



EDUCATION



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The CCM chairperson, President Samia Suluhu Hassan presents a drawing of Mt Kilimanjaro to Saharawi President Brahim Ghali as a gift shortly after their talks at the Jakaya Kikwete Conference Hall precincts in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

Samia: CCM has to restore popular trust

●Kikwete discounts anyone else picking forms to contest in 2025

By Guardian Reporters

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has tasked the ruling party leadership countrywide to work to restore the image of the party, as in the past people used to go to CCM offices to seek help when they felt they were being oppressed, unlike at present. In a wide ranging speech to close the two days' general meeting and electoral conference of CCM, the party chairperson said pointedly that people no longer see the ruling party as their saviour. Taking a look at issues of implementation of the CCM election manifesto, she said that the government at all levels must pay attention to the party leadership as they are implementing the party's promises to the

people in the last general election. The way the party held its elections this year is a clear indication of enhanced democracy, as the number of contestants was the highest at all levels, the party leader observed. Urging party members to bury their differences and prepare for the next general election, she said that the elections have proved that the party is owned by the people, not some veterans of leadership. Retired chairman and fourth phase president Jakaya Kikwete told the conference delegate that rumours of emerging challenges to President Samia for the 2025 election are just wild talk. Echoing the sentiments of retired leaders including former secretary general and a long

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Tourist arrivals surpass 1m, with more expected in festive season

By Guardian Reporter

THE number of tourist arrivals has increased from 922,692 in 2021 to 1,034,180 by September and is projected to up as the festive season begins. Revenues collected from the sector have also increased by 80 percent from \$714.59m (1.6bn/-) in 2020 to \$1.3bn (3trn/-), in 2021. Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa made these observations yesterday in Dodoma city when presenting a report on the implementation of the party's election manifesto for 2020 at the party's general electoral conference. "Tourism is one of the important sectors in economic development and is contributing highly to the gross domestic product (GDP) and the government will continue putting

more innovative efforts so as to protect it and stimulate its growth," he said. The government is investing heavily to improve infrastructures in national parks and game reserves as well as diversifying tourist attractions to generate more visitations, he said. Statistics show that the tourism sector has continued to improve due to several initiatives taken by the government, while President Samia said in her remarks to close the meeting that "The Royal Tour" documentary was not part of the CCM manifesto but it was a good thing so it was undertaken. The premier said that last month a big tourist ship sailing from Florida in the

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Forbes retains Samia in 100 most powerful women 2022

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has been named by Forbes magazine for the second year in a row as one of the 100 most influential, and powerful women in the world in the 2022 list. The president has been identified in the list which is headed by Ursula von der Leyen, the president of the European Union Commission, alongside Christine Lagarde, the president of the European Central Bank (ECB), and Kamala Harris, vice president of the United States. Kristalina Georgieva, managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) features on the list, where von der Leyen is ranked first in this year's list, while Samia



...as well as amnesty for tax liabilities stretching up to five years, endeared her to business organisations and observers in the region and well beyond

comes at 95th, one slot lower than last year's ranking at 94th. The magazine's peer contributors said last year that the Tanzanian leader showed strong leadership in dealing with the coronavirus pandemic since she came into office in March 2021. Those who have worked closely with President Samia say - and which not many outsiders are aware of - her great leadership ability, they affirmed. The World Bank has similarly praised the sixth phase government under President Samia for what it described as an economic miracle, in the government's ability to control inflation, while many countries around the world face severe

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Govt, Equinor drafting LNG project final pact

By Guardian Correspondent

ENERGY minister January Makamba has concluded a preliminary agreement with Equinor vice-president Nina Koch as the latter visited the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) processing plant designated site in Lindi after the talks were concluded in Dar es Salaam at midweek. A statement released yesterday by Ministry

of Energy said yesterday that preparations for investment are proceeding apace with teams from the government and Equinor drafting the investment protocol. The drafting is at a good stage with the preliminary agreement having been reached in November last year, and follow-up negotiations intensely conducted recently. The minister expressed his satisfaction with the stage reached, saying the project is going to be implemented in the time planned, while the Equinor to executive expressed readiness for proceeding to the next stage. She was affirmative of the need to establish a special LNG project office to oversee implementation activities, stating that the project was important and was positively inclined. She said experience shows that it is not easy to come into agreement for the two

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Ardhi University Vice Chancellor Prof Evaristo Riwa (L) and a Karim Jevanje Co. official, Vinoo Sumaiya (R) present an award to the overall winner of the Young Scientists Tanzania exhibition in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



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Samia: CCM has to restore popular trust

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term confidant Yusuf Makamba, he said he sees no one likely to compare with President Samia in popularity by 2025, "barring some radical unforeseen events in the country."

