiparang'anda Secondary School in Mkuranga District at the weekend the basics of dealing with acts of gender violence. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Seven villages in Mbeya without piped water since independence

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

RESIDENTS of seven villages in Ilembo Ward, in Mbeya District are forced to use water from streams and ponds due to a lack of piped water in their areas since the country attained its independence over 60 years ago.

They made the remarks at the weekend during the visit of the Defence and Security Committee in the ward aimed to inspect various development projects implemented by the government in collaboration with other stakeholders.

Ilembo Ward Councillor, Abel

Mpyambala said the ward has seven villages but only one - Ilembo Village has piped water supply.

He said in the other villages, residents drink water from ponds and some streams a practice that endangers their health.

He added that some of these water sources are far away from people's settlements, hence they waste a lot of time fetching the water.

"We appeal for assistance to get piped water as we have been suffering a lot, at one time RUWASA people came and examined the nearby water source and promised to bring piped water to us, but up

to now nothing has come out of the visit," Mpyambala said.

He added that Mwala village where a girl secondary school is being built also lacks water, hence it will be a challenge for students in case the school is inaugurated before water is made available.

Some residents of Mwala Village appealed to the government to speed up the water project they were promised as they live in hard times fetching water, especially during dry seasons.

One of the villagers, Sauda Daniel said women in the village are the ones in a hard time as they had to

fetch water from very deep valleys, endangering their lives doing so.

She said during dry seasons, they share the water with their livestock as the places they fetch water from are not protected.

Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera said he will give instructions to RUWASA regional manager to deal with the water challenge in the ward. He also called on Mbeya District Commissioner and other district officials to closely supervise all projects being implemented by the government so that they are completed in time to benefit the people.

BMGF in \$1.2billion promise to end all forms of polio globally

BERLIN, Germany

THE World Health Summit and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have announced a \$1.2 billion commitment to support efforts to end all forms of polio globally.

The announcement was made ahead of a key pledging moment that will be co-hosted by Germany and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).

The new financial commitment will support the implementation of the GPEI's Polio Eradication Strategy 2022-2026, which aims to end wild poliovirus in the last two endemic countries—Pakistan and Afghanistan—and stop outbreaks of new variants of the virus. The foundation has contributed nearly \$5 billion to GPEI.

"Polio eradication is within reach. But as far as we have come, the disease remains a threat. Working together, the world can end this disease," said Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

"I want to thank Germany for co-hosting this week's events and its longstanding support for polio eradication, and I urge other donors to support the eradication strategy to ensure no one is paralyzed by polio again."

On October 18, Germany will co-host the GPEI pledging moment at the World Health Summit, where global partners, donors, and country leaders will make further commitments toward the GPEI Strategy 2022-2026, which requires \$4.8 billion in funding.

If fully funded, GPEI will reach

370 million children each year with polio vaccines and other essential health services. GPEI's efforts include deepening relationships with communities, supporting governments in responding to outbreaks, and helping advance the rollout of a next-generation polio vaccine.

Investments in GPEI also help strengthen national health systems and ensure that countries are better prepared to respond to future health threats. In addition, the strategy continues the GPEI's commitment to achieving gender equality across all levels of the program.

"The last steps to eradication are by far the toughest. But our foundation remains dedicated to polio [I] free future, and we're optimistic that we will see it soon," said Mark Suzman, CEO of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Another concern is countries that had previously eliminated all forms of poliovirus have recently reported new detections of the virus.

USA and United Kingdom each confirmed outbreaks of variant poliovirus and were added to the World Health Organization's outbreak list in September 2022. Malawi and Mozambique each detected cases of wild polio that originated abroad in 2022.

In 2019, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance became GPEI's sixth core partner, further strengthening their collaboration. GPEI will continue its focus on interrupting virus transmission and eradicating polio through immunization campaigns using the oral polio vaccine (OPV).



Kilwa Group project manager Ammanzy Mohamed presents a leaving certificate to one of an outgoing Form Four student of Dar es Salaam's St Mary's Mbezi Beach Secondary School at graduation ceremony held at the school's premises at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Mwanza Region projects due to open tourism doors in Lake Zone - ministry

By Guardian Reporter

ONGOING government strategic projects in Mwanza Region will open tourism doors in the Lake Zone as they will streamline the availability of various services.

The remarks were made Monday this week by Natural Resources and Tourism Deputy Minister, Mary Masanja during Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa inspection visit

at the construction of the Kigongo-Busisi Bridge and Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) at Fela railway station area.

Masanja named the strategic projects that stand to boost tourism including the Kigongo-Busisi Bridge, SGR, ships building and expansion of Mwanza Airport.

"We believe the Lake Zone will become the country's tourist hub," she said.

She explained that the projects will simplify the movement of tourists from neighbouring countries wanting to visit the City of Mwanza.

Meanwhile, Masanja has appealed to the people, those of Mwanza region in particular to plant trees in order to preserve the environment as well as protection of water sources. "The ministry has plans to make sure every person plants

two trees, hence it has created blocks for tree seedlings that will be distributed to the people," she said.

She also used the occasion to shower praise on President Samia Suluhu Hassan and his lieutenants for working hard to make sure the work on the projects proceeds.

"We are together to make sure the government attains its goals under the leadership of president Samia," she added.

The PM visit continues in Mwanza Region and yesterday he was expected to visit Ukerewe and Gana islands as well as inspecting the progress on the construction of Nyegezi Bus Stand.



Ubungu legislator Prof Kitila Mkumbo pictured at a meeting in Dar es Salaam's Manzese suburb at the weekend expounding on CCM's implementation of its Election Manifesto in the last two years. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Take correct measures against environmental degradation culprits, govt urges law enforcers

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

THE government has directed law enforcement to take immediate steps against suspects alleged in environmental degradation.

Selemani Jafo, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) gave the directive yesterday at Kilakala Girls Secondary School in Morogoro Region at the ongoing 'Soma na Mti' campaign organized by the national environmental ambassador, Chage Alex through the vice president's office.

The event brought together educational officials, over 100 students from nearby schools, officials from the regional office, International Center for Sustainable Investment (ICSI) and National Environment Management Council (NEM).

Jafo said the tree planting campaign is conducted in Morogoro Region to promote environmental conservation and educate residents on the impacts of burning forests.

He said Morogoro is among the top regions that have lost its biodiversity through environmental degradation including bushfires.

"The government will take immediate steps against anyone who discourages movement to protect the environment. Our plans are to plant 276 million trees per year. To reach the target each of the councils is required to plant 1.5 million trees," he said.

According to the minister, environmental conservation includes other activities such as cleanliness, the use of improved stoves and recycling materials as an alternative energy source.

"May I congratulate authorities

in Dar es Salaam Region; the city emerged as number one in last year's cleanness category, followed by Katavi Region which was the first one in natural forest conservation. Morogoro was named the best in terms of high speed of protecting the environment through planting trees," he added.

National Environmental Ambassador, Chage Alex called upon stakeholders to support the 'Soma na Mti' campaign because it also targets planting fruit trees which are useful in protecting the environment and a source of income for individuals.

"Reports show that trees planted in residential areas and public offices are not part of increasing income; under the 'Soma na Mti' campaign, we are going to plant seven hundred trees across the country annually. We target to plant 12 million trees before 2030," said Alex.

Chief Executive Officer, Festo Mwandanene said there are many tree planting campaigns that are not sustainable.

"We launched the campaign to make sure every individual plants a tree when celebrating his/her birthday. Through this programme, it is our hope that youth, elderly and disabled will plant trees," he said.

Acting Regional Administrative Secretary, Eng. Ezron Kilamhama said they have strategies for the restoration of natural vegetation through tree planting campaigns which include residents along the Uluguru Mountains.

"We insist people to plant trees that are friendly in residential areas. We are also planning to establish a clove plantation in the Uluguru Mountains, our regional officials are in Zanzibar to learn how to start the clove farms," said Kilamhama.

Appeal: Engage PWDs more in socio-economic activities

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

TANZANIANS have been asked to include people with disabilities in various socio-economic activities including job opportunities as well as decision making as they have equal rights like any other person in this world.

Hussein Msacky, founder and Managing Director of Miembeni Action and Passion for People with Disability (MAPPD) said yesterday that, there is no definable physical and social infrastructure for people with disabilities in most of the schools in Tanzania from primary school to higher learning institutions.

He said that in the special

integrated schools there are no special learning materials for people with disabilities like brailled textbooks for the pupils/students with low vision or total blindness; the problem that hinders their studies, thus ending up beggars in the streets.

"Also community members should have enough knowledge on the rights of people with disabilities to avoid stigma to the people with disabilities by hiding them in their houses..." he insisted.

He appealed to the local government to have community interventions to identify people with disabilities and enroll them in schools as some people do hide them in their houses.

According to him, his organisation will this week launch a special center in Rombo district for children and youth with various disabilities, insisting that there is no need to hide them in their homes.

"It is estimated that 70% of the pupils with various disabilities are from very poor families, and their parents/guardians cannot afford to take care of them due to their special needs that is why Miembeni Action and Passion for People with Disability will in this week launching a special center for them as well as making sure they are enrolled to school for further studies," he explained.

Children with special learning needs refer to children with learning

difficulties, a behaviour disorder and/or a disability. These children have diverse abilities and learning needs. Parents or caregivers are often the first to notice that their child's development is delayed or that their child is having problems at school.

The term disability includes children with an intellectual disability, physical disability, vision impairment, hearing impairment, language disorder, mental health conditions or autism.

Children with learning difficulties experience difficulties with learning in one or more areas of the curriculum. These difficulties may vary in cause, nature, intensity and duration.

NGO to help unlock youth potential in entrepreneurship

By Guardian Reporter

SAHARA Ventures in collaboration with longstanding partners, yesterday launched Sahara Sparks 2022 - a week-long bustle of activities themed "Potential Unleashed," focusing on unleashing the potential of young people in Africa through digital innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship.

This year's theme, according to Sahara Ventures Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Jumanne Mtambalike, has been informed by the need to explore strategic areas to unlock the potential of young people through digital innovation and entrepreneurship.

"This year, we are continuing our collaboration with our partner, the Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), who have supported us over the years, and our main sponsor for the event, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the Funguo Innovation Programme, which is funded by the European Union and co-funded by UNDP and the British government," he said.

Sahara Sparks has become a staple activity for the country's innovation ecosystem, and this year's theme could not have come at a more opportune time as the Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa (MP) recently reminded local authorities to implement government directives to empower youth.

"Africa is the youngest continent in the world, with a median age of 25. The population of Africa will continue to grow until it doubles by 2050. Fifteen fastest-growing cities are in Africa, three of which are in Tanzania," Mtambalike said when elaborating on the theme for this year's event.

He identified the strategic areas that need to be given considerable attention: digital and financial inclusion, skills in the digital age, energy-tech and innovation, tech transfer and research for development, grassroots and community-driven innovation, emerging technologies and digital entrepreneurship, and data, digital leadership, and governance.

He continued by saying that individuals with vast experience and expertise in the field will address each of the key thematic areas, amongst whom will be the Director General of the Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), Dr Amos Nungu, and Amb. (Ret) Ami Mpungwe.

Moreover, he added that the 2022 event is structured in three parts: the conference-the main event; meet ups-partners' engagement events; and the marketplace-for linking startups with investors.

Dr Nungu noted that Sahara Sparks as a platform has been instrumental in sparking discussions and actions related to technology transfer and commercialisation of innovations in the country.

He recalled that some of the first cohorts of MAKISATU in 2019 were sent to Sahara Sparks

to participate and learn about the commercialisation journey of their innovations, adding that the government, through COSTECH, will continue to work with Sahara Ventures and other stakeholders to engage and assist innovators to make sure they can make impactful innovations that can compete in the market.

"Research outputs from our higher learning institutions also need to be commercialised and Sahara Sparks is among the important outlets to achieve that goal," he added.

Meanwhile, Joseph Manirakiza, Programme Manager of UNDP's Funguo Programme, said: "We are delighted once again to support Sahara Sparks through the FUNGUO Innovation Programme. Sahara Sparks is a great platform that contributes to strengthening the Tanzania innovation ecosystem through strategic engagements.

As an innovation programme, we aim to unlock the potential of impact-driven startups and innovative SMEs by supporting initiatives that enable them


to scale and attract financing, creating job opportunities for many young people waiting for them.

Sahara Sparks is a platform launched in 2016 by Sahara Ventures, a group of companies that focus on building innovation and technology entrepreneurship ecosystems in Africa to foster transactions and conversations around innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship.

Since its establishment, Sahara Sparks has hosted over 300 high-profile speakers, over 20,000 attendees, and

over 3000 small businesses, startups, and SMEs. It has hosted global, regional, and national leaders; senior public and private sector officials and leaders; prominent academicians and researchers; investors and change-makers.

Some of the notable figures of our previous events include Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, the former President of the United Republic of Tanzania. Sahara Sparks' mission has been to ignite conversations and critical engagement that accelerate innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship as tools for promoting job creation and broader socio-economic development.



TENDER NOTIFICATION

CONSULTANCY TO DEVELOP GENDER MAINSTREAMING STRATEGY FOR THE LEGAL SERVICES FACILITY (LSF)

Location: Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar

Period of the assignment: 45 days


The Legal Services Facility (LSF) is looking for a qualified consultant to undertake the assignment of developing the **LSF's Four Years Gender Mainstreaming Strategy (2023-2026)**.

The LSF is currently implementing its 2022-2026 Strategic Plan with focus and emphasis on gender equality, women and girl's empowerment, particularly geared to address inequalities and discrimination, property rights, GBV, political participation, economic empowerment and inclusion as well as access to health rights. With this focus, the LSF is determined to ensure a gender mainstreaming approach across all of the LSF's direct programming, as well as in its internal and external operations with stakeholders and partners. A comprehensive Gender Mainstreaming Strategy will form a critical basis to ensure such gender mainstreaming in the LSF's internal and external dealings.

Tender Submission Procedure

- To assist in the preparation of the Tender, the LSF has compiled a tender package that contains the Terms of Reference, Tender Submission form and other documents.
- The tender packages will also be available and forms can be downloaded from our website: www.lsftz.org
- The tenders should follow the formats and provide the documentation as indicated in the tender package.
- The deadline for submission of the tender is **Tuesday 25th October 2022**
- All tenders have to be submitted in a sealed envelope by hand delivery (a signed and dated receipt will be provided to the deliverer) to the address below:

Executive Director
Legal Services Facility
Chole Road, Plot 1129, Masaki
P.O. Box 31480
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: 0222 601534



TENDER NOTIFICATION

CONSULTANCY TO DEVELOP ADVOCACY STRATEGY FOR THE LEGAL SERVICES FACILITY (LSF)

Location: Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar

Period of the assignment: 45 days

The Legal Services Facility (LSF) is looking for a qualified consultant to undertake the assignment of developing the **LSF's Four Years Advocacy Strategy (2023-2026)**.

The LSF is currently implementing its 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. The third Strategic objective under this SP provides for enhancement of a conducive environment for sustainable access to justice in the country. This strategic objective focuses on advocacy initiatives aiming at reforming structural inequalities within the access to justice system, advocating for laws, regulations and practice reforms to conform to regional and international access to justice standards. Achieving this, the LSF is determined to venture into evidence based policy and regulation advocacy through research, active cooperation, engagements and partnership with the government, like minded Civil Society organizations and private sector. A comprehensive Advocacy Strategy will form a critical basis to ensure these advocacy goals are implemented and achieved as planned.

Tender Submission Procedure

- To assist in the preparation of the Tender, the LSF has compiled a tender package that contains the Terms of Reference, Tender Submission form and other documents.
- The tender packages will also be available and forms can be downloaded from our website: www.lsftz.org
- The tenders should follow the formats and provide the documentation as indicated in the tender package.
- The deadline for submission of the tender is **Tuesday 25th October 2022**
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Global poverty eradication goes beyond human rights

OCTOBER 16 of each year is an International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, the most perplexing issue in economic discussion and in policy design. The theme comes up two days from the marking of founder president Mwalimu Nyerere's death in 1999 as his period in office illustrates the discrepancy between hating poverty and removing it. No agreement exists on what policies are best to reduce and ultimately eradicate poverty; massive growth lives with poverty very closely.

A United Nations chronicler says the 2022 theme is 'Dignity for All in Practice,' which is largely underlined in the UN sustainable development goals programme that is taking the world up to 2030.

Recently World Bank president David Malpass, whose organisation is the central agency for the UN to steer policies meant to reduce and eradicate poverty worldwide, admitted that the poverty eradication goal set for 2030 was no longer visible. While that applies for around two thirds of UN member states the picture is darker for Africa, as poverty seems sharply on the rise.

In a speech at the weekend, President Samia Suluhu Hassan appealed for lower birth rates to match existing social services, speaking of her experiences at the Buseresere area in Kagera Region. She was told that one health center helps nearly 1,000 mothers to deliver, each month, demanding what will be the case after three years. She wondered if the government was in a position to add one thousand new primary school spaces each month, for each district in the country. That spells it.

Moods are changing in the country

Climate-smart agro-sector effort not only for women

THERE is some good news that a portion of Tanzanian society, within the agricultural sector, is adapting to global climate change threats by adopting suitable technologies. (Strategies used by the Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA) to empower rural women economically whilst conserving the natural environment have earned praise from the United Nations. An under-secretary general and executive director of UN Women, a specialised agency, hailed the approach used when visiting Zanzibar; there are similar projects in the Mainland.

The high UN official was greatly moved by what she saw in TAHA's approach of empowering rural women through horticulture cultivation while protecting nature by using climate-smart technologies. The director said the method is integral to gender equality as well as inclusive and sustainable development. That is good for women in Zanzibar and other project areas on the Mainland, but the whole of agricultural sector needs similar technologies, if only to ensure basic incomes, etc.

One way of sorting out the question is to demand how many climate smart technologies are being used in farming of food crops, fishing or livestock keeping. If these methods exist the issue is the presence of specialized agencies that can spread such technologies far and wide, as TAHA is anchored in horticulture, while the most strategic crops don't have such role models. At best there are moves to make quality seeds available and subsidized, which is a good start to resilience.

What was being said of rural women definitely apply to men to a considerable extent, and at times it is a problem to figure out if the

about that issue, as the president reacted to an assurance that high birth rates weren't an issue. That was the mood when the slogan 'New Tanzania' was coming in the past decade, but after a while, 'spell checkers' are brought in and the picture that emerges isn't cool. We are racing to put up with the pressure and global conditions aren't entirely helpful at present.

When the UN picks dignity as the theme, the idea is that of 'leaving no one behind' in the quest for education, health cover, food security, acceptable habitat and decent work. Anyone assured of those things might be poor but not in abject poverty, where food security and habitat fall off first, then health, etc. But then, does posing these things as fundamental rights change anything in actual reality?

That is precisely where the problem lies, that activists the world over see these basic needs to assure human dignity - which are essential to the global eradication of biting poverty - in terms of rights. The best way to secure the rights of everyone is by a distributive economy, as the first phase was acutely persuaded and become a leader in Africa and well beyond for such policies. Yet there is no doubt that the policies also fostered poverty even if they helped to protect unity; it is a mixed bag.

That is why the measures that the government has taken since the late 1980s to energetically foster a market economy ought to be intensified at the moment so that most sectors of the economy experience higher productivity. Decent jobs demand capital infusion which demands that it comes from outside to purchase property. When it is sourced in local banks it doesn't create consumption power or demand.

women-centred approach changes communities, or is somewhat limited. Whatever the relevant ministry needs to pursue specific crop based efforts, since TAHA didn't just bring in good seeds or obtain UNO Women assistance to provide them at subsidized prices. When real projects are rolled out, hazards of farmers' random responses are solved early.

There is for instance an endless debate about resilient agro-sector approaches as relates to food security, whether it is to take up root and tuber crops or adopt fast maturing grain varieties. Instead of such issues being approached by sentimentality and fixed ideas about natural crops as best, market analysis is vital to know what is sustainable when sold, not what will fill shelves and public officials preach that people should but, not choose food, etc. This is a gap that hasn't been cleared yet.

Again, we are yet to be assured that all these initiatives have established or receptive market, as often such drives are tied to production, especially when pursued or entrusted to ministerial departments or local authorities. The motto of 'producing more' has not yielded the best results all the time, and projections by public agencies are often unreliable.

That is why the more the private sector is present in the strategy the better, so that people take individual risks when they seek to put their savings in one or other direction, not be led by public agencies and then fail. If public agencies have monopoly about such matters, it is this situation that needs to be addressed first, so that people know valid and reliable risks and opportunities, not just being led by people who wish to complete their annual reports as to how many people have planted yams, soya beans or cassava, simply.