He expressed full confidence in the president, urging the party cadres to focus on building the party and not sit with groups spreading false information and sowing misunderstandings that can divide the party.

"As a party, we need to invest heavily in addressing people's challenges and implementing what we promised in the last elections so as to receive a positive response in the coming general election," he said.

Former Zanzibar president and party vice chairman Dr Ali Mohamed Shein castigated young leaders who wish to run before they can walk, emphasizing teamwork and unity to strengthen the party.

He cautioned on the need to reinforce ethics in the party, referring to disciplinary action taken on some leaders earlier, saying that this strengthens the party and eases the burden on the

top leadership.

Abdulahman Kinana, the Mainland vice-chairman, went over the work the party had done over the past year in pursuit of the 2020 election manifesto, praising the party chairperson for being visionary, attentive and principled in everything that she does.

President Samia went over the party's 1977 funding ethos on the removal of all oppression and using the country's resources for the development of the people, and picking the Chinese example, said it is vital to change tactics to see how our country can be self-reliant at present.

She emphasized on leaders from both parts of the Union to be mindful of the fact that they are building one country, Tanzania, and thus provide all the support possible for the leadership to push the ruling party's goals for the current period.

Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, the Zanzibar president and party's vice chairman commended the Union president for opening up the country to greater inflows of foreign investments, noting that this had brought about positive outcomes.

Forbes retains Samia in 100 most powerful women 2022

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economic pressures due to the war in Ukraine.

President Samia is being cited by worldwide observers as one of the most talented leaders not only in Africa, but across the globe, in her ability to mend ties within the region and abroad, along with building bridges with various groups in the country, and within the ruling party.

Since coming to office, the president has maintained the legacy of her predecessor in pursuing investments in strategic infrastructure projects, while reinforcing the campaign to solve water, education and health access problems all over the country.

In education, when she came to office the government was providing free education up to secondary school, and the government has since then elevated this consideration to high school.

The president's change of tack from forceful tax collection to amicable relations with large taxpayers, as well as amnesty for tax liabilities stretching up to five years, endeared her to business

organisations and observers in the region and well beyond.

Efforts at elevating good governance have been less crowned with success and the dialogue with opposition parties and civic groups is yet to strike the common ground on a number of issues.

Intimations of checking oppressive criminal justice procedures led to a flare-up of juvenile criminality in large urban centres, and remain muted in their follow-up.

On the whole, the nearly two years of President Samia's leadership have restored the confidence of foreign and domestic businessmen and investors, where the most important initiatives to date include restoring the Bagamoyo port project, restarting residential flats extensive building projects of the National Housing Corporation (NHC) in league with foreign investors, a series of consumption subsidies including fuel, dampening a worrying inflationary push, and pushing for completion of negotiations for the liquefied natural gas (LNG) in Lindi Region.

Tourist arrivals surpass 1m, with more expected in festive season

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United States with a total of 1,060 tourists from 35 countries set sail for Tanzania.

He said that the country was also growing rapidly to become a centre of conference tourism attracting a number of guests from various nations to attend international forums.

Majaliwa said that the government was investing in strategies to market the less recognised tourist attractions, expecting to take up arrivals from the current one million to five million, and revenues reaching up to \$6bn within the current decade.

Tax compliance has greatly improved and increased revenue collections up to 1.74trn/- per month in the 2021/22 fiscal year from 1.46trn/- monthly in the previous year, he said.

He referred to the October 21 report from the task force appointed to coordinate views on multiparty

democracy, elections and the constitution, recommending several areas that need changes. The government is working on them, the premier declared.

Diplomatic relations between Tanzania and the global community have greatly improved due to robust efforts taken by President Samia, he stated, noting also that the major promise made by the party during the 2020 general election to create up to 8m jobs in the next five years is on course to be realised.

A total of 1,381,618 jobs in the public service and in private sector investments had been created so far, he declared. The voluntary relocation of people from the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA) was proceeding well, he affirmed.