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Fighting corruption whilst building integrity

By Mohamed H Bility

CORRUPTION is detrimental to the growth and development of any country or society. In Liberia, corruption is unarguably one of the conditions that have made the country one of the least developed in the world. This paper discusses the current situation and policy approach to fighting corruption, and what is being done to build and sustain integrity in the Liberian public service. It outlines the causes of corruption on the one hand, and the impacts of corruption on the country's economic growth and development on the other hand. It then advances possible solutions to address this menace. The first section of this paper defines corruption, and discusses the types of corruption in public service in Liberia, the causes of corruption, and the impact of corruption on national development and economic growth. The second section outlines possible solutions to solve the problem of corruption.

The World Bank defines corruption as the misuse of public power for private benefits (World Bank 2001). This definition can include receipt of improper inducement by an official to allow illegal activity (such as smuggling, fraud in awarding government contracts, nepotism, embezzlements, cronyism, appropriation of public assets and property for private use, influence peddling, etc.) to go on. Corruption is arguably the main factor hindering the growth and development of developing countries. The Government of Liberia continues to face challenges in fulfilling its mandates of collecting revenue to invest in the delivery of the needed public goods such as national security, roads, electricity, Hospitals as well as protecting the domestic economy. Corruption over many years have created severe disincentives to the citizenry and distortion of economic growth and development. It continues to prevent the realization of public financial needs and put national security (social and physical) at risk.

There are several types of corruption that can be categorized into four major categories. Irene Hors of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has identified three types of corruption that occur in the work environment of public officials. According to Hors, the three types of corruption are - routine corruption, fraudulent corruption, and criminal corruption (2001). Transparency International (1997) divides corruption into two major types: - petty corruption and grand corruption. Hors' definition and Transparency International's definition are similar. Routine or petty

corruption is survival corruption. These types of corruption usually take place at the junior officer level. At this level, corruption is systemic and endemic and it is not regarded as a criminal or illegal activity. Both the givers and receivers comfortably participate in this type of corruption. Officials involved in this form of corruption believe they are entitled to additional compensation from the businesses or citizenry.

There are several reasons that one can attribute to such corruption. One reason for this form of corruption is that officers at the level where this form of corruption occurs are grossly underpaid and another reason is the lack of professional training, supervision and proper management control.

The second category of corruption, fraudulent corruption, involves knowingly allowing businesses/traders to violate the law with the aim of receiving personal gain in return.

The third category, criminal corruption/grand corruption, involves the payment of bribes to public officials to allow criminal operators to carry out illegal activities that are harmful to the country and its people such as illicit drug trafficking, award of concession contracts that are bad for the country, as well as allowing terrorist activities.

Another type of corruption that should be considered is prejudice-based, wherein an individual or company gets favorable treatment, or is treated inappropriately, for no reason other than personal prejudice. This form of corruption includes favoritism in the award of contracts to companies, sectionalism, and nepotism.

Senior bureaucrats are most often the participants in this form of corruption. This type of corruption underpins the codification of corruption in organizations, which then filters down to frontline officials. As a result of prejudice-based corruption at the top, the entire system is likely to become corrupt. From a personal perspective, this is the most damaging form of corruption that lays the foundation for systemic and endemic corruption. Once the right person is not placed in the right place at the right time, there is a high possibility of system failure. These types of corruption include nepotism and preferential treatment in dealing with institutions. Nepotism in the context of our discussion includes the selection of unqualified staff, promotion of incompetent staff, and transfer of staff to lucrative positions on the basis of a relationship instead of on a merit basis.

To mitigate the impact of corruption it is important to understand the distinction between well-organized and chaotic corruption. One major difference between the two forms

of corruption is the predictability of results. Under the Well-organized form of corruption, the supply side has a great idea of who should get bribed and how much to offer for a particular illegal activity to go on without being noticed or disrupted. In this form, authority is centralized. On the other hand, chaotic corruption is marred by confusion wherein the supply side has no idea what would be the outcome of the transaction should he/she bribe their way through. Under this form, authority and responsibilities are decentralized. If the supply side must venture into bribing its way through, there is a high likelihood of overly paying bribes to more people than necessary. When this happens, the person paying the bribe gets disoriented and discourage to venture.

Factors giving rise to corrupt practices in public administrations include but are not limited to cumbersome regulations, widespread intervention, complex bureaucratic processes and procedures, low stakeholders awareness, the culture of impunity, disregard for the respect of standard operating procedures and guidelines, inadequate internal control, low salaries and remuneration, lack of job security, inadequate social security and welfare policy and the inadequate training and specified professional standards. Until these factors are addressed properly using a holistic approach, there will still be an incentive for public officials to engage in corrupt practices.

Institutional weaknesses - an institution in the context of this paper holds the definition provided by Elinor Ostrom, an American political economist. Ostrom defines institutions as rules, norms, or strategies that people derive to coordinate or cooperate more successfully in collective endeavors (Ostrom, 1990). With this definition in mind, it can be deduced that weak strategies, rules, and expectations will lead to weak laws policies, and interventions. As Anne O. Krueger postulated, it is assumed that those in the private sector are motivated by self-interest and those in the public sector by social justice (Krueger 1990). Although this is how it ought to be, the case of Liberia is far from this belief. Public officials, instead of playing by the rules to realize government mandate, are at the forefront of self-interest. This attitude has given rise to weak institutions thus creating the incentive for corruption.

Although Government of Liberia has formulated some policies and created some Anti-grafts institutions to fight corruption, performance of these institutions and policies have necessitated the need for reform and strengthening of the existing

institutional and policy architecture due to ineffectiveness. Government has created institutions such as Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission, Internal Audit Agency, National Code of Conduct for public officials and a mandatory asset declaration policy. These institutions and policies seem to not be delivering the intended results.

Burdensome regulatory regime an overly regulated doing business environment is entrenched with too many rules, procedures, and regulatory requirements. The compliance cost to businesses is unbearable to the extent that it leads to the creation of avenues for public officials to solicit bribes. Overly regulated environments cost governments huge amounts of resources to ensure compliance. Another factor that renders overly regulated operating environments inefficient is the impracticality of sufficiently monitoring performance. All of the foregoing factors create incentives for companies to seek fast illegal approval through the offer of bribes to public officials.

Complex bureaucratic procedures - Bureaucracy is an array of functional departments with separate and distinct roles. In the Liberia public service, our observation shows that there are too many different government departments performing the same or almost the same task. Because of this, there is a continuous conflict and competition between and amongst employees of entities for power instead of focusing on how to deliver the needed service. Businesses cannot afford long delays waiting for all concerned agencies to grant approval before moving further with their business operations. Complex bureaucratic procedures create a bottleneck in the flow of business processes and create incentives and opportunities for businesses and public officials to organize and implement bribery.

Disregard for respecting standard operating procedures (SOPs) and guidelines - most public officers do not read and work in line with approved Standard Operation Procedures. This is very serious, as some staff will do the wrong thing thinking that they are doing the right thing. Their intention may be good but in reality, it is against best practice.

Others will knowingly do the wrong thing taking advantage of the ambiguity in the laws and flagrant disregard for approved SOPs. In modern public administration, it is better to set out standards of practice that everyone must follow. Criminals that know the law can hide behind ambiguities. As a matter of fact, there is an escape route to most laws. It is regulation and standards set by administrators aside from legislation that close most of the escape routes.

By Chido Mutangadura

Burundi government reform deepens ruling party divisions with spotlight on black market interests

At the beginning of September, an audio recording emerged in Burundi allegedly featuring president Évariste Ndayishimiye accusing unnamed political figures of plotting against him. Soon after, he sacked prime minister Alain-Guillaume Bunyoni in the country's first major political reshuffle since the president came to power in 2020.

There were also rumours of a possible coup and tensions in the country's ruling party, the National Council for the Defense of Democracy – Forces for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD-FDD).

These political ructions were apparently instigated by disagreements in the ruling party over foreign and domestic policy reforms implemented by Ndayishimiye over the past two years. They aim to restore Burundi's international reputation and bring domestic stability, which deteriorated in 2015 when the late former president Pierre Nkurunziza declared his intention to run for a third term.

The political crisis triggered by Nkurunziza's announcement and the subsequent sanctions issued by the United States (US) and European Union (EU) wreaked havoc on Burundi's economy. It also worsened longstanding domestic political and socio-economic problems.

Ndayishimiye's policy reforms have put Burundi on a new political and economic path, and facilitated the country's return to the international fold. But some changes have adversely affected the party elites' interests, widening the rifts between the president and his rivals in the CNDD-FDD.

Burundi has made great strides on the foreign policy front, including re-engaging its neighbours and signing infrastructure agreements in the East African Community. 'Democratic reforms' adopted to facilitate the removal of sanctions include loosening media restrictions, reinstating the British Broadcasting Corporation's operating licence and releasing human rights activists.

The EU and US welcomed the policy shifts and rewarded the president's efforts by easing restrictions and restoring aid to Burundi.

Back home, the government is trying to tackle political and socio-economic challenges. The president has promised to crack down on monopolies held by party elites over various economic sectors. So it was unsurprising that the trade minister announced in September that the country would ease imports of basic commodities including cement, sugar, maize and maize flour. The central bank lifted restrictions on foreign currency exchange, allowing forex bu-

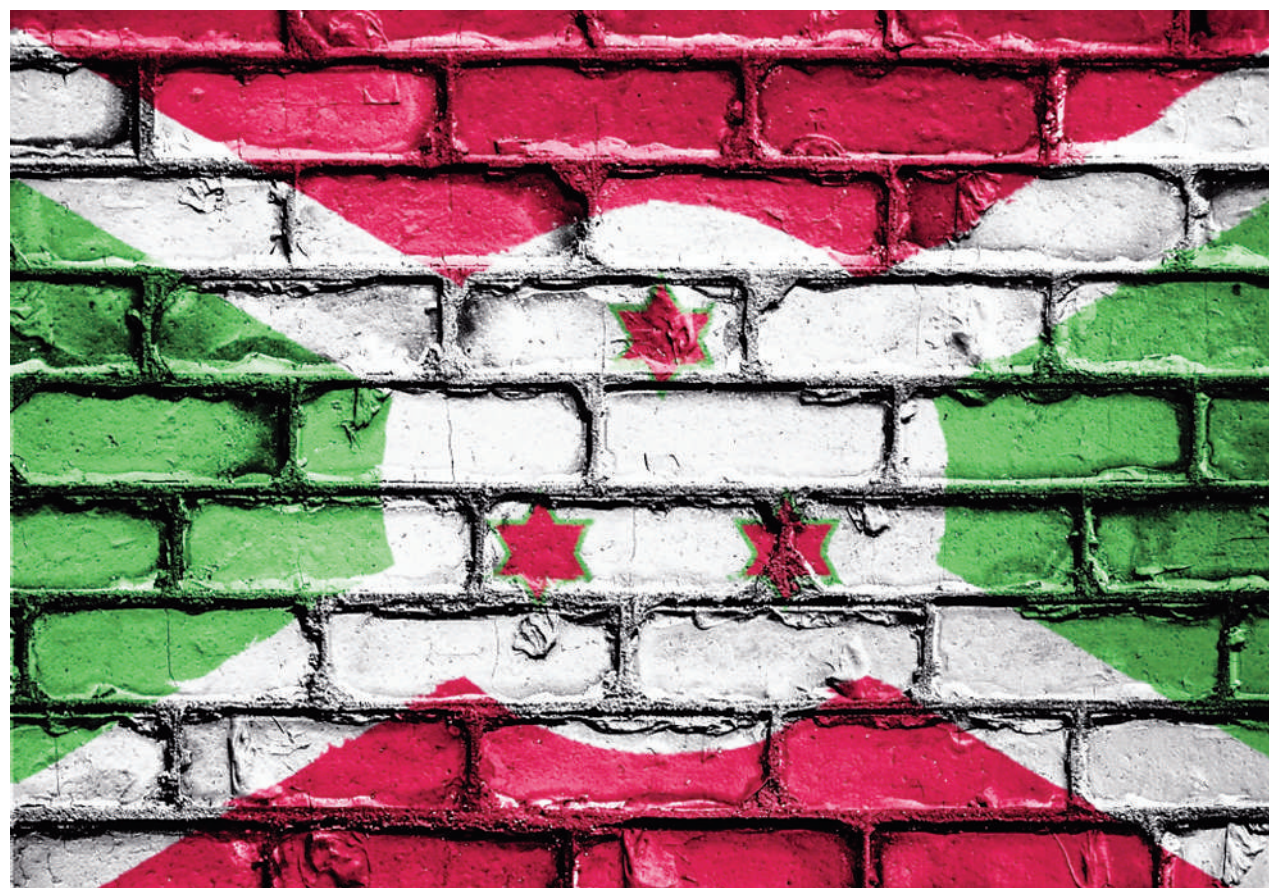


Image of the Burundi flag painted on a brick wall.

reaus to operate after a two-year ban.

The foreign currency shortage encouraged a black-market currency trade and contributed to the devaluation of the Burundian franc. Earlier this year, the government stepped in to import fuel because private suppliers were struggling to secure foreign currency to do so. Fuel shortages exacerbated the scarcity of essential commodities and increased inflation.

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Although these measures have eased shortages of basic goods, the reforms lack political consensus, and questions about their credibility remain. Human rights activ-

ists have publicly petitioned against lifting US and EU sanctions, arguing that the government has yet to make any meaningful change. Several local and international human rights organisations remain banned in Burundi, and activists and opposition party members still face harassment from the security forces and CNDD-FDD-aligned youth militia, the Imbonerakure.

The appointment of Gervais Ndirakobuca as Bunyoni's replacement lends credence to human rights activists' allegations. Ndirakobuca is still under EU sanctions for his role in the violent crackdown against civilians during the 2015 crisis.

Perhaps Burundi's diplomatic victories have given the

president room to post his political allies to top government positions. The continued prominence of CNDD-FDD hardliners like Ndirakobuca in senior government positions casts doubt on the credibility of the reforms.

Ndayishimiye's policy shifts have also exacerbated tensions within the CNDD-FDD. These conflicts are made worse by indications that September's political purge seems to have targeted figures allied to former president Nkurunziza. Aside from Bunyoni, those sacked included chief of staff Gabriel Nizigama, five ministers and 54 provincial police commissioners.

Unsurprisingly, some political elites have resisted the changes to import policies, which have adversely impacted their businesses. Allegations are rife that Bunyoni and other influential party members attempted to sabotage the easing of import restrictions, having benefited from the shortage of essential goods by inflating prices on the black market.

If the rumours of a coup plot are to be believed, that might signal that aggrieved party members could resort to violence to stop the reforms. Other threats to the country's political stability are ongoing human rights violations and the Imbonerakure's activities. What is clear is that Ndayishimiye's reforms have revealed cracks in Burundi's political landscape.

In the coming months, the government needs to ensure that policy changes are seen as credible, especially in the eyes of citizens. Bans on human rights organisations should be suspended and jailed activists released. The Imbonerakure's violent activities against the population must also be stopped.

The president will have to tread carefully to manage tensions within the CNDD-FDD, which might mean accommodating some of his rivals' economic interests. After the September political reshuffle, Ndayishimiye should feel more confident to forge ahead with reforms despite dissent from within his party.

DM

Ukraine foreign minister Dmytro Kuleba facing uphill battle in swaying Africa's perception, narrative on war

By Peter Fabricius

THE protracted struggle between Russia and Ukraine (and its Western allies) to win African nations' hearts and minds continued last week with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba's continental tour.

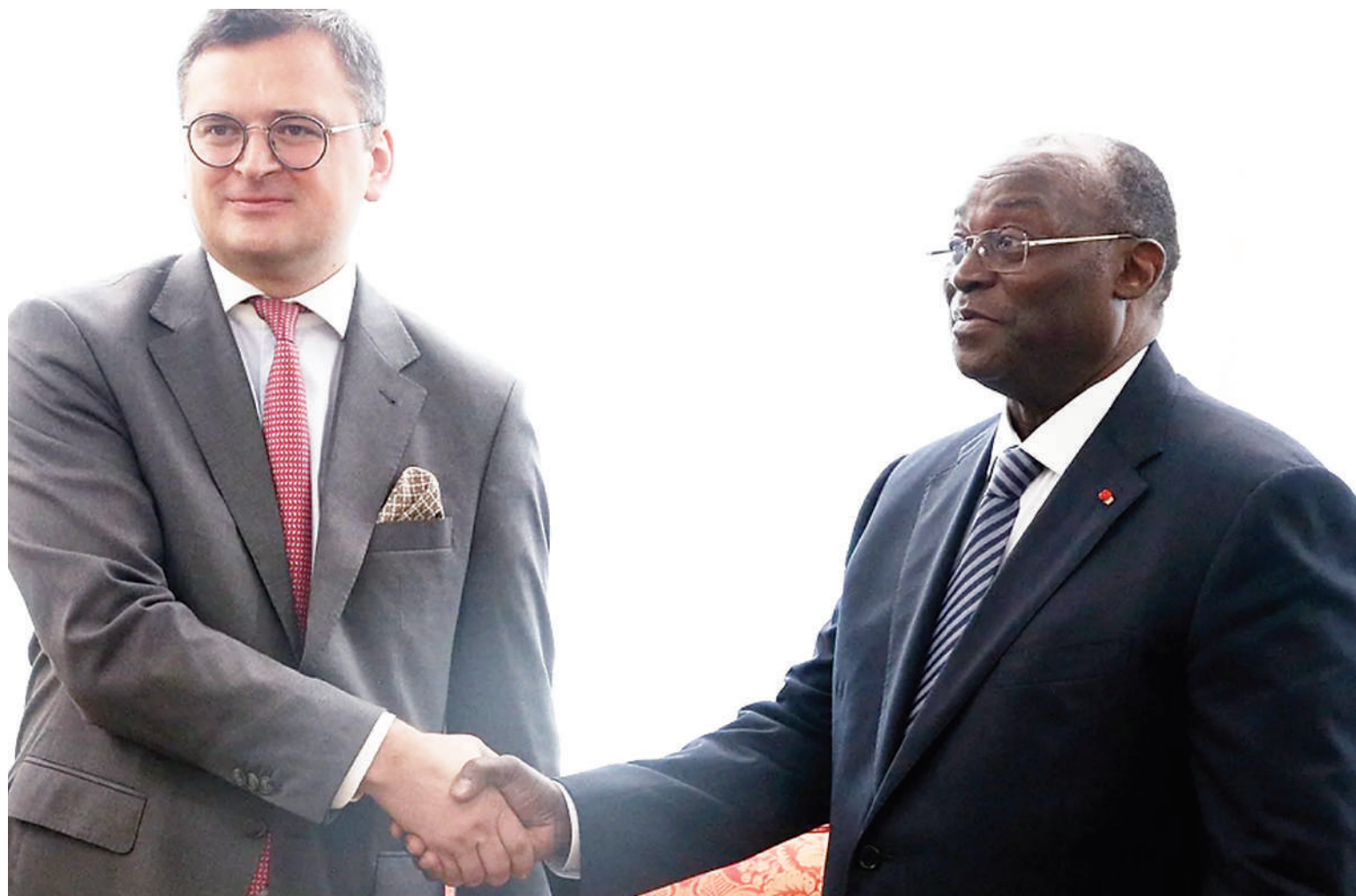
He visited Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Kenya on a planned 10-day tour. But he cut it short to go home to deal with the massive missile strikes by Russia on Ukrainian cities on 10 and 11 October. Kuleba's African trip followed earlier ones by his American and Russian counterparts, as well as France and Germany's leaders, as Africa becomes a battleground for influence.

Kuleba was under no illusions about the difficulty of his mission. Senegalese officials had told him, "This isn't our war, the West is fighting against Russia," "Russia and Ukraine are one people," and "Russia attacked you because you were going to become a Nato [North Atlantic Treaty Organization] member," he said.

"Russia's narrative has been very present here," he added. "Now it's time for Ukrainian truths." Over the next week, Kuleba attempted to counter Russia's three 'lies' as he put it to African journalists in a 13 October online briefing. He noted that Russia had first attacked Ukraine in 2014 when Ukraine's policy was neutrality, not Nato membership. And if the intention to join Nato was a provocation to war, why had Russia not attacked Finland?

The second Russian 'lie' was that Russia and Ukraine were actually one country, and so Russian president Vladimir Putin could impose his will on Ukraine. "In fact, we are very different countries with our own languages, cultures and histories. Imagine your neighbour coming to you and saying your language, culture and history do not exist. Your statehood is a mistake."

And the third was that "Russia wants peace but Ukraine refuses to negotiate." On the contrary, Kuleba insisted that Russia had rejected Ukraine's many proposals to resolve differences. He said all of Russia's peace plans were smokescreens for ultimatums



Ivorian Vice President Tiemoko Meyliet Koné (right) greets Ukrainian Foreign Minister Kuleba Dmytro (left) at the presidential palace in Abidjan, Ivory Coast on 5 October, 2022. File Photo:

for surrender and the extinction of Ukraine.

Kuleba also dismissed Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's main message on his African tour in July that global shortages of grain and fertiliser – which hit Africa hard – were mainly the fault of Western sanctions against Russia. Kuleba blamed them on Russia's blockade of Ukrainian ports and noted that Russia's bombardment had raised grain prices further. He promised Kyiv would send "boats full of seeds for Africa."

This was the first visit by a Ukrainian foreign minister to Africa. Kuleba said some officials told him most Africans had never heard of his country before the war. He promised to step up relations and announced that Ukraine would open an embassy in Ghana – the country's 11th in Africa.

Kuleba promised digital and cybersecurity assistance, agro-technology, diplomatic training and educational bursaries to African coun-

tries. He confirmed that Ukraine was planning a "large-scale Ukraine-Africa conference" next year – presumably partly to counter the second Russia-Africa summit in St Petersburg.

Kuleba thanked his hosts in the four countries for the moral support they offered Ukraine so far in the war: Côte d'Ivoire for "standing with Ukraine" and Senegalese president Macky Sall for "strongly supporting Ukraine's territorial integrity."

In February, Ukraine was delighted when Kenya advised Putin at the United Nations (UN) Security Council to respect Russia's border with Ukraine and abandon attempts to turn the clock back to Russia's glorious imperialist past. Kenya generally aligns with the democratic West on such issues, so perhaps that wasn't surprising.

Kuleba seemed especially grateful to Ghana's president Nana Akufo-Addo for telling the UN General Assembly last month that "every

bullet, every bomb, every shell that hits a target in Ukraine, hits our pockets and economies in Africa." That epitomised the attitude that Ukraine hoped for from Africa.

What Kyiv fears most from Africa is indifference, neutrality or 'non-alignment'. So Kuleba told the African journalists on Thursday that countries like South Africa, which abstained from General Assembly resolutions condemning Russia's invasion, were "abstaining not against Ukraine but against war crimes."

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Only 28 African states supported the first UN General Assembly resolution on 2 March this year, condemning Russia's aggression against Ukraine. It was significant that three of Kuleba's stops were among those 28 countries. The exception was Senegal, which had abstained. Kuleba probably included Dakar because Sall is the current African Union Chairperson and

was involved in grain diplomacy to lift the Russian blockade on Ukraine's Black Sea ports.

But on Thursday, Kuleba professed to be very pleased with his African safari. All four countries visited voted in favour of the UN General Assembly resolution on 12 October that condemned Russia for its "illegal so-called referendums" in the Ukrainian regions of Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia and its "attempted illegal annexation" of them.

Kuleba would have been particularly pleased that Senegal shifted its vote from abstaining in March to supporting this one. Significantly, the Angolan government did the same, stepping out of line from the five other former liberation movements in southern Africa, which all abstained. In total, 30 African states backed the resolution – two more than supported the 2 March decision.

How will that go down in Ukraine and the West? There have been some impulses in Western countries to use more than persuasion to get African countries 'onside'. The US Congress is sitting on controversial legislation that would punish African governments and companies for doing business with dodgy listed Russian oligarchs on the continent. But ISS Today hears the bill will die in the Senate.

And in July, a leaked confidential report revealed European Union (EU) frustration with many African states' neutrality, and questioned whether the EU should consider making its considerable foreign aid to the continent dependent on African support for 'EU values'.

Could African states pay a price for not backing Ukraine and the UN Charter? That's not yet clear. Some European states fear that punishing African governments could backfire – driving them from neutrality into more active support for Russia.

Ideally, African states should take a stand in support of the UN Charter, which forbids the use of force to change the borders of another country. Ducking the crossfire in this war doesn't mean staying neutral. It means taking principled positions independently of the wider geopolitical implications.

DM

By Xu Peiyu

Overseas warehouses bring Chinese commodities to wider foreign markets

CHINESE commodities are becoming more and more popular with global buyers thanks to the prospering development of the overseas warehouse model.

Overseas warehouses are warehousing facilities established overseas that provide basic services for Chinese manufacturers, such as storage, transferring, sorting, packaging, in-situ processing and delivery. They also offer value-added services, helping Chinese manufacturers with order processing, customs affairs, refunding, financing and overseas distribution.

Cross-border e-commerce, a new channel for foreign trade, has achieved rapid progress in China over recent years. As an important part of the business model and a new type of foreign trade infrastructure, overseas warehouses are playing a constructive role in helping foreign trade enterprises lower costs, increase efficiency and smoothen the supply chain.

On Sept. 21, a consumer from the Kingdom of Bahrain received a capsule coffee machine and a milk frother. The two devices, manufactured by Chinese company HiBREW and sent from an overseas warehouse in Saudi Arabia, were delivered to the destination only two days after the online order was placed.

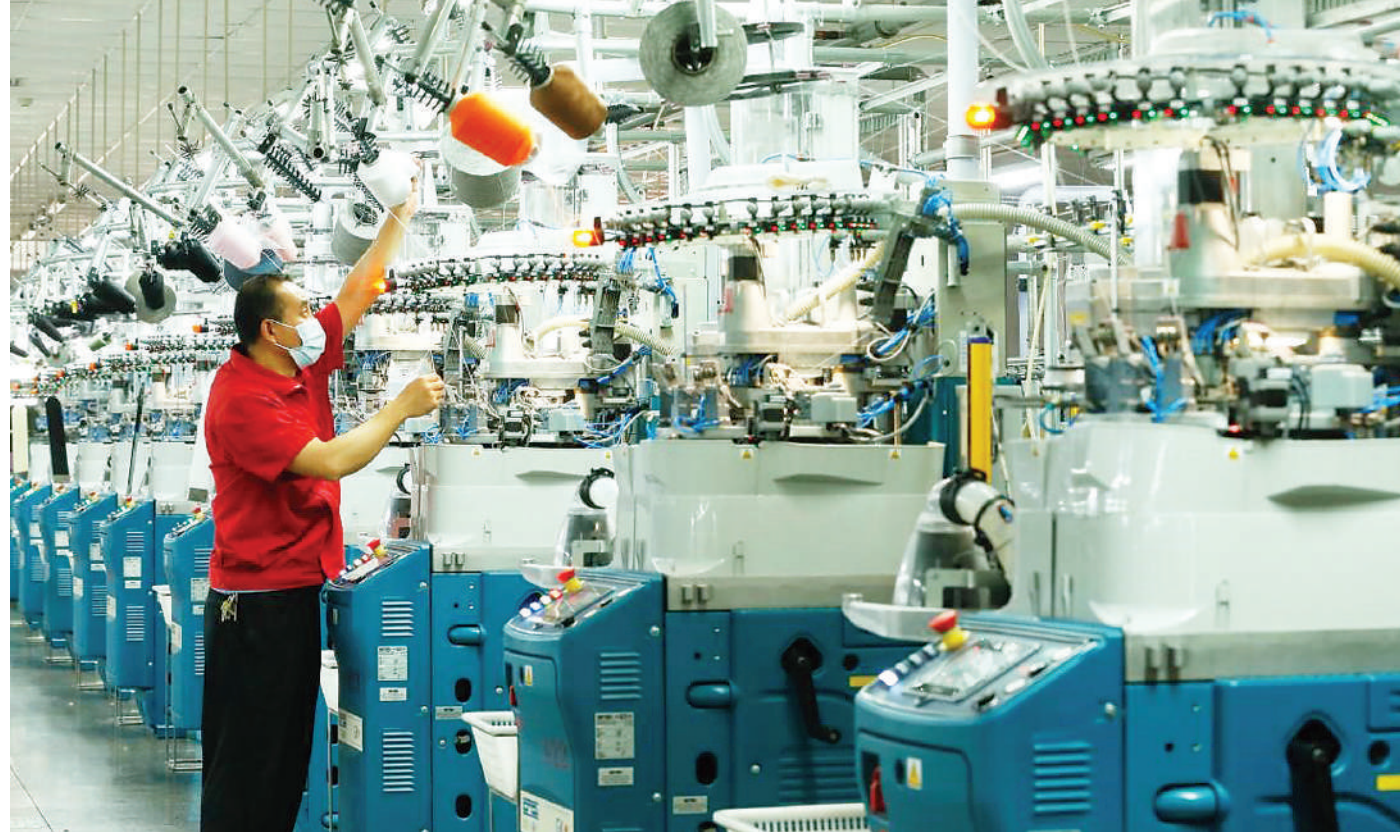
The Chinese company started using overseas warehouses in July, 2020. Now its products are stored in warehouses in 12 countries and regions, such as Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Russia, Spain and France. It has seen an 80 percent rise in order quantity thanks to the convenient logistics.

HiBREW is not the only example. So far, cross-border e-commerce platform AliExpress, in cooperation with Cainiao, a Chinese logistics company launched by e-commerce giant Alibaba, has established over 20 overseas warehouses in 11 countries and regions, which cover a total area of 860,000 square meters.

In its Europe market, AliExpress is now able to deliver products to consumers within two days. Besides, the company also offers consumers a Worry-Free 15-day return and exchange service. Since this year, the company has begun entering emerging markets such as Mexico and Israel.

According to data released by China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), China had over 2,000 overseas warehouses as of the end of the last year, which covered a total area of more than 16 million square meters.

"The overseas warehouse model is a new business



A worker is producing commodities to be exported in a workshop of a hosiery company in Qingdao, east China's Shandong province, June 8, 2022. File photo

form of China's foreign trade and an important infrastructure supporting cross-border e-commerce and other new forms of foreign trade in the future," said Li Mingtao, chief e-commerce expert with the China International Electronic Commerce Center under the MOFCOM, adding that the development of cross-border e-commerce is inseparable from the strong support of overseas warehouses.

A complete overseas warehouse system can further improve cross-border e-commerce enterprises' service capability, provide purchase better experience for overseas consumers, and significantly lower logistics and warehousing costs, thus improving the core competitiveness of these enterprises, the expert

noted.

As China constantly enhances its support for overseas warehouses, both the number and functions of the overseas infrastructure are expanded.

Apart from basic storage services and value-added services, most of the overseas warehouses have established online information service platforms to synchronize information with e-commerce platforms. The function is able to manage small quantities of commodities that come in frequent batches to warehouses.

Overseas warehouses also contribute to alleviating the financing pressure of small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). For

instance, Zongteng Group, a global cross-border e-commerce infrastructure service provider based in China, has acted as a matchmaker between the funding and financing parties based on loads of information acquired when running its overseas warehouses. It helps cross-border e-commerce enterprises lower their cost in financing.

A batch of outstanding overseas warehouses are currently making active exploration in information construction, intelligent development, diversified services and localized operation, said Hong Yong, associate researcher with the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation under the MOFCOM. The overseas warehouses offer services such as warehousing operation, digital marketing, one-stop customs clearance, supply chain finance and compliance consulting for cross-border e-commerce sellers, Hong added.

In the future, the overseas warehouse model will help more Chinese manufacturers, especially SMEs expand overseas markets, and bring more Chinese products to foreign consumers.

Li Xingqian, an official with the MOFCOM, noted that the ministry will encourage entities to join the construction of overseas warehouses and steadily advance its work on standard making.

In addition, the ministry will also support the digital development of overseas warehouses and improve the construction of intelligent overseas logistics platforms, and strengthen financial support for the construction of overseas warehouses by encouraging eligible financial organizations to launch targeted financing and credit insurance products and services.

Liz Truss's government is living hour by hour

By Chris Mason

THE Truss programme for government is dead. This is a hand-to-mouth government, living hour by hour.

If you pick up the hint of panic in the air, you're not the only one. Make that a stench. Anything apparently solid quickly becomes air.

Now, nearly every element of her prospectus has just been shredded by her new chancellor.

The statement that has just been delivered is the second yanking forward of an important economic moment for the country. Originally it was in the diary for November. Then Halloween. Now we've had it today.

"We will reverse almost all the tax measures" from the mini-budget, Jeremy Hunt said. What an extraordinary thing to hear.

Diaries are going out of fashion at Westminster but to be clear, there still will be a statement in a fortnight's time, alongside those numbers about the state of the economy from the Office for

Budget Responsibility.

But so nervous are those in charge of the market reaction, that they dared not leave an announcement until mid-afternoon when he'll stand up in the Commons.

That's right - a government so petrified by the pace of events, dragging forward a statement by a fortnight isn't soon enough.

Not only has the planned cut in the basic rate of income tax been binned, so has the plan originally from Rishi Sunak to cut it in 2024.

The prime minister who promised to cut taxes by more than her rival over the summer, is now keeping them higher than he planned.

And even the flagship energy support package, the crutch upon which the prime minister has leant whenever asked a tricky question in the last few weeks, has shrivelled vastly.

It is now a six month package, not a two year one.

So if this feels a bit confusing this is where it is at: There had to be an interim



statement before the interim statement, to try to steady the ship.

This is a ship where bits have already broken off and sunk, and where the navigation equipment - the very direction and purpose of this government - was ripped out and thrown into the sea with first the U-turns, then the ejection of a chancellor. A ship where plenty of the

crew are eyeing up the lifeboats, near certain the whole thing is going down soon enough.

"If polling suggests an alternative leader will lose fewer seats than she will, then she's had it," one MP not prone to exaggeration or shouting their mouth off tells me.

"Not many of us buy the idea that another leadership change is the worst case sce-

nario. Nothing can be worse than where we are already," they said, adding "you can't sack your closest ally for carrying out your orders and call it pragmatism."

Yesterday Liz Truss invited Jeremy Hunt and his family to lunch at Chequers. He has gone from backbencher life on Friday morning to the prime minister's country retreat in Buckinghamshire 48 hours later for a three-hour meeting where I am told they were in "violent agreement".

Some in the Tory party see him as the real prime minister now, so enfeebled is the actual prime minister's authority. One source suggested they are working "in lock-step."

That's the very phrase they used to use about the bloke she blew out of the building on Friday lunchtime, the now former Chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng.

What we seem to be getting now is shock and awe in reverse - the Big Bang of radical policy ideas blitzed in one go, promised by Liz Truss when

she took office - going backwards. Fast.

One source described today as a "down payment" on what the government is now promising.

Say whatever we can, as quickly as we can, to reassure the markets.

My sentence not theirs, but that's the thrust of it.

So in details terms, the focus today is tax. And the focus in a fortnight will be spending. Even a chancellor moving as fast as this one can't negotiate detailed cuts across Whitehall over a single Sunday roast or whatever.

That discussion will start tomorrow in a cabinet meeting. Remember: this is about two things: Restoring the government's financial credibility and propping Liz Truss up in office.

Talking of which, I can bring you a little nugget about one of the things that set tongues wagging last week - that throwaway remark from the King when he met Liz Truss for their weekly audience at Buckingham Palace.

You might recall that King Charles said "dear oh dear" as he exchanged small talk with the prime minister as she arrived. Inevitably some couldn't help jump to the conclusion that he was somehow offering a commentary on the pickle she is in.

Not the kind of thing, for a second, the King wants to hear - fending off, as he is, from critics, suggestions he might want to be a meddling monarch after years of being an outspoken Prince of Wales.

I'm now told it was actually a nod of sympathy because of logistics - it was the prime minister's second visit to the Palace in a matter of hours.

She had attended a meeting of what is known as the Privy Council at 4pm, then dashed back to Westminster to meet her MPs, and then had hurred back to see the King at half six.

The pace of her premiership, for all the wrong reasons from her point of view, shows no sign of slowing.

BBC

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	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 UMUJAVYO 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

North Mara mine makes agriculture coherent to youth



By Deus Bugaywa

RURAL youth are the future of food security, yet they don't see future for themselves in the rural areas, as there is growing concern that young people have become disillusioned with agriculture.

Engaging the youth in agriculture is a prominent topic for North Mara Gold Mine, a Barrick Gold subsidiary located at Nyamongo area in Tarime district, Mara region.

With most global young people, around 85% living in developing countries, where agriculture is likely to provide the main source of income it is vital that young people are connected with farming. North Mara made a deliberate decision to conduct a rapid agribusiness needs assessment to identify both the gaps and opportunities of agribusiness that exist in the villages surrounding the mine.

The result of the assessment indicated that 100 percent of the population considered agriculture as their primary source of livelihood, meaning food security and income. Yet the level of community awareness on agribusiness is limited in terms of their potential to generate sufficient income and sustain individual and household income.

The findings lead North Mara Gold Mine to commit itself in ensuring that communities living around the mine have alternative source of income and achieve sustainable development. The mine invested in Agribusiness Development Projects, a community initiative designed to provide integrated support in collaboration with communities, stakeholders, agricultural extension and other support services to promote horticultural value service chain assimilation.

The 10 acres project that involves 100 male and female youths as primary beneficiaries from Matongo village in Tarime district, intends to develop life skills including agribusiness skills for students in schools and agribusiness for out of school youths and loan savings skills for youth and women groups.

"The project seeks to ensure that targeted groups become credible suppliers of fresh and nutritious fruits and vegetables for the mine and local market while increasing their

income and securing descent jobs in horticulture," says Hermence Lulah, North Mara Communication superintendent.

The project which will reach 3000 people as secondary beneficiaries as a result of multiplying effects is also anticipated to improve production and productivity, reduce cost of doing business for farmers, increase income and better linkage to markets through multiple distribution channels including the mine and make agribusiness provide decent jobs for communities surrounding North Mara gold Mine.

Living in an era where rapid urbanization has led to a decline in rural populations the North Mara Gold agribusiness project is the sunshine that peeks in clouds. This is the age where for the first time ever the majority of the world's population lives in a city.

The UN World Health Organization predicts that by 2030, 6 out of every 10 people will live in a city, and by 2050, this proportion will increase to 7 out of 10 people. This means that more young people than ever before are moving to cities and towns to find work, leaving few behind to work in rural areas.

This is due to the fact that few young people see a future for themselves in agriculture or rural areas. Rural youth face many hurdles in trying to earn a livelihood. Pressure on arable land is high in many parts of the world, making it difficult to start a farm. Youth often also lack access to credit, and many other productive resources necessary for agriculture. In developing countries, rural youth find themselves in such a bind. While most of the world's food is produced by aging smallholder farmers in developing countries who are less likely to adopt the new technologies needed to sustainably increase agricultural productivity, and ultimately feed the growing world population while protecting the environment, momentum and purposeful measures need to be taken to make agriculture appealing to the youth.

Hence, the need to re-engage youth in agriculture, and this is what North Mara Gold Mine is actually doing, removing all stumbling blocks that hold back youths from agriculture. According to Lulah, North Mara

will provide non-cash support to the ten groups of ten each. The support will be in form of the provision of technologies such as irrigation technologies including installation and agricultural inputs.

"Funds will be treated as revolving, groups will need to demonstrate that they can pay back the money so that other groups in same village can benefit. The groups will also form village loan and saving groups where a small amount of seed money is provided as well training them on financial literacy," narrates Lulah.

Marwa Muteba, a resident of Matongo village says the project is an icebreaker to the future of youths in Nyamongo and the whole Tarime district which has good agroecological conditions that favor crop and livestock production nearly throughout the year.

"Surprisingly we didn't see these potentials in agricultural investments. After the mine took us through several pieces of training and to the nanenane exhibitions in Arusha last August, it sink in our mind that agriculture is not only the green gold but the way to go," says Muteba.

Commenting on the project the Tarime District Commissioner, Colonel Michael Mtenjele said there is a large, untapped reservoir of employment opportunities in the Agri-food sector.

"North Mara provides a lot of opportunities for the youth in

this area, it's imperative that they make good use of them for the betterment of the communities neighboring the mine," said Colonel Mtenjele.

He added that the Government, through the 2017 Local Content regulations, has provided an enabling framework for local businesses to benefit from investments in the country through opportunities in the supply chain. "These horticultural products will fall under local content, which means there is a ready market, we will work hand in hand with the mine to see to it that they produce as per required standard and quality."

According to agriculture experts, income growth generated by agriculture is up to four times more effective in reducing poverty than growth in other sectors. Horticulture has been indicated as a sub-sector that offers real opportunities for improving farm earnings and reducing poverty. It has one of the best returns on labor, land and capital invested.

Horticulture is one of the fastest growing sub-sector with average annual growth of eleven percent compared to the growth of the overall agriculture sector which is 4 percent. It is therefore urgent to strengthen the appeal of agriculture and food systems to young people in order to secure the future, the way North Mara is doing. The potential returns of investing in young people are boundless in terms of food security, poverty reduction, employment generation, as well as peace and political stability.

Call for more investments in digital startup economy

By Guardian Reporter

AT 62, Evelyn Masatu is relatively a newbie to the pensioners' club. For starters, she is just two years into retirement and has been enjoying her well-earned retirement perks without having to worry about the next day's demanding schedule of her former job.

Secondly, she believes she still has an option overload as to where to invest her money and time to ponder on the same; that is until when she was approached by her nephew seeking an investor to inject a modest sum for his startup to take shape.

She has never had the faintest inkling as to what a startup is and since all her adult life she had diligently worked for one employer, a government entity, her skepticism was not misplaced.