By October already 8,715 people from 1,524 households with 32,842 livestock had already moved to new habitats in the Msomera area, Handeni district in Tanga Region, he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa bids farewell to Dodoma senior government officials moments after he left for Luanda, Angola yesterday to represent President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the 10th Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific (OACPS) heads of state meeting. Photo: PMO

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sides but for this particular project, a wide opinion in Norway and political leaders support it.

The Equinor executive visited the site where project site in Lindi Region, praising the government for picking the site near the airport as it will simplify transport for company staff and airlifting of equipment during construction work.

She also visited Lindi VETA College which the company expected to

Govt, Equinor drafting LNG project final pact

invest in teaching equipment, as

Equinor aims at sponsoring various colleges countrywide and in Lindi Region specifically, to empower Tanzanians to participate in the LNG project construction and

prospects.

During the discussions, the minister was accompanied by the oil and gas commissioner Mike Mjinja and Charles Sangweni, director general of the Petroleum Upstream

Regulatory Authority (PURA).

On Equinor's side there was also Unni Fjaer, the firm's vice president and country manager for Tanzania, as well as Genevieve Kasanga, the public relations officer.



Bulyanhulu Ward Community development officer Anna Mwakalinga explains to pupils how teachers can help end gender-based violence in schools. The event was held at Bugarama primary school in Msalala district yesterday during the campaign against acts of sexual violence conducted by Barrick Bulyanhulu gold mine to commemorate the 16 days of activism against gender based violence. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

7,000 primary schools need refurbishment - PS

By Guardian Reporter

MORE than 7,000 out of 17,000 primary schools that underwent government's evaluation need refurbishment.

Dr Charles Msonde, deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office Regional-Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) made the remarks here yesterday when closing the annual general meeting of the evaluation about education sector development that brought together education stakeholders and development partners.

He said the evaluation had already been done in 17,000 primary schools countrywide whose aim

was to know all schools that need to be refurbished.

"Out of the 17,000 schools, 7,000 need refurbishment. But also we have conducted evaluation to look into congestion in our schools and we have discovered that there are schools that have huge students' congestion," he said.

He said in FY 2022/23 the government plans to construct new schools and 9,000 classrooms and in the coming years it will continue to build more new schools and refurbishing many others.

In regard to students' congestion, Dr Msonde said a school that had more than 1,000 students, a new school will be built to alleviate the congestion in order to have a good teaching and

learning environment.

"The government's achievements in running schools without school fees had witnessed a huge enrolment of students, there are classes which had more than 100 students even more studying in one class," he said.

However, without mentioning the number of the schools and their location, the deputy minister said some students are sometimes forced to stay outside because shortage of classrooms.

He added that the government strategy through the 'Boost Project' is to enhance the quality of elementary education that started to be implemented in FY 2021/22 and expected to end in 2025/26.