Her reaction to the idea of investing in a company that is starting from ground zero is not uncommon, many people understandably think it is a risky venture to do so because they have faith in established institutions.

Mercy Thomas is the Program and Partnership Lead at Sahara Accelerator. Her roles involve matchmaking startups and SMEs with potential investors. She is also a co-author of a report recently launched by Sahara Ventures titled "Towards Realizing the Startup Economy in Tanzania" prior to hosting the Sahara Sparks event.

She strongly believes that the digital economy is the way forward for countries like Tanzania, and Africa in general, and yet the fear amongst individual and institutional investors continuously hampers the progress



Co-author of the report, Dr Ntimi Mtawa explains a point during the launch of the report. Left is Mercy Thomas, another co-author of the report.

of entrepreneurs in the digital economy.

It should be understood that investment is not about the investor doing a favour to the entrepreneur and vice versa, it is a mutually beneficial commitment where both parties set up conditions under which the investor agrees to inject funds in exchange for equity that is believed will grow in value.

"Technology will strongly help Tanzania keep up with other countries in the digital economy and it will replace many people in the job market as the world switches from analog. However,

the challenge remains that not many people are aware of what startups do," she said.

She also believes that there is little exposure in Tanzania on matters pertaining to investment in general, and there is also very little that is known about opportunities that abound by investing in startups, and the country also needs to revisit some policies and regulations to attract more investment in the area. "Tanzania needs to encourage more positive information emerging from our startup ecosystem and celebrate those who have closed major deal rounds

and significantly impacted society and attracted significant capital from investors. We need to attract global firms and companies to develop an interest in Tanzania and establish strategic offices," she said.

Facts tend to speak for themselves, and here are but a few that offer a glimpse of the potential for innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship for job creation and the socio-economic well-being of the continent in the years to come.

As of 2018, six of the fastest-growing economies in the world were from Africa. Better yet, Af-

rica is the youngest continent in the world, with a median age of 25 and its population will continue to grow until it doubles by 2050.

Fifteen fastest-growing cities are in Africa, three of which are in Tanzania (Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, and Songea in the Ruvuma region). The continent's GDP is expected to reach an estimated US\$ 5.63 trillion by 2025, according to the AFDB's 2018 African Economic Outlook report 2018.

Tanzania's population is projected to increase from 53.9 million in 2015 to 186.9 million by

2065. Young people aged 15-34 are projected to increase from 17.8 million to 62.3 million by 2065 and her estimated annual growth by 2022 is pegged at USD 77.6 billion.

Dar es Salaam is one of the world's fastest-growing cities and it is expected to attain megacity status by 2030 with 10 million denizens. Just a generation or so ago, the city had a mere 400,000 inhabitants.

On that backbone, Africa, and Tanzania if we take into account the maxim that charity begins at home, no longer has to be trapped in a revolving door of poverty because increased urbanization creates opportunities for investors and businesses looking for human capital.

It also creates opportunities for the adoption of new technologies and innovations, creating further opportunities for startups with new innovative businesses to address emerging urban challenges.

The growing population creates demand for goods and services which translates into the need for increased production and service delivery.

Technologies that improve efficiency and offer convenience can thus be rapidly adopted as evinced in increased interest in Fintech and Logistics technologies - potential for innovation, technology and entrepreneurship for job creation and socio-economic good of the continent pickup and delivery technologies startups.

All that is needed is the unleashing of the potential of young people in Africa through investments in their innovative ideas, technology and entrepreneurship - a true way to empower young people in the

country as is advocated by the government.

"Investors are interested in investing in the market where they can exit safely. Most investors struggle with the exit strategy from our ecosystem. Government should engage with key stakeholders to understand how to develop systems and structures that will ensure local, regional and global individuals and institutional investors can exit once they have invested in Tanzanian startups," she said.

According to the report, at the moment many investors are compelled to invest in Tanzanian businesses if they can only be guaranteed that the company can operate outside Tanzania.

Under such circumstances, the government loses significant income that would have been generated from the exit process and the trend is not a Tanzanian problem but an African problem, Thomas said during the launch of the report.

"African startups are increasingly domiciling overseas and in tax havens. If we can create smooth exit mechanisms for investors, other African startups will want to exit in Tanzania. It will also help attract individuals and institutional investors to establish offices in the country and encourage more capital to flow into the country and create jobs," she added.

The report's launch by Sahara Ventures was part of activities in the build to Sahara Sparks, a platform launched in 2016 with a focus on building innovation and technology entrepreneurship ecosystems in Africa to foster transactions and conversations around innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship.

Poverty haunts resettled farmers in Zimbabwe

ZIMBABWE

EDIIOUS Murewa has for years boasted of owning a 10-hectare piece of land, but now the 52-year-old is full of regrets. He faces poverty years after he invaded part of a farm once owned by a white commercial farmer.

He (Murewa) was 30 years old when he abandoned his ancestral home in the Mazetese area in the Mwenezi district, in Zimbabwe's Masvingo province and headed west to get his own piece of land at the height of this country's chaotic land seizures from white commercial farmers.

Even as Murewa and several other resettled farmers in Mwenezi are beneficiaries of this country's agricultural inputs like fertilizer and maize seeds, for years, they have had no success in farming on the seized pieces of land as they get next to zero yields each harvest season.

For Murewa, together with his family - his wife and five children that never finished school because they were required to toil on their 10-hectare piece of land, poverty has turned into their daily foe.

"When I was still at my old home before abandoning it to come here, life was better. I used to send my children to school from the crop yields I was getting each harvest season, but that is no more now as our crops fail now and then," Murewa told IPS.

Now, alongside several other resettled farmers in the drought-



Edious Murewa, resettled farmer, is on his farm where his barns are empty and have been for years. Experts blame climate change and a lack of farming know-how for the resettled farmers' woes. File photo

farmer.

For him, just like Murewa in Masvingo, life was better before he decided to join the wave of land invasions here.

"I'm now poorer than before," Dewa told IPS.

He (Dewa) pinned the blame for his agricultural failures on his support for the country's number one opposition, the Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC), which has resulted in him being denied access to farming inputs from government.

Poverty has not spared him, and his cry for help has often fallen on deaf ears.

In 2000, the late former Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe turned the country's agricultural sector upside down with his extremely contentious fast-track land reform program, parceling land to farmers like Dewa and Murewa.

Then, over seven million hectares (17.3 million acres) of land were redistributed to the country's now poor resettled farmers like Dewa and Murewa.

For the late Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, parceling out land to his black citizens was compensation for colonialism. About 4,500 white farmers were dispossessed, often violently, resulting in one million black Zimbabweans being resettled on the seized white-owned farms.

Yet, that for many has not made their lives any better.

Climate change experts like Happon Chikova blame growing climate change impacts for the continued failure of many of this country's resettled farmers.

"Unpredictable weather patterns owing to climate change have worsened the poverty situation of the resettled farmers who have limited understanding of the changing climate," Chikova told IPS.

Instead, resettled farmers like Murewa pounded left, desperately consult self-styled prophets for weather forecasts.

But these have not helped, misleading the poor farmers each farming season.

Even traditional healers like 88-year-old Kumbirai Chikwaka, who claim to conduct rain-making ceremonies around Masvingo, have not made the situation any better for resettled farmers.

"These traditional healers rob us of our little resources claiming to perform rituals to bring the rains, but we still rarely have any rain. It's like the white farmers took the rains away with them," said Murewa.

Agricultural experts blame a lack of technical skills for resettled farmers' failure on the land they seized from white farmers.

"The resettled farmers suffer because they allocated themselves large farms without technical know-how in terms of serious farming, and that's why most of them are now very poor," Denzel Makarudze, an agricultural extension officer in Masvingo, Zimbabwe's oldest town, told IPS.

prone Zimbabwean district, Murewa has become a habitual charity case.

He and his family depend on donor food handouts and maize meal donations from the Zimbabwean government.

Murewa says the country's governing party, the Zimbabwe Africa National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF), has for many years stepped in to rescue him and his family as drought impacts their farm.

As a result, fearing losing his piece of land, Murewa has to pay back the ruling party with his vote at each election.

"I vote for Zanu-PF every election because it's Zanu-PF that feeds me; it's Zanu-PF that has given me land," said Murewa.

So, decades after seizing land from white farmers, many of Zimbabwe's resettled farmers like Murewa are having to contend with gruelling poverty, with some of them dwelling in slums on the farms they invaded.

Some, like 56-year-old Nyson Dewa, a resettled farmer at a farm outside Bindura in Zimbabwe's Mashonaland Central Province, have given up on farming.

As others benefitted from farm inputs from the government, Dewa claimed he had always been left out, which has led to him failing as a resettled

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 373 00--

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

M A D A G A S C A R

3 LETTERS: ART, APE, RID
4 LETTERS: MOOT, DIET, SURE, OVEN, NETA, WAGE, PAID
5 LETTERS: AROMA, TEASE, DAILY, ASANA, EVADE
6 LETTERS: ASMARA, ASCEND, KARATE, DENTAL, TYRIAN
7 LETTERS: FARANGA,
8 LETTERS: AGRARIAN
10 LETTERS: MADAGASCAR

1 2 3 4

5 6 7

8 9 10

11 12

13 14 15 16

17 18

19 20

CLUES: Across

1 Selling of black Africans
5 one of the two branches of Islam
7 consumed
8 a male honey-bee
10 a pen for pigs
11 Masai warrior
13 greater, further
15 total number of points made in a game
17 slaughterhouse
19 a way of acting
20 citrus fruit

Down:

1 neither very good nor very bad
2 sharp-tasting or sour
3 a thick cord made of twisted fibres
4 to give as a gift to charity
6 an expanse of land
7 molluscs having wormlike bodies and spiral protective shell
9 Chief city of Sri Lanka
12 soft, delicate
14 to go or come in
16 to adhere, to be attached
17 short for amplifier
18 fuss or difficulty

WORD-FIT SOLUTIONS

BOUNDARIES
CAFÉ AGAIN
KABODET
PLUNGE
LORSES
SOON ELECT
WDA
LEGALESE
IDEMSE

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

SOUTHERNER
IUPEN
CROWPANDA
KNEPALUK
CANARK
CHOREA
SAMW
SNAPAGREE
GEGAR
GESTURES
USERBE

RADIO One **RATIBA YA VIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 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 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 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 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 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 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 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 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 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 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	

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Africa's young entrepreneurs' fortunes change in difficulties

LAGOS

There are countless reasons young Africans are opting for entrepreneurship as a career. One of these is the African economy is not creating jobs equal to the supply of the available labour force.

According to the World Economic Forum, 77 percent of Africa's population is below the age of 35. The African Development Bank (AfDB) predicts there will be 850 million young people on the continent by 2063 and they'll constitute more than half of the working-age population.

A recent AfDB report shows that 10 to 12 million young Africans enter the job market each year but the economy creates only three million jobs annually.

This means that more than seven million young people entering the job market each year have no choice but to be unemployed, work in the informal sector, be underemployed or start a business and create employment.

Across the continent, many young people are building their own businesses. From technology startups to innovations that disrupt conventions in industries such as agriculture and transport, they are solving economic issues that confront them. They're creating employment and economic opportunities for themselves and their peers.

Many of these young entrepreneurs have strong stories to tell, some of which have been documented by Africa's entrepreneurship initiative, the Anzisha Prize.

Having experienced unemployment after graduating from university, and the consequent poverty suffered by the majority of the popula-



Previous winners of Anzisha Prize

tion in her area, Masello Mokhorro, 23, who lives in the Free State, decided to become a job creator. Mokhorro also struggled to get land for her business. She has a passion for the natural environment, her community and socioeconomic change.

It was the combination of this passion and the hardships that confronted her, particularly in the agricultural sector, which informed her decision to establish Starlicious Enterprises, a broilers and piglets agribusiness.

Mokhorro employs permanent and seasonal employees, combatting the dual problems of high unemployment and poverty. She also

mentors agricultural students about the business side of the industry.

Nigeria has in the past two decades faced high food insecurity as a result of neglect in domestic food production caused in part by what economists term the resource curse and the weak currency.

Eneyi Oshi, a 22-year-old technology entrepreneur whose web and mobile platform Farmisphere distributes farm produce from her other business, Maatalous Nasah, to urban dwellers across the country aims to mitigate this problem.

The business also sells farming equipment

to small-scale farmers. Oshi's goal is to mitigate food insecurity and high joblessness among the youth.

It is estimated that 2.1 million people (14% of the analysed population) in Kenya are experiencing elevated levels of acute food insecurity.

Martin Ondiwa, 22, started Greenfarms, which grows and sells fresh produce to consumers and vendors across Kenya, including kale, maize, onions, capsicum, papayas, and passion fruit.

It was Martin's mother who noticed his love for being productive with the land and gave him a few hectares to get him started on his farming career. The business continues to grow in bounds and employs young people on the farm and in the office.

With a passion for technology and artificial intelligence, Zimbabwe's Muryaradzai Makosa tasked himself with the responsibility to solve Africa's

problems, doing so under some of the harshest trading environments in the world.

Makosa's task has therefore begun at home. The 21-year-old taught himself how to program computers and to market his business and skills in this digital era.

He and his three co-founders established Farmhut with the core purpose of enabling a sustainable farming environment among farmers all year round. Farmhut is an artificial intelligence-enabled marketplace connecting Zimbabwean farmers to markets in and outside the country, helping them reach customers and secure fair payments for their products.

Farmhut earns revenue through a subscription service to these farmers, vendor sales of fruits and vegetables and a chatbot advertising space for agricultural service providers. The business aims to expand across the Southern African Development Community in the next three years.

Tsantatiana Rakotoarimanga, a 23-year-old technology entrepreneur, whose company, Dream Study Agency, through its online application Mapwess, helps students in Madagascar apply to universities abroad. Rakotoarimanga recognised the shortages of higher education facilities in his country and the difficulty in accessing facilities elsewhere because of financial problems.

Mapwess is an online platform that supports these students to find and apply to globally recognised universities. The venture has assisted students from Madagascar, Gabon, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon and Togo.

To date, Dream Study Agency has been able to place 80% of its students in recognised institutions. It has signed nine agreements with nine universities in Mauritius and Rwanda. The company employs students as agents, allowing them to earn income through commission.

These efforts undertaken by young people in response to problems they have identified have proven to bring benefits to the lives of young people and their communities, contributing to economic growth on the continent.

It is for this reason that the Anzisha Prize, created through the partnership between the Mastercard Foundation and Africa Leadership Academy, identified these young entrepreneurs for their catalytic potential to end the continent's chronic joblessness and meet the anticipated demand for jobs highlighted in the AfDB report.

Namibia explores introduction of digital currency

WINDHOEK

NAMIBIA is planning to join the growing list of countries that have introduced the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), triggered by the rise of cryptocurrency.

In a thought leadership event held in the country's capital Windhoek, the Bank of Namibia governor Johannes !Gawaxab, said the country is exploring ways to create a digital currency as part of the central bank's strategic direction and rapid digitization of the financial system.

Techcabal reports that the event titled, "Central Banking Digital Currencies and Virtual Assets," was graced by representatives from the Central Reserve Bank of El Salvador, the South Africa Reserve Bank, Bank of Ghana and the Central Bank of Nigeria.

Nigeria is foremost amongst countries exploring digital currency to have launched CBDC called eNaira, while El Salvador had adopted bitcoin as a legal tender.

!Gawaxab said that a public consultation paper on CBDCs would be published soon to further demonstrate the Bank's commitment to continued cooperation and dialogue with the industry, private sector innovators, the fintech community and other stakeholders in transforming the financial sector for the prosperity of all Namibians.

"If CBDCs are explored and implemented with due care and caution, they could hold immense potential benefit for a more stable, safer, more widely available, and less expensive means of payment than private forms of digital money," said !Gawaxab.

But the governor warned that CBDCs are in their early



stages thus there is a lot of uncertainty as central banks around the world are building up their understanding and technological capability to explore and optimally utilize new technologies to ready themselves for the future, especially the future of finance.

!Gawaxab's announcement signifies a shift from Namibia's previous stance on cryptocurrency. Just like many other coun-

tries that had before, opposed the use of cryptocurrency, the Southern African country is opening its door to a possible future of digital financial landscape that will have CBDC and cryptocurrency.

There is also another announcement along the digital line which has to do with Namibia's position on Virtual Assets (VAs) and Virtual Assets Service Providers (VASPs). The cen-

tral bank disclosed that while VAs in Namibia remain without legal tender status, their acceptance for the payment of goods and services is left to the discretion of any merchant and buyer.

The shift in Namibia's stance on cryptocurrency means that the central bank needs to introduce a regulatory framework. While that is still in the pipeline, the apex bank has issued some warning.

The central bank warned that Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs) pose high risks and possibilities of fraud, manipulation, and misrepresentation, adding that it does not advocate nor support the general public's engagement in ICOs.

But in response to the exponential growth in VAs, !Gawaxab said the central bank will amend applicable laws in consultation with stakeholders to accommodate it.

"To ensure a progressive regulatory response to the exponential growth in VAs, the Bank of Namibia has brought VAs and VASPs under its FinTech Innovations Regulatory Framework in a phased approach, through its Innovation Hub," !Gawaxab said. "The Bank of Namibia will engage VASPs and consider the amendment of applicable laws and regulations in consultation with other relevant authorities such as Namibia Financial Institutions Supervisory Authority (NAMFISA)."

Oil climbs on China's fuel demand recovery

NEW YORK

OIL prices rose on Monday after China rolled over liquidity measures to help its pandemic-hit economy, igniting hopes for a better fuel demand outlook from the world's top crude importer.

Brent crude futures rose 81 cents, or 0.88%, to \$92.44 a barrel by 0642 GMT, recovering from a 6.4% fall last week. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude was at \$86.33 a barrel, up 72 cents, or 0.84%, after a 7.6% decline last week.

China's central bank rolled over maturing medium-term policy loans while keeping the interest rate unchanged for a second month on Monday.

Analysts said the full rollover is a

signal that the central bank would continue to maintain loose monetary policy.

The country also vowed to greatly increase domestic energy supply capacity and step up risk controls in key commodities including coal, oil and gas, and electricity, a senior National Energy Administration official said on Monday.

China will further increase reserve capacities for key commodities, another state official told a news conference in Beijing.

Oil found support from a combination of factors, including Chinese President Xi Jinping's comments at the Party Congress that reassured accommodative policies for the economy, a positive sign for demand outlook, CMC Markets analyst Tina

Teng said.

China is expected to release trade and economic data this week. Although its third-quarter GDP growth could rebound from the previous quarter, President Xi's stringent COVID-19 policy has the world's No. 2 economy facing what will most likely be its worst performing year in almost half a century.

Looking ahead, oil prices are expected to remain volatile as production cuts by OPEC+ will tighten supplies ahead of the European Union embargo on Russian oil, while a strong U.S. dollar and further interest rate increases from the U.S. Federal Reserve limit price gains.

St. Louis Fed President James Bullard said on Friday inflation had become "pernicious" and difficult to



arrest, and warranted continued "frontloading" through larger increases of three-quarters of a percentage point.

Member states of the Organization of the Production Exporting Countries and their allies, including Russia, lined up on Sunday to endorse the steep production cut agreed to this month after the White House, stepping up a war of words with Saudi Arabia, accused Riyadh of coercing other nations into supporting the move.

OPEC+ pledged on Oct. 5 to cut output by 2 million barrels per day, which will lead to an actual drop of about 1 million bpd as some members are already producing below their targets.

Despite this, top exporter Saudi Arabia will keep exports to key Asia markets steady in November.

"Tighter inventories for oil and oil products along with looming supply risks should keep prices volatile," analysts at ANZ Research said in a note.

Consumer pains on spiralling food prices

By Francis Kajubi

IT is 4pm and Anna Peter, resident of Goba, Ubungo district in Dar es Salaam is looking for something to prepare for dinner in one cereal shop to the other.

The 24 years old mother of one was captured by The Guardian at the weekend doing surveys in shops; searching for a shop she can get affordable rice.

Carrying shopping bag filled with spinach, a half kilo of meat, spices and some fruits she had already bought, Anna couldn't believe the hiking prices of rice.

She showed no hope of seeing prices going down, as only one month remains towards the end of year festivals, of Christmas and New Year, when prices are beyond the limits.

"I'm moving around different shops looking for a kilo of rice for dinner that I can afford. I have 2,600/- and I need rice of good quality," she said.

"Every shop I have visited, a kilo of quality rice I am looking for, is sold between 2,900/- and 3,000/-," said Anna.

Anna said she makes food purchases on daily basis, since she has no income to shop for a monthly stock.

Her husband also has little income as works as a motorcycle rider at Mbezi Bus Terminal.

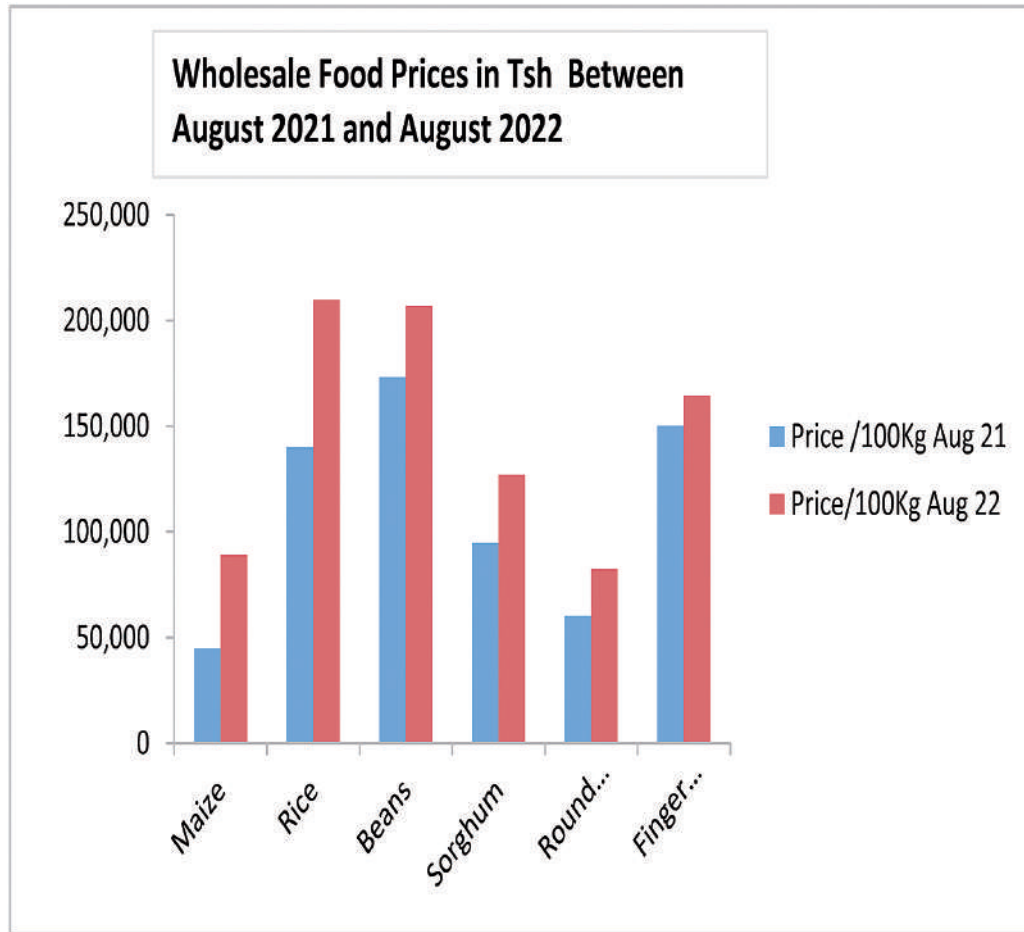
She asked, "How come basic needs like food turn out to be luxurious in this country?"

John Mwakalinga, a cereals wholesaler at Mbarikiwa Store Goba Center said prices rise caused by increase in farm prices; for example he buys Soya beans from Arusha and Mbeya at 3,000/- a kilo and yellow beans at 3,100/- a kilo and sells them at a retail price of 3,400/-.

Mwakalinga buys rice from Mbeya at between 2,000/- and 2,750/- a kilo, and he sells at retail prices of between 2,300/- and 3,000/- in Dar es Salaam.

However, he sells the same kilo of rice at between 2,200/- and 2,900/- to retail traders around Goba.

"The problem is competition between local and export markets. Rice and beans exports to Kenya, Zambia, DR Congo and Zimbabwe offers prices that are attracting



farmers to sell them in large quantities than what they sell to local markets," said Mwakalinga.

"We ought to pay farmers nearly or exactly the amount our competitors do. If prices are to be brought down, the only solution is regulating what should be sold out and what should remain in the country," he suggested.

Allan Shao, a cereals retail seller at Mbezi Kimara said that he sells a kilo of rice at between 2,700/- and 3,300/- depending on the quality of rice and a kilo of beans at 3,600/- regardless of whether it is Soya or yellow beans.

Charles Itembe, Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) Director General said that agro-processed food commodities accounted for large quantity of goods export during the 2021/22 financial year.

Ashura Juma (28), a food venter, well known in Swahili as 'Mama Ntilie' at Tegeta suburb in Dar es Salaam said they have decided to increase prices of cooked foods due to hiking prices of food commodities in markets. She said one plate of rice, beans and vegetables which she was selling to her clients at 2,000/- last October has increased 2,500/-.

She also said a plate of rice and meat is currently costing 3,000/- up from 2,500/- respectively.

"Food vending is business like other businesses; therefore we have to make profit out of it, no matter in what the situation," she said. "Our customers have no choice but to agree with the situation on the ground because we have bills to pay."

Senior Economist Prof Samuel Wangwe said that the way out to reducing food inflation is turn into smart climate agriculture practices that guarantee farmers high yields.

According to him, hiking prices in food stuff resulting from climate change implications against a free market economy, where farmers decide to sell their produce to those who offer them good prices.

He said to contain price hiking extension services, access to farm inputs and smart technologies in agriculture should be embraced so that farmers can increase productivity to boost supply.

While observing these measures, he suggested that regulatory authorities should limit exports to protect domestic consumers from prices escalation.

"Most of low and middle income families in cities suffer the most from hiked prices on food because farmers produced less but sold a large quantity to exporters, which crowds domestic supply," said Prof Wangwe.

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Monthly Economic Review for September, the wholesale prices for foods maintained an upward trend since April 2022, except for finger millet; with maize and rice recording the

highest annual changes in prices.

According to the report, 100Kg of maize sold at 89,040/- at the end of August 2022, more than doubled of 44,812/- recorded in August 2021.

A 100Kg bag of rice fetched 209,788/- in August 2022 compared to 140,137/- in August 2021, according to the report.

On a month-to-month basis, prices of food crops were higher than July.

The increase in food prices is partly associated with high demands for exports from neighbouring countries.

In August this year, 100Kg of beans was sold at 206,862/- up from 173,213/- recorded in August 2021 while a kilo of sorghum increased to 127,012/- from 94,804/-.

The price for 100Kg of Round potatoes had jumped to 82,523/- in August 2022 from 60,338/- it fetched for one to secure it the corresponding period in 2021.

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) National Consumer Price Index (NCPi) shows headline inflation rate for September, 2022 increased to 4.8 percent from 4.6 percent in August, 2022.

The National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) food stocks amounted to 144,410 tonnes at the end of August 2022, having increased slightly by 3,715 tonnes compared with July when 140,695 tonnes were available.

During August 2022, the Agency sold 2,009.2 tonnes of maize to traders and millers to easy consumer prices, at the same time purchased 5,966.3 tonnes of maize and 211.5 tonnes of sorghum from farmers.

The Cereals and Other Produce Board of Tanzania (CPB) Director General Dr. Anselm Mushi blamed drought and high fuel prices at global and local markets for triggering food prices.

"Our mandate as a state owned business entity is to bring relief to consumers by supplying enough food commodities at affordable prices, but it has not been the case because yields were also low on maize, paddy and beans during this year's harvests," said Dr Mushi.

Eight smart money moves to make at 20s

By Yahoo Finance Reporter

WHILE no one wants to bring up challenging topics like spiraling student loan debts, costly housing, or depressed job markets, people enjoy discussing the spending patterns of 20-somethings. However, keeping money in the bank might be a strategy for achieving your financial objectives. While most people aren't aware that your 20s are the most crucial decade for your future financial stability. Here you'll discover crucial strategies that will direct you to long-term financial independence!

1. Start Early

These emergency funds serve as your financial insurance if and when unanticipated life circumstances arise. For instance, if you experience a sudden job loss, medical emergency, or appliance breakdown. The stability of your work, your salary, and any debts you may have will all affect how much money you save in your 20s. The ultimate goal of your emergency savings should be about three to six months' worth of living expenses. Set a modest goal for your savings, such as allocating 2% of each salary to emergency savings for a period of six months. Always remember to save in a liquid, low-risk investment vehicle like a savings account to start.

2. Get out of debt early

Make a list of all of your debts as a first step. Make sure you understand your student debts', credit card amounts, rates of interest, and minimum payment deadlines. When you have calculated how much you can realistically contribute to extra debt payments, go over your budget again. Keeping track of repayments when you have multiple debts of different sizes, banks, due dates, tenures and interest rates can be strenuous. A debt consolidation loan is great for simplifying multiple debts into a single facility. You can repay them at a lower interest rate and longer tenure to save on monthly instalments and have more disposable income.

3. Shop Sales

The holiday season is the ideal time to purchase new home, office furniture or many other supplies. Everything is on sale, including apparel, laptops, and furnishings, and never overlook the clearance racks. Try using coupons, vouchers, cash-back options, e-wallets or even holiday deals to drastically cut your purchasing expenses.

4. Budget, Budget, Budget!

Set aside time each week to analyse your finances, manage your budget, and create a plan. You should pay your bills (although the majority should be set up for auto-pay), update and check your budget, then attend to any other financial matters during your money date. You can start by adding a fun, exciting element to your financial life to help you stay engaged over the long term by referring to this designated time with your money as a "date." This is to associate

budgeting with something more positive, as it may be challenging initially, but good things always take time.

5. Eat more home-made meals

Eating out is expensive, but did you know that small purchases like coffee and pastries can have a significant negative impact on your entire spending plan? Imagine all the different ways you may cut costs from your food budget when you consider that the average person spends 20 ringgits on a cup of coffee in Kuala Lumpur, adding up to more than 1000-ringgit yearly. Even on lazy days, many inexpensive, 4-ingredient dishes can be made in advance. You may save a tonne of money on food each month by making even these minor improvements.

6. Start a side job/hustle

One of the key determinants of long-term wealth accumulation is income. After all, it is very challenging to save for your financial future if you don't make money. Therefore, if your salary level prevents you from saving as much as you would like to, concentrate on finding ways to eventually raise your earning capacity. There are numerous free online courses available, and anyone can learn new skills by just viewing YouTube videos as knowledge is priceless. An additional approach to this, is through side businesses. Find a side hustle to earn additional income besides your 9 to 5 job, this could be by freelance writing, grab deliveries, online marketing and many more.

7. Get creative when travelling

If you know how to manage your money, know visiting exotic locations does not have to be expensive and you don't necessarily need to win the lottery to travel the world either. Here are just a few suggestions on how to travel on a budget, including avoiding peak travel times, choosing accommodations wisely, planning ahead for flights, or even taking advantage of the public transportation there. Take risks! Remember if you do take the time to plan your trip, estimate your expenses, download a virtual wallet of money-saving apps, and also take the extra steps using points or cash back rebates to lower your out-of-pocket costs. Most importantly, enjoy yourselves.

8. Do NOT overspend

While "wanting it all" is perfectly acceptable, problems can occur when you "want it all now." This one might seem obvious, but spending more than you have is simple, especially when sweet payday arrives and the desire to shop for everything is strong. However, living paycheck to paycheck is dangerous because it's almost a guarantee that your car will break down or that you'll incur a significant unforeseen medical expense in the coming months. Since you can never really predict what the world will throw at you at any time, being frugal when you do have the money will not harm anyone.



If you know how to manage your money, know visiting exotic locations does not have to be expensive and you don't necessarily need to win the lottery to travel the world either

Tea farmers' earnings up 53pc in Q3

NAIROBI

SMALL-SCALE tea grower earnings grew by more than half to Sh20 billion in the third quarter of the year, helped by the government-backed minimum price of \$2.43 (Sh291) per kilogramme that protected their revenue.

Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) says the earnings were more than the Sh13 billion that was recorded in the corresponding period last year.

The impressive earnings were recorded despite a 13 percent decline in the production of green leaf.

KTDA says green leaf deliveries by farmers to 71 factories that it manages dropped to 197 million kilos in the July-September period compared to 225.8 million kilos last year, with the decline attributed to poor rainfall.

A kilo of tea in the review period fetched \$2.65 (Sh318), up from \$2.55 (Sh302) in the corresponding quarter last year.

The agency says the outlook for the remainder of the year looks promising, coming as a big boost to farmers who will be expecting good returns should the trend hold.

"Prices at the auction have been fairly steady with a positive outlook expected for the coming weeks despite the market challenges faced with the Russia-Ukraine war and the flooding disaster that recently hit Pakistan," KTDA chief executive officer Wilson Muthaura said.

The Russia-Ukraine war cut tea demand globally as it

disrupted the product's demand as economies suffered high inflation due to the war.

Pakistan, a key buyer of Kenyan tea that accounts for nearly 40 percent of the total exports, recorded lower-than-expected uptake due to the economic disruption.

Prices for KTDA-managed factories continued to outperform the aggregate Mombasa auction as buyers paid keen interest on the quality of the beverage.

The average price at the auction stood at \$2.28 in the latest sale.

Mr Muthaura added the agency has procured 84,550 tonnes of the NPK fertiliser for distribution to farmers ahead of the short rains to boost output.

KTDA also continues to intensify its efforts in curbing costs by improving operational efficiencies through a number of interventions.

These include investment in small hydropower stations for cheaper power supply, diversification to orthodox teas to reduce reliance on Black crush, tear, curl (CTC) teas and training of farmers on income diversification and management.

Eleven factories affiliated with KTDA are now producing orthodox teas. They are Itumbe, Kimunye, Michimikuru, Kangaita, Imenti, Kiru, Thumaita, Gitugi, Kagwe, Matunwa and Chinga.

There are plans to increase this number of factories to meet the market demand for the product.



Edson Mpyisi, the AfDB's Chief Financial Economist and Enable Youth Coordinator

AfDB's \$140,000 AgriPitch competition opens for youth

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

THE African Development Bank yesterday hosted an online seminar to encourage African young entrepreneurs in the agriculture sector - or "agripreneurs" - to enter the Bank's AgriPitch competition.

AgriPitch is a platform where the continent's top agripreneurs vie for a share of \$140,000 in seed funding prizes, a slot in the competition's business development boot camp, as well as receive mentoring and training.

The statement issued by AfDB said the webinar, presented the AgriPitch 2022 competition, designed to instill a culture of innovation and nurturing for technology-led agribusiness innovations, to create jobs and improve youth livelihoods.

Bank representatives explained the application process, took questions from prospective applicants and introduced AgriPitch 2022 competition partners, including: women-founded and led enterprise support advisory firm Private Equity Support; the Private Financing Advisory Network, a global net-

work of climate and clean energy financing experts; and EldoHub, an education, innovation, and technology organization targeting youth and women.

AgriPitch 2022 operates under the theme, The Role of African Youth within African Food Systems. "With the increased effects of climate change and the resultant impact on food systems within the continent, this competition serves to showcase timely and scalable youth-led opportunities," noted Edson Mpyisi (pictured), the Bank's Chief Financial Economist and Enable Youth Coordinator.

The AgriPitch Competition aims to support African agripreneurs by improving their business bankability and ensuring that they are "pitch ready" for potential investors.

The 2022 edition of AgriPitch will help competitors identify innovative solutions and develop ideas that contribute to strengthening Africa's food systems, mitigate the effects of gender marginalization, and enhance sustainable nutrition across the continent, according to AfDB.

Held annually, the AgriPitch competition is a key activity of the Bank's Enable Youth Program and also provides technical capacity-building skills as well as facilitates youth access to financing. "In response to the youth challenges facing the continent, the Bank developed its Jobs for Youth in Africa Strategy with the objective of creating 25 million jobs for young Africans and equipping 50 million youth with

relevant skills by 2025. The Strategy aims to increase inclusive employment and entrepreneurship, strengthen human capital, and create durable labor market linkages - we're proud to host the AgriPitch competition that contributes to the Strategy's goals," said Martin Fregene, the Bank's Director for Agriculture and Agro-Industry.

"This year, AgriPitch will provide coaching and mentorship in an interactive and tailored virtual two-week bootcamp to applicants who advance in the competition," said AfDB.

"The Bank believes that entrepreneurship is a pathway to a secure job and viable socio-economic growth that is inclusive and promotes sustainable development. Therefore, Africa's emerging vibrant wave of entrepreneurs must be supported and nurtured for the continent's prosperity," said Damian Ihedioha, the Bank's Division Manager for Agri-business.

AgriPitch 2022 semifinalists will also pitch their business plans to potential investors in the AgriPitch deal room, be eligible for one-on-one mentorship, and access to post-competition digital expertise.

The AgriPitch competition is open to African youth aged between 18 to 35 years who work within the agriculture value chain. AgriPitch 2022 offers three competition categories: Early Start-ups (0-3 years of operation), Mature Start-ups (3 or more years in operation) and Women-Empowered Businesses (firms with at least 51% share of women ownership or founded by a woman).

China's lenders bolstering loans to support economy

SHANGHAI

CHINA'S economy has been battered by harsh coronavirus pandemic lockdowns and a property market slowdown, but authorities have been reluctant to increase stimulus measures to boost growth.

The biggest state-run Chinese banks have increased their lending by 22 per cent to \$1.3tn in the first nine months of the year, signalling how state groups are being directed to support the country's economy battered by coronavirus pandemic lockdowns and a property market crisis.

In an announcement orchestrated to dovetail with President Xi Jinping's keynote speech at the opening of the Chinese Communist party's congress on Sunday, a group of the country's six largest state banks released data showing Rmb9.53tn in new loans.

Most of the new cash has been directed towards Xi's favoured industries including manufacturing, infrastructure and technology and innovation sectors. Four of the big banks also disclosed at least a 25 per cent boost in funding for "green loans", or lending for clean energy projects, in the first three quarters.

Among six of the top lenders, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, the world's biggest bank by assets, and Agricultural Bank of China, the country's third-largest lender, each extended Rmb2.2tn of loans during the first three quarters of 2022. China Construction Bank and Bank of China issued Rmb2.1tn and Rmb1.7tn, respectively.

Xi, who is now poised to lead China for an unprecedented third five-year term, promised to speed up his goal of attaining technological self-reliance. He also vowed to accelerate China's shift to clean energy.

Indicating that he was still focused on closing the gap between the rich and poor, Xi said "development is the

party's first priority, the utmost mission" and that China's "principal problem" remains "unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life".

China's economy narrowly avoided contracting in the second quarter as a resurgence of citywide lockdowns under Xi's zero-Covid policy hammered consumption and business confidence and exacerbated the fallout from a historic property sector downturn.

State-backed financial groups have also been urged to cut loan and mortgage interest rates as Beijing tries to shore up economic growth. But despite the injection of banking credit, China's state lenders have been unable to significantly improve business sentiment.

While many experts believe long-term structural problems such as weakening domestic demand and the housing market crisis threaten the stability of the Chinese economy, Xi did not offer hints on changes in policy direction on Sunday.

Goldman Sachs analysts said the party congress "may not be an inflection point for major policy changes", noting Beijing's reluctance to increase stimulus measures to boost growth.

The analysts said that compared with Xi's speech five years ago, there was less emphasis on the economy, reform and markets and more focus on security and "modernisation".

Still, Morgan Stanley analysts said Xi's speech was "more balanced" compared with some forecasts that expected the leader to make a more pronounced pivot from development to security.

"Although we believe Beijing has shifted its priorities from solely on growth to balancing growth and security or sustainability in recent years, the party congress maintained the reform-era doctrine, allaying concerns about policy agenda shifting away from the economy," they said.



India uses tech to push rural financial inclusion

NEW DELHI

INDIA on Sunday launched 75 digital banking units in villages and small towns across the country in a move that it said will help bring financial services and literacy to more citizens.

The digital banking units, set up in collaboration with over 20 public and private banks, are brick-and-mortar outlets that are equipped with tablets and internet services to help individuals and small businesses open their savings accounts, access government identified schemes, perform verifications, make transactions and avail loans and insurance.

The physical outlets, span across all Indian states and union territories, will provide services in two modes. "Self-service mode will be available 24x7x365 days," said

Shaktikanta Das (pictured), Governor of Reserve Bank of India, in a virtual conference. "The banks are also free to engage the services of digital business facilities and correspondence to expand the footprint of DBUs," he said.

Das said the units will also offer a digital assistance zone to engage queries from individuals and small businesses and hear their grievances.

Availing banking services has traditionally been a struggle for people living in villages and small towns, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Even as more than a billion bank accounts exist in India, people living in remote areas have had to typically take a day off from the work to visit a nearby city for their banking related work.

Nigerian fintech Maplerad raises \$6m in seed funding

LAGOS

BANKING-AS-A-SERVICE (BaaS) platforms have taken off rapidly across the fintech world over the last 18 months. By partnering with banks, these platforms allow entities from startups and fintechs to big corporations and banks to provide tailored banking services and experiences to their customers.