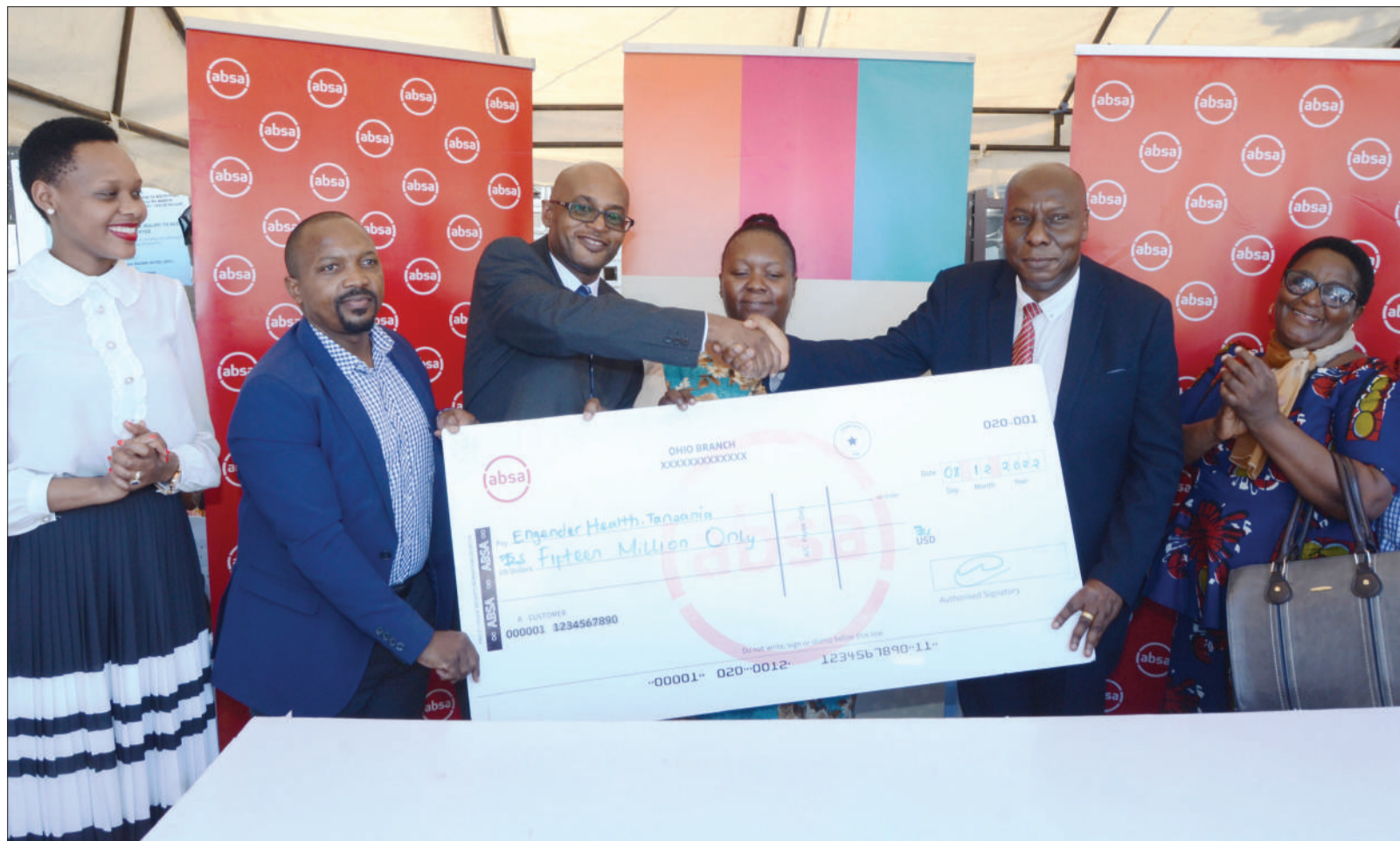
"The Boost Project is being

implemented at a cost of 1.15 billion from the World Bank's soft loan," he added.

He also said the government through secondary education quality improvement project (SEQUIP) has plans to build 1,026 secondary schools and in the last FY it built 232 schools.

He said in the current FY the government plans to build 184 secondary schools, one school in each district.

Education coordinator from Tanzania Education Network (TENMET) Ochola Wayoga advised the government to increase the education budget to 20 per cent of the entire budget to help transform the education sector and improve teachers training.



Absa Bank Tanzania corporate director, Hugo Chilufya (3rd L), hands over a dummy cheque worth 15m/- to EngenderHealth country representative Dr Moke Magoma to support the health care organisation's women, youth, children and disabled people projects. The brief event was held at Buguruni in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on from left are Absa relations manager, Neema Athanas, Absa head of marketing and corporate relations, Aron Luhanga, Dar es Salaam maternal and child health services coordinator, Agnes Mgaya and City Council MCH coordinator, Edith Kijazi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PCCB plugs avenues on loss of govt revenues from quarrying activities

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

PREVENTION and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in Mwanza Region has been able to plug avenues regarding loss of more than 470m/- from the collection of taxes on quarrying activities in three districts - Kwimba, Misungwi and Sengerema.

It is said that in the three districts there wasn't any revenue collected from quarry mining areas as well as at road barriers thereby occasioning huge income

loss to the nation.

This was revealed here yesterday by the Head of PCCB for Mwanza Region, James Ruge in a statement on the follow up of development projects valued at 16.2bn/- for the period July to September this year.

Ruge said in the three districts they discovered unofficial quarry mining areas for aggregates and sand for building thereby denying the government of its rightful revenues.

He said the Bureau has managed

to control the revenue loss including the issuance of mining permits and licences as well as assisting the district authorities to allocate official areas for quarry mining activities.

He said the move has helped the government to collect a total of 477.1m/- in the period of three months - July to September this year while some of contractors who had been evading to pay the levies started paying.

Meanwhile, Ruge said the PCCB has been able to receive 126

investigation reports out of which 106 involve corruption and 20 were for other issues.