Fintechs offering BaaS services in U.S. and Europe, such as Unit, Rapyd and Treasury Prime, have achieved significant scale due to the developed banking systems they enjoy in their markets.

However, their counterparts are trying to replicate this growth in less advanced banking systems like Africa, where the demand and scalability of such products are unproven.

In the latest development, Maplerad, a fintech described by its founders Miracle Anyanwu and Obinna Chukwujiokwe as a global BaaS player targeting Africa, has raised \$6 million in seed funding.

According to sources, the U.S.-based Maplerad, which is coming out of stealth, raised the round at a \$30 million valuation. The founders declined to comment.

Maplerad's journey as a company can be traced back to 2020, when the founders launched its first product, Wirepay. The app started with helping users make international payments by offering cross-

border payment solutions in fiat and cryptocurrency.

However, it has since shifted into a self-described all-in-one finance product that enables users to receive, hold, and make payments in multiple currencies, create virtual and physical cards, and pay bills.

Last year, Wirepay raised an undisclosed pre-seed, including a \$125,000 check from OnDeck. Golden Palm Investments Corporation, Greenhouse Capital, some Stash executives, and Berrywood Capital were other investors in the round.

As Wirepay grew to over 50,000 users, mainly in Nigeria, Anyanwu, on a call with TechCrunch, said businesses began to inquire about the in-house infrastructure powering the features on its consumer app. "People wanted to use the infrastructure powering Wirepay, our license coverage, and banking relationships," the CEO and CTO stated.

Anyanwu also mentioned that Maplerad (the parent company) had always wanted to spin off this infra for other businesses. However, when outside requests flocked in en masse, they finally arranged to beta-launch Maplerad, the infra product that allows companies to embed powerful financial features like accounts, payments, FX, and cards into their products, this August.

"From day one, when we built Wirepay for our consumers, we knew the end move

would be infrastructural even though we didn't start the business infrastructure first. For anyone to build anything finance-related, they have a whole lot of banking stack that they have to start with and even before integrating features, they have to go past many hurdles," said the chief executive.

"One of them is banking relationships and compliance. The other is licencing. So Maplerad is solving financial infrastructure problems for these businesses in Africa. We handle that whole stack and provide the best-in-class APIs to use that can make you launch a financial product within five minutes. So instead of a company spending 8 months and a couple of million dollars to start building a fintech product, you can integrate with our APIs and go live."

Banking-as-a-service platforms have become popular with companies trying to embed financial services into their offerings because large, incumbent banks have been relatively slow to bring their services up to speed with the pace of change in the world of tech and banking.

As such, banking-as-a-service platforms see an opportunity to provide more personalized services and flexibility at less cost. The space is heating up—some of Maplerad's competitors in Nigeria include YC-backed Anchor, Bloc, OnePipe and larger fintechs such as Flutterwave.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

WORLD

British PM's tax cut plan was a 'mistake', says Biden

PORTLAND, Oregon

US President Joe Biden on Saturday called embattled British Prime Minister Liz Truss' abandoned tax cut plan a mistake, and said he is worried that other countries' fiscal policies may hurt the United States amid worldwide inflation.

Biden said it was predictable that the new prime minister on Friday was forced to walk back plans to aggressively cut taxes without identifying cost savings, after Truss' proposal caused turmoil in global financial markets. It marked an unusual criticism by a US president of the domestic policy decisions of one of its closest allies.

"I wasn't the only one that thought it was a mistake," Biden said. "I disagree with the policy, but that's up to Great Britain."

Biden's comments came after weeks of White House officials declining to criticize Truss' plans, though they em-

phasized they were monitoring the economic fallout closely.

Biden was speaking to reporters at an Oregon ice cream shop where he made an unannounced stop to promote the candidacy of Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tina Kotek, as Democrats across the country face a tough political environment amid GOP criticism of their handling of the economy.

Biden said he was not concerned about the strength of the dollar – it set a new record against the British pound in recent weeks – which benefits US imports, but makes the country's exports more expensive to the rest of the world.

Plan reversal

Britain's new Treasury chief on Saturday acknowledged the mistakes made by his predecessor and suggested that he may reverse much of Truss' tax cutting plans in order to bring stability to the country after weeks of economic and political turbulence.



Britain's Prime Minister Liz Truss

Jeremy Hunt, who was brought in on Friday to replace Kwasi Kwarteng as Treasury chief and restore order in Truss' administration, warned of "difficult decisions" to come. Taxes could rise and public spending budgets would likely be squeezed further in the coming months, he said.

Truss fired Kwarteng on Friday and ditched her pledge to scrap a planned increase in corporation tax as she sought to hang on to her job after just six weeks in office.

Truss, a free market libertarian, had previously insisted that her tax cutting plans were what Britain needs to boost economic growth.

But a mini Budget that she and Kwarteng unveiled three weeks ago, which promised 45 billion pounds (\$50 billion) in tax cuts without explaining how the government would pay for them, sent the markets and

the British pound tumbling and left her credibility in tatters.

The policies, which included cutting income tax for those on the highest incomes, were widely criticized for being tone-deaf in the face of Britain's cost of living crisis. Truss recognizes her mistakes and he is going to put them right, he said.

"It was wrong to cut the top rate of tax for the very highest earners at a time where we're going to have to be asking for sacrifices from everyone to get through a very difficult period," Hunt said.

"And it was wrong to fly blind and to announce those plans without reassuring people with the discipline of the Office for Budget Responsibility that we actually can afford to pay for them," he added. "We have to show the world we have a plan that adds up financially." **Agencies**

Israel's intention to supply arms to Ukraine will destroy relations with Russia – Medvedev

MOSCOW

DEPUTY Chairman of Russia's Security Council Dmitry Medvedev warned yesterday that it would be a mistake for Israel to supply weapons to Ukraine.

"Israel seems to have decided to supply weapons to the Kiev regime. That would be a very rash decision, for it would damage all the interstate relations between our countries," Medvedev wrote on his Telegram channel.

He said Israel might as well recognize [Stepan] Bandera and [Roman] Shukhevich, as its heroes. Bandera was the leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), and Shukhevich led the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA). Both organizations are outlawed in Russia.

On Sunday, Israeli Minister of Diaspora Affairs Nachman Shai said his country should follow the example of the US and its NATO allies and start providing military assistance to Ukraine.



Agencies

Inter-Parliamentary Union lawmakers commit to overcoming gender inequality

KIGALI

THE Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) affirmed working in partnership with national parliaments to push forward gender equality and responsive legislation.

At the conclusion of its 145th assembly in Kigali, Rwanda's capital, Saturday, the lawmakers adopted the Kigali Declaration, highlighting actions to be undertaken to achieve gender equality including enacting gender-responsive laws and ensuring parity in political decision-making.

Esperance Nyirasafari, vice-president of Rwanda's Senate, and Ivan Flores, member of Parliament from Chile, said the Kigali Declaration was arrived at after a "rich, insightful and inspiring general debate of this 145th IPU Assembly."

The lawmakers said gender equality and gender-sensitive parliaments are drivers of change for a more resilient and peaceful world.

According to the IPU, gender-sensitive parliaments are founded on the principle of gender equality, with women and men having equal rights to participate without discrimination or reprimand.

Such parliaments respond to the needs and interests of both men and women in their structures, operations, methods and work. "We must reach parity in political decision-making by all means, including 50:50 quotas," Nyirasafari said, adding that the COVID-19 pandemic had revealed that crises are never gender neutral, but exacerbate gender-based inequality, hold back society and challenge resilience. "We affirm that gender equality is key in confronting pandemics, conflicts, economic recessions and climate change," she said.

IPU President Duarte Pacheco said gender-equal parliaments have the power to influence decisions that can prevent wars. "Gender-sensitive parliaments can help bring more global security. This is because there's no mother that feels well when she sees their children going to war. And that just shows the difference," said Pacheco.

"I believe that with gender-sensitive parliaments we will be more open, and try to understand the positions of the others and to open to dialogue and avoid so many conflicts." The week-long assembly convened more than 1,000 delegates, including MPs and Speakers from 120 parliaments. The assembly was held under the theme "Gender equality and gender-sensitive parliaments as drivers of change for a more resilient and peaceful world."

The lawmakers called for a new generation of more diverse parliamentarians to advance gender equality and inclusivity. They also committed to placing vulnerable populations at the center, end to gender-based discrimination and ensuring equal sharing of care responsibility.

"We must share the care responsibility equally among men and women. Let's act as examples in our societies by undertaking 50 percent of the daily care work for our families, regardless of whether we are male or female MPs," Nyirasafari said.

MP Ivan Flores stressed the need to end gender-based discrimination and violence, and other harmful practices while ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice for all women and girls.

Martin Chungong, the secretary general of IPU, said peace negotiations involving women tend to be sustainable. "That is why we say that it is important for women to be at the table when peace processes are initiated," he said.

Meanwhile, a survey presented at the IPU assembly indicated that women lawmakers across the world have been targets of violence, sexism and sexual harassment perpetuated by their male colleagues. "Sometimes, we don't believe it but discrimination also happens inside our own parliaments," Pacheco told the assembly. Female lawmakers make up 26 percent of parliaments globally. **Xinhua**

CPC vows to boost modernisation

BEIJING

THE Communist Party of China has vowed to comprehensively advance national rejuvenation through a Chinese path to modernization, a central task the Party laid out for the next five years and beyond at the 20th CPC National Congress, which opened in Beijing on Sunday.

While delivering a report at the opening session of the congress on behalf of the 19th CPC Central Committee, Xi Jinping stressed the need to coordinate development and security, and he highlighted safeguarding national security and social stability in the course of promoting sustained growth.

"From this day forward, the central task of the CPC will be to lead the Chinese people of all ethnic groups in a concerted effort to realize the Second Centenary Goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and to advance the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through a Chinese path to modernization," Xi said.

He said that the next five years will be crucial for getting the efforts to build a modern socialist country in all respects off to a good start.

In a two-step development strategy, the CPC aims to basically realize socialist modernization by 2035, and then build China into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful by the middle of this century.

Xi said that China aims to lead the world in composite national strength and international influence by the middle of this cen-

tury. He set out the major principles in the nation's endeavor to build a modern socialist China in all respects.

"On the journey ahead, we must firmly adhere to the major principles of upholding and strengthening the Party's overall leadership, following the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics, applying a people-centered development philosophy, remaining committed to deepening reform and opening-up, as well as carrying forward our fighting spirit," he said.

Xi mentioned in the report a wide range of areas in which China will strive for further progress, including high-quality economic growth, balanced development, ecological conservation, people's well-being, strengthening the Party, law-based governance, high-level opening-up, independent technological innovation and diplomatic efforts to promote world peace and development.

On the Taiwan question, which is considered as China's core interest, Xi reiterated striving for China's complete reunification in a peaceful way, but said "we will never promise to renounce the use of force". Resolving the Taiwan question and realizing China's complete reunification is, for the Party, a historic mission and an unshakable commitment, he said.

In analyzing the environment for the country's development, Xi said that China has entered a period of development in which strategic opportunities, risks and challenges are concurrent and uncertainties and unforeseen factors are rising.

Warning of various unpredictable dangerous events ("black swans") and foreseeable but unaddressed dangers ("gray rhi-



The 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China opens at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, on Sunday. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

nos") that may occur at any time, he urged Party members to be more mindful of potential dangers, be prepared to deal with worst-case scenarios, and be ready to "withstand high winds, choppy waters, and even dangerous storms".

He urged the whole Party to meet obstacles and difficulties head on, ensure both development and security, and prepare well to surmount difficulties and challenges on the road ahead.

The Party will take coordinated steps to ensure external and internal security, homeland and public security, traditional and nontraditional security, as well as its own security and common security with others, he said.

Speaking of China's development in the new era since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, Xi said that the past decade marked three major events of profound historical significance for the cause of the Party and the people.

"We embraced the centenary of the Communist Party of China; we ushered in a new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics; and we eradicated absolute poverty and finished building a moderately prosperous society in all respects," he said.

China has seen a historic rise in its economic strength in the past decade. Its GDP has grown from 54 trillion yuan (\$7.5 trillion) in 2012 to 114 trillion yuan in 2021, and the 2021 figure ac-

counts for 18.5 percent of the world economy, up 7.2 percentage points from 2012, Xi said.

The country continues to be the world's second-largest economy, ranks first in the world in terms of grain output, and its manufacturing sector is the largest in the world, as are its foreign exchange reserves, he said.

Xi also talked about China's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including its pursuing of the dynamic zero-COVID policy. He said that "we have protected the people's health and safety to the greatest extent possible and made tremendously encouraging achievements in both epidemic response and economic and social development".

"As we fully affirm the remarkable achievements we have made in the cause of the Party and the country, we must not lose sight of the shortcomings in our work and the many difficulties and problems confronting us," Xi said.

He set out a list of issues to be addressed in the coming years, including unbalanced and inadequate development nationwide, bottlenecks hindering high-quality development, and strengthening China's capacity for scientific and technological innovation, as well as major issues to be resolved in order to guard against financial risks and ensure that food, energy, and industrial and supply chains are secure and reliable.

Xinhua

US schools struggle to deal with hoax shootings

MORE and more US schools are confiscating guns from students and having to deal with calls falsely reporting school shootings.

The number of guns found on students in schools during the first two months of this school year has risen compared with the same time in the past two years, says the nonprofit group Gun Violence Archive, which monitors gun activity.

At least 220 guns were seized last month and in August in 35 states, compared with 128 at the same time last year. In the corresponding period in 2019, 132 guns were confiscated. The number of guns found in 2020 is likely to have been

lower because it was amid the pandemic, when classes were remote.

At least 15 guns were recovered from schools in Baltimore, Maryland, last year, said Sergeant Clyde Boatwright of the Baltimore City School Police Force. It was higher than in any recent year. This school year the department has recovered two guns. One was used when a high-school student was shot dead outside a school.

The increasing prevalence of guns comes with an increase in what has come to be known as swatting. This is a hoax in which someone calls emergency services and reports a nonexistent crime to get law enforcement officials, generally

a SWAT team, to go to an address.

On Wednesday many San Francisco Bay Area high schools received active shooter hoax calls, a day after police in Florida responded to swatting calls at several high schools.

Since early last month about 117 hoaxes have been reported at schools in 17 states and the District of Columbia, said the National Association of School Resource Officers, a nonprofit group for school-based law enforcement professionals.

"These false alarms are far from harmless," said Mo Canady, the associations' executive director. "They also divert limited public safety resources from other community needs and in-

crease anxiety among students and others."

The calls have been made mostly from high schools, but also middle and elementary schools, according to local news reports. Some of the calls are hard to trace because they are made from internet phone numbers, law enforcement experts said.

Rise in cases

In addition to school shooting hoaxes, the number of guns that were fired in schools, including a bullet hitting school property or being brandished during the day, nights or on weekends, rose this year, the nonprofit group K12

School Shooting Database said.

It found that there were 224 incidents, compared with 182 last year.

At least 43 people have died and 91 have been injured this year as a result of gun violence in schools, including the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, in May, said Everytown for Gun Safety, a group that tracks gun violence.

Since students have returned to school, many have experienced behavioral issues, teachers and school safety officers said. **Agencies**

Africa youth call for concrete climate actions ahead of COP27

KIGALI

AFRICAN youth are calling for concrete climate change actions ahead of the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change next month.

COP27 will take place in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from Nov. 6-18. In a resolution adopted at the closure of the YouthConnekt Africa summit in Kigali, Rwanda's capital, Saturday the youth said mobilizing finance for climate change is urgently needed as a requirement to many of the actions African countries need to take to address climate change.

COP27 should lay out concrete actions for assisting developing countries in getting climate finance required to boost climate actions, they suggested in the resolution, titled a call to action to global leaders. The resolution will be presented at the COP27 meeting.

Though developed countries had pledged nearly 100 billion U.S. dollars per year by 2020 for climate action in developing countries, this is yet to be fulfilled.

"At COP27 there should be concrete actions to initiate plans on how the funds will transform to ensure sustainability. Still, more innovative financing models and new financing instruments are needed," said Alodie Iradukunda, Rwanda National Youth Council coordinator while addressing the gathering.

The youth also called on COP27 to clarify the steps needed to address loss and damage. "There is an urgent need to secure a dedicated new financing facility that will help developing countries ravaged by climate-induced losses and damages.

More policy-making efforts should be channeled towards understanding and laying out an action plan for tackling loss and damages across vulnerable communities alongside mitigation and adaptation," Iradukunda said.

On youth-led green entrepreneurship, the summit called on Africa to prioritize and harness the power of youth innovative solutions as a tool for green and climate-resilient economic growth.

The role of young people in climate actions should not be underestimated as they are powerful catalysts in advancing climate actions, especially through green entrepreneurship, the youth said. The forum urged Africa to scale up adaptation. Climate change threatens the lives and livelihoods of more than 100 million people in extreme poverty.

The summit warned that with the low levels of adaptive capacity and lack of relevant information and high dependence on agro-eco systems livelihoods in Africa will be harshly affected due to climate change.

"Every problem begins with a climate change issue, that is why transforming our strategies and changing our behaviors to protect the planet and to help vulnerable people is the only way we all have to make Africa and the world a better place," said Juvenile Mugwa, a youth delegate from Cameroon.

Investments need to be made in early warning systems and infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather conditions, according to Iradukunda. "We need to develop plans and policies to deal with the effects of climate change.

Adaptation hence is key and critical to ensuring that



During Africa Climate Week, faith leaders held a side event Aug. 30 in Libreville, Gabon, where they devised key priorities and asks for leaders at the COP27 United Nations climate change conference that will take place in Egypt in November. File photo

Africa can continue to prosper in the face of climate change," she said. On energy transition for Africa, the youth called on COP27 to ensure sustainable energy access for Africa's 600 million people who still lack access to energy in Africa.

The summit also appealed to Africa to accelerate the drive toward climate-smart agriculture, noting that climate change undermines the continent's ability to feed its population, making it a top priority to address.

The meeting called for improved agriculture productivity to address the mounting food insecurity in the face of climate change.

On plastic pollution and waste management, the summit underlined the need to improve the management of waste, particularly plastic waste as it poses a serious threat to the continent affecting people's health.

It also urged more investment in waste

management through public-private partnerships or scaling up support to social entrepreneurship efforts that are addressing these issues. Africa's largest annual youth summit that connects youth from across the continent and beyond was organized under the theme "Accelerating Investments in Youth: Resilient Youth, Resilient Africa."

Roughly 10,000 young people and policymakers from more than 90 countries attended the event. Oulie Keita, the executive director of YouthConnekt Africa, commended the young people for showing enthusiasm in their participation and emphasized the need to put youth in the driver's seat.

"Young people have engaged with their leadership in shaping the narrative on Africa's development to ensure that Africa is portrayed for what it truly is -- a continent rich in talent, natural resources and resilience, Africa is indeed the future,"

Keita said.

"Throughout the sessions, attending youth felt a sense of empowerment after leaders and experts from various fields pledged their support to empower the youth to successfully undertake projects that can steer the continent's development."

Key issues discussed at the summit included the contribution of youth toward climate action, sustainable peace and security, cultural creative industry, sports, the economy as well as skilling for the digital economy. The summit spotlighted the digital economy as an important emerging sector promising to create jobs.

A continental initiative, YouthConnekt Africa has a mission to empower young people by enhancing their knowledge, experiences and skills while investing in their ideas, innovations and initiatives to harness Africa's demographic dividend.

Xinhua

Japan PM orders probe into Unification Church

TOKYO

JAPANESE Prime Minister Fumio Kishida yesterday instructed his culture minister to launch an investigation into the contentious Unification Church amid opposition pressure and slumping support for his Cabinet.

The investigation has been launched based on "the right to ask questions" under the Religious Corporations Act, with the probe marking the first time the government here has exercised the right.

The result of the probe could see the organization lose its status as a religious corporation and its tax benefits.

At a parliamentary session yesterday Kishida said he ordered the probe following more than 1,700 consultation requests received since early September through a telephone hotline service.

An advisory panel, meanwhile, has also urged the government to use the Religious Corporations Act to disband the group or launch an investigation before disbanding it.

The Unification Church, formally known as the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, has been under the spotlight for encouraging its followers to make exorbitant donations in the form of "spiritual sales" in return for "karmic benefits."

Following such donations, some followers have been left in financial ruin.

"The government has taken seriously the fact that there are a large number of victims as well as poverty and broken families, and they haven't been provided with adequate relief," Kishida said.

Pressure has been mounting on the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) headed by Kishida, amid slumping public support, to explain its connections to the organization after having previously promised to sever ties.

An internal probe by the LDP last month revealed about half of the LDP's lawmakers had ties with the controversial organization, often referred to as a cult.

Concern has been rife among opposition parties and the public that the controversial group may have been trying to influence politics here through links with LDP lawmakers.

Nutrition improvement programme for rural students in compulsory education benefits 350 million Chinese students

STUDENTS have grown taller and stronger since the nutrition improvement program for rural students in compulsory education was launched, said Li Ming, principal of an elementary school in Xiji county, Guyuan, northwest China's Ningxia Hui autonomous region.

The program offers students a nutritious and delicious lunch at school, and has put an end to the days when some students had to go back home kilometers away for lunch, the principal noted.

As of the end of 2021, the nutrition improvement program for rural students in compulsory education has benefited a total of 350 million students.

According to the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the average heights of male and female students in the regions where the program is implemented have increased 4.2 centimeters and 4.1 centimeters from 2012 to 2021, and the weight increases were 3.5 kilograms and 3.3 kilograms, respectively. These figures all outnumbered the average among all rural students across the country.

Only 2.5 percent of rural students in central and western China suffered delayed growth in 2021, 5.5 percentage points lower than the number in 2012, the center said.

Apart from the rising subsidizing standard and meal quality, the program also encourages schools in pilot areas to build better cafeterias. As of the end of 2021, 76 percent of the schools supplied food under the program to the students



All 245 students in Sanxi Primary School in Dianjiang county, southwest China's Chongqing municipality can have free lunch at school, thanks to the nutrition improvement program for rural students in compulsory education. (Photo by Sun Kaifang/People's Daily Online)

at school cafeterias, and the number was nearly 90 percent among schools in national-level pilot counties.

Improving work mechanisms and ensuring food safety are the top priorities. Qiubei county, Wenshan Zhuang and Miao autonomous prefecture, southwest China's Yunnan province, has launched a digital cafeteria management platform to provide better food to the students.

The platform is joined by the local education and sports bureau, schools and food suppliers. It monitors all procedures, including the verification of suppliers' certificates, purchasing, food safety and financial management.

Today, local authorities in Yunnan province are working to build whole-process online monitoring and management

systems, employing electronic scales, facial recognition, pesticide residue monitoring devices, the Internet of Things and big data, for more targeted management of the nutrition improvement program.

Science popularization activities have been launched across China over recent years to improve the public's knowledge of nutritional science and guide teachers and students to develop science-based dietary habits.

By launching training courses on the nutrition improvement programme and developing an electronic dietitian system, the Ministry of Education and the National Health Commission have effectively improved primary-level personnel's capability in making nutrition diets.

The nutrition improvement

program for rural students in compulsory education has been applauded by the international community. According to a survey launched by the World Food Programme in 169 countries, China is one of the few countries in the world that provides nutritional meals for both middle school and primary school students, and ranks among the best in terms of supply volume.

The nutrition improvement program has played a significant role in promoting educational fairness, advancing poverty reduction and implementing the rural vitalization strategy, and has laid a solid foundation for improving Chinese people's health, strengthening education and advancing the Healthy China Initiative.

People's Daily

Mayor announces conclusion of partial mobilization in Moscow

MOSCOW

THE goals of the partial mobilization in Moscow have been achieved in full and reservists' visits to military offices on call-up notices are no longer required, Moscow Mayor Sergey Sobyanyin said yesterday.

"According to the information of the Moscow military commissar, the goals of the partial mobilization set pursuant to a presidential decree and mandated by the Defense Ministry have been achieved in full," the mayor wrote on his blog.

Partial mobilization call-up offices are closing at 2:00 p.m. on October 17, Sobyanyin added.

"The call-up notices sent out in the process of mobilization to the places of citizens' residence and businesses cease to be in effect," the Moscow mayor stressed.

Russian President Vladimir Putin earlier said that 222,000 reservists out of the planned figure of 300,000 had already been called up in the partial mobilization campaign in Russia and the remaining personnel would be mobilized in the next two weeks.

Russia's partial mobilization

On September 21, President Putin declared a partial mobilization in Russia. Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu clarified that 300,000 reservists primarily with combat experience would be called up, who would undergo training before being sent to the special military operation zone.

The partial mobilization would not involve students and conscripts and some other categories of citizens, including the workforce of the country's defense enterprises. The staff of IT companies, communications operators and the media would also get a deferment from the partial mobilization if they worked in their specialty full time. In addition, as the Russian General Staff explained, privates and sergeants in reserve under 35 years of age, junior officers under 50 and senior officers under 55 in reserve were subject to the call-up.



SPORT



Puerto Rico's boxer, Miguel Cotto.

Top 10 Middleweight boxers who were stripped of titles -2

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari & Agencies

Miguel Cotto

Puerto Rico's Miguel Cotto won the WBC Middleweight title by beating Sergio Martinez in June of 2014 and held it until November 2015 when he was stripped.

The 36-year-old Cotto is currently 40-5 with 33 KOs and is a five-time world champion and the first Puerto Rican to win world championships in four different weight divisions.

He was a fine amateur and competed at the 2000 Olympics before turning pro in 2001.

Cotto had already won a junior welterweight, welterweight, and Junior Middleweight title by the time he challenged Martinez for the WBC and Lineal Middleweight championships.

The fighter had already taken on the likes of Antonio Margarito, Austin Trout, Shane Mosley, Zab Judah, Ricardo Mayorga, Floyd Mayweather Jr., and Manny Pacquiao.

The Puerto Rican was stripped of the WBC title when the organization said he did not follow their rules leading up to his loss to Canelo Alvarez in November 2015. However, Cotto said it was because he would not pay their excessive sanctioning fees.

Cotto also lost the Lineal title against Alvarez and is scheduled to meet Yoshihiro Kamegai on August 26 for the vacant WBO Junior Middleweight title.

Saul 'Canelo' Alvarez

If a boxing follower has been following the list he/she will see that Mexico's Saul 'Canelo' Alvarez won the WBC Middleweight championship when Miguel Cotto was stripped of it and Alvarez beat Cotto in November 2014.

The 26-year-old Alvarez is a two-division world champion as he also held Junior Middleweight titles on two occasions. He was also the Lineal Middleweight champion from late 2015 to 2017.

Alvarez, currently ranked as one of the best pound-for-pound boxers in the world, is 49-1-1 with 34 KOs. His lone defeat came in a fight against Floyd Mayweather Jr. by a majority decision in 2013.

In May 2016 Alvarez was stripped of the WBC title when the organization told him he would lose it if he did not meet mandatory challenger Gennady Golovkin.

Alvarez was given the option of either relinquishing the title or being stripped of it, so basically he left it on the table.

Ironically, 16 months later Alvarez and Golovkin were bound to take on each other on September 16 in a Middleweight title bout.

Marvin Hagler

Southpaw Marvelous Marvin Hagler took on greats such as Roberto Duran, Tommy Hearns, and Sugar Ray Leonard and went 62-3-2 in his career from 1973 to 1987 with 52 KOs.

Hagler was born in Newark, New Jersey, and was the undisputed Middleweight king between 1980 and 1987 with 12 successful title defenses and a knockout ratio of 78 percent.

He was one of the longest-reigning Middleweight winners due to his granite chin and punching power. Hagler won the WBA, WBC, and Lineal titles by stopping Alan Minter in the third round in 1980.

He added the vacant IBF title in 1983 by beating Wilfred Scypion. Hagler was suddenly stripped of the WBC title in October 1984 after beating Mustafa Hamsho by a third-round TKO.

The WBC said he was stripped because his fight with Hamsho was scheduled for 15 rounds instead of 12.

However, they quickly reinstated Hagler as champion after the public outcry. Hagler lost by controversial split decision a month later and never fought again.

Carlos Monzon

In many boxing experts' eyes, Carlos Monzon of Argentina was the best Middleweight that ever lived.

The rugged Monzon fought between 1963 and 1977 with a record of 87-3-9 with 59 KOs and one no-contest in 100 bouts.

He won the WBA, WBC, and Lineal titles in November 1970 with a stoppage over Nino Benvenuti. He defended his titles 14 times during his reign of seven years.

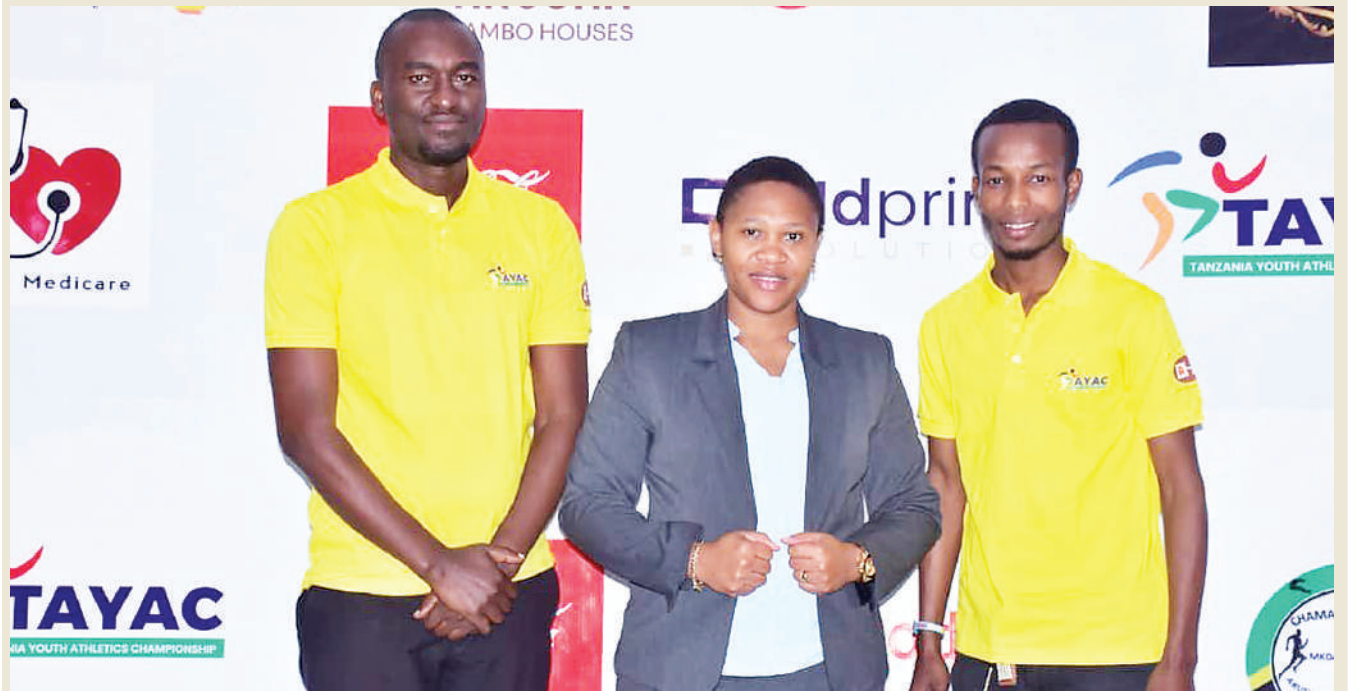
The WBC stripped the pugilist boasting of Hall of Fame status in 1975 though when Monzon would not defend the title against Rodrigo Valdez of Colombia.

Monzon would eventually meet Valdez the next year and beat him by a 15-round unanimous decision to regain the WBC title.

The two then faced off in a rematch 13 months later in July 1977 with the fight ending in the same result in Monzon's final career bout.

Over a decade later Monzon was found guilty of killing his wife and died in a 1995 car accident while on a weekend leave from prison.

Arusha youngsters triumph in 2022 Junior Athletics Championship



Some members of this year's Junior Athletics Championship's Organizing Committee pictured during the unveiling of the showdown in Arusha last weekend. Tanzania Youth Athletics Championship (TAYAC) hosts the annual showdown. They are (L-R) TAYAC coordinator Deogratius Mark, one of TAYAC directors Juliana Mwamsuva, and TAYAC information officer Valentine Kasimiri. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA YOUTH ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ARUSHA's athletes emerged as winners of the just-ended Junior Athletics Championship which was held at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in the region last weekend.

The maiden showdown was organized by Tanzania Youth Athletics Championship (TAYAC) and attracted more than 300 junior athletes from across Tanzania and others from India, Turkey, Germany, and other countries.

Rogath Stephen, Arusha Regional Athletics Association's Secretary-General, stated the event was initially slated for two days but it was only held for a day due to what he described as professional handling by the organizers.

He said Arusha won 23 medals while Manyara won 15 medals to finish second, and Kilimanjaro took third place having collected 12 medals.

He attributed his region's success to such schools as St. Jude, St. Patrick's, and Jeffrey which have serious and well-organized athletics academies.

"I'm happy that our junior athletes won this maiden Junior Athletics Championship, the future of Arusha and the country in athletics is very bright, our region has many international schools which have serious athletics programs," he said.

Arusha City Mayor Maxmillian Matle was the guest of honour in the showdown's closing ceremony and pledged his office's continued support to the development of athletics in the region and the country at large.

"I'm asking organizers of the Junior Athletics Championship to involve us, this is a very good development and my office is ready to offer its support," Matle pointed out.

"We hope next time you will involve us so that we can make the event more attractive and competitive," Matle added in a monitored radio interview.

On Friday, Tanzania's athletics legend

Suleiman Nyambui stressed the need for the country to have more junior athletics events for it to realize its dream of having many top athletes.

Nyambui, also former Athletics Tanzania (AT) Secretary-General and Brunei's national athletics team head coach said all countries which are doing well in athletics invest in junior events.

"The best way for the country to produce top athletes who can compete in both local and international events and bring home medals is to start from the grassroots, we must organize many tournaments for the youths, the tournaments will help the juniors gain experience and exposure," he said.

Nyambui that also took charge of the national athletics team which took part in the 2022 Commonwealth Games in England issued his appeal when TAYAC officially unveiled the maiden Junior Athletics Championship.

Sponsors of the championship include Vodacom Tanzania, Moyo Medicare Specialist Clinic, Bonite Bottlers, Arusha Jambo Houses, HD Printing Solutions, Bonds Security Co Ltd, Radio 5 FM, Supreme Auto Upgrade, and Arusha Regional Athletics Association.

In the past three years, the championship has been organized by Tanzania Youth Athletics Championship (TAYAC) with emphasis on athletes falling into the age category of 6-14 years but, this time around, the organizers disclosed they thought it wise to have the event targeting 15-20 years category.

Juliana Mwamsuva, one of TAYAC's directors, said the organization deals with hosting sports competitions in track and field at both local and regional levels.

She revealed that it, in the past three years, had been organizing athletics events for junior athletes aged between six to 14.

According to Juliana, most of the athletes that battled it out in the showpiece in the past three years are now mature, so last weekend's showdown aimed to welcome them to another age group, as the organizers do not want to leave the youngsters behind.

She pointed out that the organization believes that talented athletes should be nurtured at a tender age and the Junior Championship is a better platform for transition.

Juliana revealed: "TAYAC also aims to see that many junior athletes are graduating to the senior team so that they can represent the country in both local and international events."

"We always make follow up on talented athletes and offer some athletic coaching lessons, it pleased us to see

that some of the athletes who have been competing in our events were selected to represent Arusha in the last year's National Athletics Championships held in Arusha, we hope that this year many of our athletes will make it in their regional teams," Juliana disclosed in the previous interview.

She said TAYAC programs focus on promoting youths' participation in sports, health development in youths, and increasing youths' access to health care.

TAYAC, Juliana moreover stated, also creates a marketplace for young athletes by introducing training sessions under the supervision of international coaches and clubs.

Th TAYAC director pointed out: "We provide the youths community with an opportunity to a continuous athletics professional training, we expose youths' hidden talents to quality fields, coaching, and standard competitions, then they participate in sports competitions, be recognized, and awarded for their talents."

"Our programs are also aimed at reducing of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) as chances of cardiovascular, respiratory, diabetes, and cancer are reduced," she said.

Azam FC's CAF Confederation Cup motto was easier said than done

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

WHILE playing away in Benghazi, Libya Tanzania's Azam FC was beaten 3-0 by Al Akhdar SC, putting themselves in danger of qualifying for the next round of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup.

Azam FC fans and Tanzanians, in general, were consequently afraid that the club could hardly change the results in the rematch.

The outfit announced to do what was termed 'Remontanda', a Spanish word meaning either turn tables or overturn the results.

Azam FC had what it takes to turn the tables in the rematch held at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Much as the Tanzanian side won 2-0 the squad was knocked out considering the Libyans notched a 3-2 aggregate win.

The squad would have overturned the results and progressed to the playoffs if it approached the rematch with high intensity and carefulness throughout.

The squad was first required to correct the simple technical mistakes made by the technical bench in the first leg held in Benghazi.

In the first game, Azam FC head coach Denis Lavagne had, despite his experience in African inter-club competitions, no respect for the opponent.

Knowing that he was missing his important players like Malickou Ndoye and Daniel Amoah in the defense, he fielded two midfielders while using two attackers.

Lavagne should have been more defensive by keeping three midfielders to control the middle of the field where the plans for victory take place.

Starting with two attackers reduces the balance in an outfit and the side, consequently, looks sloppy, and the opponent attacks easily.

The decision by the head coach to leave Ivorian Kipre

SPORTS

Junior out and start with youthful defender Pascal Msindo on the left wing is another insult.

A match like that is not an opportunity to test the players, a gaffer should use the best players he has.

Such mistakes were as well made by Lavagne in Azam FC's top-flight game against Tanzania Prisons at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya.

He used Tepsie Evance as number 10 and left Abdulhamis Suleiman who is very good in that role. Mistakes like these cannot make a squad successful in a continental showdown.

Since coming to Africa for the first time in 2007, Lavagne has taken charge of clubs in 88 CAF competitions at the club level, reaching the final of the 2008 CAF Champions League and the 2020 CAF Confederation Cup.

That is a great experience that could have been sufficient to make him respect Al Akhdar, but he did not.

For 'Remontanda' to be possible, Azam FC needed to avoid such simple mistakes.

Fielding players in respective positions, Suleiman is fielded as either number 10 or attacking midfielder behind attacker Prince Dube.

Kipre Junior ought to have been fielded as a winger, and either Ayoub Lyanga or Evance taking the other wing. Lusajo Mwaikenda ought to be played as a right full-back, while Bruce Kangwa plays as the left full-back.

Chances for Mwaikenda to make the squad for the match depended on the recovery of either Amoah or Ndoye.

A midfield consisting of Sospeter Bajana and Issa Ndala which has proven to be solid can do easy tasks because the majority of the mentioned players have turned out for Azam FC this season.

Football has been full of surprises in recent years. 'Remontanda' was possible but Lavagne was supposed to be respectful to opponents.

Champions Wydad make statement by crushing Rivers Utd

CAIRO

CAPTAIN Yahya Jabrane and Bouly Sambou scored twice each as title-holders Wydad Casablanca crushed Rivers United of Nigeria 6-0 on Sunday in a CAF Champions League qualifier.

The unexpectedly large winning margin earned the three-time African champions a 72 aggregate victory after losing narrowly in Port Harcourt last weekend.

Besides Jabrane and Senegalese Sambou, Ayoub el Amoud and Hamid Ahadad also scored for Wydad in a performance that will strike fear into many of their Champions League rivals.

Wydad overwhelmed Rivers following setbacks on and off the field – losing the CAF Super Cup match to fellow Moroccans Renaissance Berkane after coach Walid Regragui quit.

Regragui later replaced Bosnian Vahid Halilhodzic as coach of World Cup-bound Morocco, who will face Belgium, Croatia and Canada at the group stage in Qatar.

The last 32 second leg thrashing of Rivers came as a huge relief to new coach Houcine Ammouta, who had come under fire after losing to Berkane and failing in Nigeria.

Wydad are among 16 clubs who have secured group places, and a draw in Cairo on a date to be announced will split the survivors into four groups with the first matches during February.

Elsewhere, Horoya of Guinea equalised in added time to draw 1-1 with ASEC Mimosas of the Ivory Coast in a big west African showdown in Nongo near Conakry and advanced 2-1 on aggregate.

- Drama as Horoya qualify -

Aubin Kramo scored midway through the second half for ASEC to bring the clubs level overall and a penalty shootout was looming until Mohamed Fofana nodded a cross into the far corner.

The outcome confirmed Horoya as the most successful club in the region having booked a fifth group appearance in six seasons.

In another eagerly anticipated regional clash, Al Hilal of Sudan edged Young Africans of Tanzania 1-0 in Omdurman to join compatriots Al Merrikh among the 16 title contenders.

Captain and star forward Mohamed Abdelrahman netted after just three minutes to earn twice runners-up Hilal a 2-1 aggregate victory.

The other major Tanzanian club, Simba, did succeed, beating Primeiro Agosto of Angola 1-0 in Dar es Salaam after establishing a 3-1 first-leg lead.

Zambian Moses Phiri scored the lone second-leg goal to lift his Champions League tally this season to five, two less than chart-topper Fiston Meyele from Young Africans.

Coton Sport of Cameroon also qualified thanks to a 2-1 win over Royal Leopard of Eswatini in Garoua through goals from Souaibou Marou and Patient Wassou.

In a delayed first leg, former champions V Club from the Democratic Republic of Congo drew 0-0 away to preliminary round giant-killers Rail Kadiogo of Burkina Faso.

Kadiogo had to host the match in the Benin city of Cotonou because there is no international-standard stadium in their homeland.

Meanwhile, Ahmed Khalil scored twice as former African champions Club Africain of Tunisia trounced Kipanga of Zanzibar 7-0 on Sunday to reach the CAF Confederation Cup play-offs.

Liverpool and Man City bitter rivalry boils over at Anfield

LIVERPOOL, England

MANCHESTER City manager Pep Guardiola said Liverpool fans needed to improve their aim after coins were allegedly thrown at him – and missed – during his team's 1-0 defeat at Anfield on Sunday.

Liverpool, meanwhile, said City fans must behave better.

"We are deeply disappointed to hear vile chants relating to football stadium tragedies from the away section during today's game at Anfield," Liverpool said in a statement after the Premier League game. "The concourse in the away section was also vandalized with graffiti of a similar nature."

It is not the first time the rivalry between English soccer's most dominant teams of recent years has turned bitter.

In 2018, City's team bus was attacked by Liverpool supporters ahead of a Champions League quarterfinal match at the same stadium. And the wounds clearly run deep for Guardiola, who joined City in 2016.

The flash point Sunday came after Phil Foden's second-half goal was ruled out when VAR invited referee Anthony Taylor to review the pitch-side monitor and he spotted a foul on Fabinho in the buildup.

The City manager angrily remonstrated with the crowd, wildly gesticulating before he claims coins were thrown in his direction.

"Next time they will do it better," he said. "They didn't get me. They try it again next year."

"All these coins, they tried, but didn't get it. They got the coach years ago."

Liverpool said it would investigate the alleged incident and that any fan found guilty of throwing coins faced a lifetime ban from Anfield.

Liverpool was fined just under \$20,000 for incidents around the Champions League match four years ago, which included such severe damage to City's team bus that a replacement was required to get the players back to Manchester.



Manchester City's Erling Haaland, front, duels for the ball with Liverpool's Virgil van Dijk during the English Premier League soccer match between Liverpool and Manchester City at Anfield stadium in Liverpool, Sunday, Oct. 16, 2022. (AP Photo)

The rivalry on the field has grown increasingly fierce due to the quality of both teams in recent seasons.

And that was in evidence in this latest installment, even on the back of Liverpool enduring such a difficult start to the campaign that City went into the match 13 points ahead of last season's runner-up.

Jürgen Klopp was sent off after furiously racing out of his technical area to complain about a late decision, for which the Liverpool manager later apologized.

"It is about emotion of course so (it was a) red card," Klopp said. "My fault. I went over the top in the moment. I know myself, I am 55 and I deserve a red card."

Klopp also apologized to Guardiola for the alleged coin throwing.

"Horrible," he said. "I am sorry. It never should happen."

While that incident threatened to overshadow the result, this was an occasion when Liverpool showed it potentially remains a major threat to City.

Mohamed Salah's 76th-minute goal was the difference but the home team had the better chances in an engrossing encounter.

Salah was denied by Ederson when one-on-one with the City

goalkeeper in the second half, while substitute Darwin Núñez missed a golden opportunity late on to extend the lead.

Arsenal was arguably the biggest winner on the day, moving four points clear at the top of the Premier League.

ARSENAL POWERS AHEAD

Arsenal increasingly looks like a genuine title contender after a battling 1-0 win at Leeds in a game that was delayed for 40 minutes after an electrical fault at Elland Road led to the players coming off just two minutes in.

Bukayo Saka's first-half strike made it nine wins out of 10 for Mikel Arteta's team, but Patrick Bamford missed a penalty and Leeds had another spot-kick decision overturned in stoppage time.

"We expected some very hectic and chaotic moments," Arteta said. "The way they play and the atmosphere that this produces in this stadium. I'm really pleased we managed to handle it."

The game had been delayed shortly after kickoff when the referee and his officials lost contact with VAR and goal-line technology due to a power cut.

TEN HAG AVOIDS REF ROW

Erik ten Hag refused to engage in a public war of words with referee Craig Pawson after drawing for the first time as Manchester United manager.

Cristiano Ronaldo saw two efforts ruled out in the 0-0 draw at Old Trafford against Newcastle, while a penalty appeal was dismissed when Sean Longstaff challenged Jadon Sancho.

"Everyone has seen the game," Ten Hag told reporters. "It's your job to judge the performance from the teams and from the refs not me, so I will not do it."

PRESSURE MOUNTS ON HASENHUTTL

Ralph Hasenhuttl remains under pressure at Southampton after Declan Rice's strike denied him a much-needed win. Romain Perraud fired the Saints in front after a run of four straight defeats in the league but Rice equalized in the second half as Hasenhuttl had to settle for a 1-1 draw.

"I think everybody put everything in to fight for this point," the Southampton manager said. "It's not been lack of effort, more showing a lack of quality. It is a challenge to bring that back on the pitch."

KEPA KEEPS CHELSEA RUN GOING

Chelsea manager Graham Potter praised Kepa Arrizabalaga after a string of saves from the goalkeeper extended his team's winning run.

The Spaniard, who has been reinstated as No. 1 under Potter, was outstanding in the 2-0 victory at Aston Villa, which saw Mason Mount score twice.

It is now five straight wins in all competitions for Potter's team.

"Aston Villa made us suffer, certainly in the first half," Potter said. "We lost our way a little bit and we needed Kepa to make some fantastic saves."

"He is contributing to us with clean sheets, how we are trying to play and the environment around the place. Kepa found a fantastic level, he made brilliant saves which kept us in the game."

AP

Mbappe insists he 'never asked to leave' as PSG beat Marseille

PARIS

KYLIAN Mbappe insisted Sunday he has "never asked to leave" Paris Saint-Germain despite widespread reports last week that he would seek a move away from the Qatar-owned club as soon as possible.

The 23-year-old France superstar was speaking in the wake of PSG's 1-0 win over Marseille, in which he set up Neymar for the only goal as his side moved three points clear at the top of Ligue 1.

"I am very happy. I have never asked to leave in January," he said while insisting that he was not "implicated directly or indirectly" in the rumours about his future.

The story emerged on Tuesday, hours before PSG's 1-1 Champions League draw with Benfica in which he scored.

"I didn't understand why the story came out on the day of a game. I was as shocked as everyone," Mbappe claimed.

"People can think I was involved but I wasn't at all."

Several sources assure that the noise about Mbappe wanting to leave PSG – despite only signing a new three-year contract in May after lengthy negotiations – came from the entourage of the player himself.

Mbappe has openly admitted that he has not enjoyed his position in the Paris attack this season, saying he plays with "more freedom" when on international duty.

But he insisted that there was no truth that he wanted to leave Paris, saying: "It is completely false. I am very happy."

Neymar's goal against Marseille came in first-half stoppage time as PSG beat their bitter rivals at the Parc des Princes to maintain their unbeaten start to the season.

The game also featured a red card for Marseille defender Samuel Gigot, who was dismissed in the second half for scything down Neymar.

It was a welcome return to winning ways for PSG after three straight draws and a week overshadowed by the doubts about Mbappe's future.

PSG are three points clear of surprise package Lorient, who drew 0-0 on Saturday with Reims.

Lens are five points behind the leaders in third, with Marseille another point adrift now in fourth.

- 'Big characters' -

Mbappe lined up for the Parisians alongside Neymar and the returning Lionel Messi in attack and was twice denied by fine Pau Lopez saves in the first half.

"He created lots of chances. He was in his favourite position most of the time. He just lacked a bit of luck and came up against a good goalkeeper," coach Christophe Galtier told broadcaster Amazon Prime.

"Obviously I have understood Kylian and that he wants to be in his favourite position," said Galtier, who switched from a back three to a back four against Marseille.

"That is also why we tried to play with a different system, but believe me when I say everything is fine in the dressing room."

"I have players with big characters but they are great professionals."

Messi hit the underside of the crossbar from a first-half free-kick for PSG, who lost Danilo Pereira to injury in the first half.

Marseille, who beat Sporting Lisbon in the Champions League in midweek, were a threat when they got forward but could not find a response to Neymar's goal.

AFP

“

He created lots of chances. He was in his favourite position most of the time. He just lacked a bit of luck and came up against a good goalkeeper," coach Christophe Galtier told broadcaster Amazon Prime.

Lesson learned for Ancelotti as Real Madrid beats Barcelona

MADRID

CARLO Ancelotti learned his lesson, and Real Madrid won the "clásico" on Sunday.

After an embarrassing 4-0 loss at home to Barcelona last season, the Madrid coach made sure he didn't try anything different with his team this time as Madrid won 3-1 to take the lead of the Spanish league.

It also handed Barcelona another painful blow four days after the Catalan club's hopes of advancing in the Champions League all but ended.

Ancelotti had used midfielder Luka Modric in the "false nine" position in attack last season and Barcelona took advantage to rout Madrid at the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium.

"I thought about what happened last season, when I tried something different," Ancelotti said. "For this match, I didn't try to come up with anything, I left the players in their positions and Modric played a spectacular match in midfield."

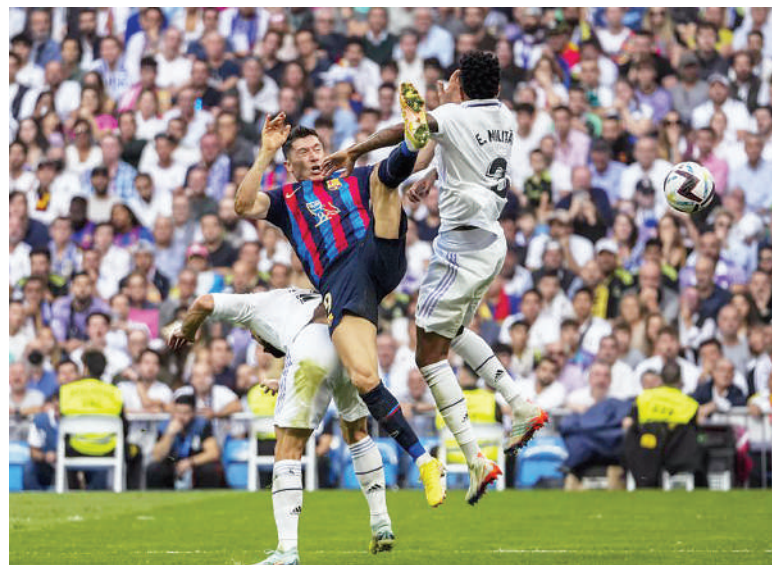
Karim Benzema and Federico Valverde scored first-half goals, and Rodrygo added another in second-half stoppage time as the defending champions won the first "clásico" of the season to move three points ahead of Barcelona in the league standings. The rivals had entered the match tied on points, with Barcelona ahead on goal difference.

It was Madrid's sixth win in the last seven "clásicos," with the only setback the 4-0 result the last time the teams met at the Bernabéu.

Sunday's defeat was another frustrating setback for Barcelona after it was held 3-3 by Inter Milan at home on Wednesday to be virtually eliminated from the Champions League with two rounds left in its group stage.

"We had our chances, but we are going through a bad moment and nothing goes our way," Barcelona coach Xavi Hernández said. "We need to change this dynamic as soon as possible."

Barcelona didn't advance to the knockout stage of the Champions



Barcelona's Robert Lewandowski, center, duels for the ball with Real Madrid's Dani Carvajal, left, and Real Madrid's Eder Militao, right, during La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and FC Barcelona in Madrid, Spain, Sunday, Oct. 16, 2022. (AP Photo)

League last season, its first without Lionel Messi, but elimination this time would be extra disappointing considering the club went on a spending spree to boost its squad with players such as Roberto Lewandowski and Raphinha.

Lewandowski, the league's leading scorer, wasted his greatest chance in the first half, missing high from near the goal line.

Barcelona dominated possession and created scoring chances, but it was Madrid that capitalized on its opportunities and took advantage of Barcelona's defensive struggles.

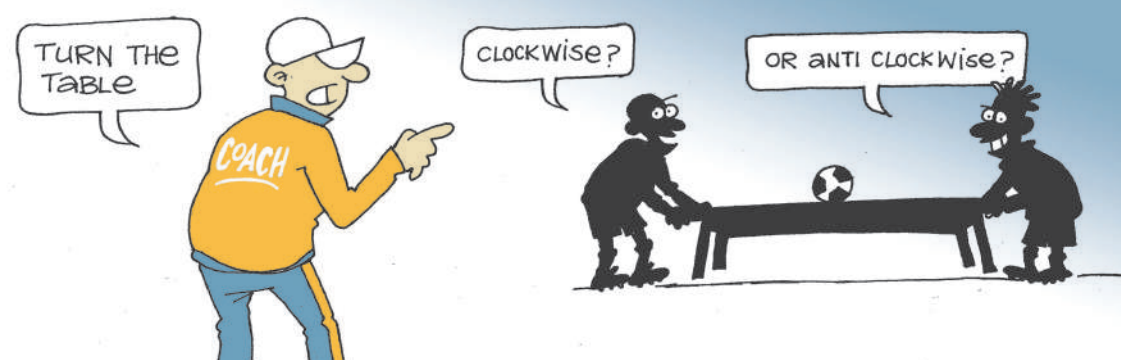
"We knew how to suffer when they controlled possession, but we were effective up front and scored the three goals," Modric said.

Benzema opened the scoring in the 12th minute with a shot from inside the area, off the rebound from a save by goalkeeper Marc-André ter Stegen in a one-on-one situation with Vinícius Júnior. It was Benzema's first goal in six matches. He also had a goal disallowed for offside in the second half.

Valverde added to the lead with a low shot from just outside the area in the 35th, with Ferran Torres getting a goal back for the visitors in the 83rd.

Substitute Rodrygo sealed the victory for Madrid by converting a penalty kick in stoppage time after being brought down inside the area.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Liverpool and Man City bitter rivalry boils over at Anfield

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Dar es Salaam's St. Mary's Mbezi Beach Secondary School students showcase various outfits to parents and guardians who attended the school's Form Four graduation ceremony which took place at the school's premises last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MWEN-DAPOLE

Dar life serving, diving course attracts 130 attendants

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MORE than 130 people are expected to attend a 22-day water calamity life serving and diving skills course organized by Agness Swimming Foundation (ASF).

Agness Kimimba, ASF Director, said the course is expected to take place in January next year with the dates to be announced later.

She said the targeted participants are mothers, young people, and children as these people are the main victims of water calamities.

According to her, the course will also be used to identify new swimmers who will master diving and life-serving skills. Agness said registration for the course will start soon.

"We will have a dive and life serving course in January next year, this will be the biggest course and it will take more days, we want to impart diving and life serving skills to mothers, young people, and children," she said.

Agness said the course is in line with the foundation's missions of dedicating itself to nurturing and advancement of hidden skills, training the community on general water skills and lifesaving skills that will enable trainees to either rescue or survive water dangers.

The ASF is one of the leading agencies which promote life serving, swimming, and hosts diving courses.

Other ASF's aims are educating the community and bringing awareness of life-saving skills.

Conducting regular swimming events for different categories and acting as legal representatives for professional sports figures such as athletes and coaches moreover are some of the foundation's activities.

It moreover gears towards having and negotiating employment and endorsement contracts for the athletes, coaches, or any other professional figures in water sports industry activities.

The ASF as well offers young boys and girls the opportunity to be inventive and creative in water sports activities.

It moreover participates in designing water sports or activities including publicizing, promoting, and organizing events, providing an outlet for advanced participation and competition in water sports.

The foundation as well deals with all aspects of the swimming industry client's finances from investments to all aspects of financial management and identifies barriers and challenges to water sports promotion in various communities.



Agness Kimimba, Director of Agness Swimming Foundation (ASF) set to organize a life-serving and diving course slated for January next year. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AGNESS KIMIMBA

Mwambusi happy with Ihefu SC's first Premier League win



Ihefu SC's players participate in a warm-up session before participating in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League clash against Dodoma Jiji FC that took place at Highland Estates Stadium, Mbarali in Mbeya last Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF IHEFU SC

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MBEYA's Ihefu SC head coach Juma Mwambusi has described his side's first victory in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League as a morale boost and motivation for it to hunt for more wins.

Ihefu SC commanded a 2-0 win over Dodoma Jiji FC at Highland Estates Stadium last Sunday to bring the Mbeya club's string of less convincing results to a halt.

The Mbeya club which had been winless in six NBC Premier League games successfully banished the less convincing performance that had been tormenting the club in the past six games with the victory in front of its supporters at Highland Estates Stadium in Mbarali.

"Earning our first win was our most desired mission to regain

our confidence, before today's victory we were playing under pressure but now we are a bit relaxed as we plan our next match," the veteran coach pointed out.

Ihefu SC goals on Sunday were scored by goal-getters Jaffary Salum and Obrey Chirwa and have taken the Mbeya-based side to 15th position in the 16-team league.

The Sunday win by Ihefu SC has now left Polisi Tanzania as the only NBC Premier League outfit to have not tested a win this season.

Ihefu SC will now play crucial three away NBC Premier League games against Singida Big Stars, Azam FC, and Simba SC.

Before the Sunday encounter, Ihefu SC settled for a draw in two games, a 1-1 draw with Mbeya City FC, and garnered the same results when it took on Tanzania Prisons and lost three games-

1-0 defeat to Namungo FC, 3-1 defeat to

Mtibwa Sugar, and 2-1 loss in the hands of KMC FC. The Sunday game was the first for Dodoma Jiji FC's American gaffer Melis Medo that has replaced Burundian Masoud Djuma that was shown the exit door.

After the game, Medo noted that he has work to do. "The players are good and are doing all we can to win the games, as a new coach, I have a job to do but I'm confident that with support from all team stakeholders we can achieve our goals," he noted.

Dodoma Jiji FC will next week host Mtibwa Sugar and then play two away games against Polisi Tanzania and Coastal Union.

Before the Sunday defeat to Ihefu SC, Dodoma Jiji FC had won 1-0 against Geita Gold FC, recorded two goalless draws with Singida Big Stars and Kagera Sugar, as well as conceded a 3-0 defeat to Simba SC and 1-0 loss to Tanzania Prisons.

Polisi Tanzania set to decide coaches' fate

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THIS season's NBC Premier League struggling outfit, Polisi Tanzania, says the fate of the side's technical panel will be known before the squad's next game against Namungo FC slated for tomorrow.

Polisi Tanzania's vice-chairman Robert Munisi said the management of the club did not give the technical panel members ultimatum to save their jobs but rather said they have assigned one of the club committees to investigate the reasons for the team's poor performance in the league.

He said the main aim of the investigations is to come up with measures that will halt the club's free fall.

"The top leadership of the club will act according to recommendations of the committee," he said.

Polisi Tanzania anchors the 16-team NBC Premier League's standing with only two points from seven games.

He said Police are a big institution that cannot rush at making decisions and the investigation will not spare any person found to be behind the team's poor form.

Munisi noted: "There is a lot of pressure from all angles including the management, Polisi Tanzania FC is sponsored by the Police force, and we have competent investigators who are in various committees of the club."

"The committees have been assigned to find the root cause of our team's poor performance in the league," the leader added.

Munisi disclosed: "If their findings will point at us that we are behind the poor form of the team, we will step down to pave way for other competent people to run the affairs of the club, as is the case with the technical panel."

"Inspector General of Police (IGP) Camillus Wambura always reminds us that if we feel that we are not fit for that role, we should hand chance to others to take over," he said.

One of the members of the technical committee of the club who pleaded for anonymity said pressure is high among the technical panel members.

"We are indeed going through a bad spell but what surprises us the most is that the players play spiritedly in training and during matches but the results are not coming the way we desired," the leader revealed.

"The pressure among us is high and we all hardly know what will happen between now (Monday) to Wednesday, we are just keeping our figures crossed so that better things may come," he said.

Polisi Tanzania coached by Burundian Joslin Shariff Bipfubusa started this season with a 2-1 loss to Premier League defending champions Yanga, then draw 2-2 with KM FC.

The Kilimanjaro-based squad notched a goalless draw with Coastal Union, lost 1-0 to Ruvo Shooting, conceded a 2-1 loss to Geita Gold FC, thereafter went down 2-0 to Kagera Sugar and suffered a 3-1 loss to Mbeya City FC.

After tomorrow's encounter with Namungo FC, some of Polisi Tanzania's fixtures include playing away to Prisons, then host Dodoma Jiji FC and Singida Big Stars before taking part in away clashes against Ihefu SC, Mtibwa Sugar, and Simba SC.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



TO NIGHT @ 9:00

EATV WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 Mpera Mpera
13:00 MIAJALA (I)
13:30 Kili Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SHELKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hits
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (I)
21:30 Mji Werek Movie
22:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 KURASA
23:05 EATV SAA 1

eastafrica 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

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