He said they have opened up 57 cases in court one public servants who were found to involve them in acts of corruption, out of which the government has won in nine out of the 11 whose judgements were given.

In another development Ruge said the Bureau will continue working together with the public in fighting corruption in the region.

Eight oil marketing companies stage joint emergency drills to respond to unexpected events

By Felister Peter

IN a move aimed to intensify fire disaster accidents preparedness at fuel depots at Kurasini in Dar es Salaam, eight oil marketing companies yesterday staged a joint emergency drills to see how they can respond to an unexpected events.

The exercise is also meant to protect peoples' health and lives and businesses for interest of the economy. The joint emergency drill was led by the Oryx Energies Tanzania under the auspices of the Tanzania Association of Oil Marketing Companies (TAOMAC). It was at Oryx's Kurasini depot.

Other companies included Oil Com, Vivo Energy, Super Star, Camel Oil, and Asas, among others.

An emergency drill can be defined as a procedure carried out to practice how a building or organization would respond to an unexpected event.

Three important areas a viable emergency drill will test include equipment, manpower and procedures. Emergency drill will test the functionalities of our emergency equipment, capacity of our response team and the practicability of our existing procedures.

Oryx Energies Tanzania Managing Director, Kalpesh Mehta said: "We to ensure that we and communities around our depots are safe. Since Tanzania is an entry point to six land-linked countries which import fuel through Dar es Salaam Port we must be leaders in advocating for safety."

Mehta remarked that petroleum products are highly flammable, adding that they have millions of litres of various petroleum products stored in all the terminals located within the Kurasini and Kigamboni axis. He added: "The risk of fire outbreak is high when handling and distributing these products through

road tankers to the various local and transit destinations."

He stressed that emergency drill was a vital component of fire safety management in highly hazardous installations with volatile product like their storage terminal and oil jetties.

"Looking ahead, a joint emergency response plan for the axis will be developed with regular drills at respective terminals to simulate response from the Joint team members on unforeseen emergencies at the various terminals," he remarked.

Representatives of other companies present unanimously welcomed the initiative of bringing together efforts to strengthen safety at oil depots.

Saleh Islam, Operations Manager for Oil Com said the joint initiative was paramount for regularly testing capabilities of the oil companies in responding to fire emergencies.

Islam said that during the emergence drill they noticed where the weaknesses are, adding they are going to address them in order to improve their disaster preparedness.

General Manager for Camel Oil, Salim Baabde said the oil and energy sector supports the country's economic growth; hence, players should cooperate to strengthen safety systems.

Temeke Regional Fire Officer, Maria Luoga, challenged companies to improve the emergency drill so that it really prepares the companies for such accidents.

She also called upon the companied to consider putting in place machinery for fire fighting at Kurasini area which is the home for a number of oil depots.

"The risk of fire outbreak is high when handling and distributing these products through road tankers to the various local and transit destinations."



COPS AUCTION MART & COURT BROKERS LTD.

PUBLIC AUCTION

By the Order of The High Court of Tanzania - Commercial Division at Dar es Salaam, I shall sell by Public Auction a Landed Property in the satisfaction of the claim of the Decree Holder in the Suit No. 49 of 2021 between Exim Bank (Tanzania) Limited - Decree Holder Versus Gold Point Limited - 1st Judgement Debtor, Nana Kwaku Boateng - 2nd Judgement Debtor, Pauline Kabula Rupia - 3rd Judgement Debtor and Susan Rupia - 4th Judgement Debtor. **I DO HEREBY INVITE THE GENERAL PUBLIC** for the outright purchase of the property, the auction shall be on the place, day, date and time as indicated in the table below:



S/N	EXECUTING COURT	CASE NUMBER	PROPERTY FOR SALE	DATE, TIME AND LOCATION FOR AUCTION
1	The High Court of Tanzania - Commercial Division at Dar es Salaam	Commercial Case No. 49 of 2021	Plot No. 113, CT. No. 8899, Ally Bin Said Road - Oysterbay, Dar es Salaam in the name of the 4th Judgement Debtor.	The Place of Auction will be at property premises, Commencing at 10:00 O'clock on Monday 9th day of January, 2023 at Oysterbay, Dar es Salaam.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

- The property is being sold on "AS IS" basis, the Court and I shall have no further liability after the sale.
- The successful Bidder shall be required to deposit 25% of the bid price immediately after the fall of the hammer and balance 75% of the bid price within 14 days from the date of the award; failure of which the offer shall be revoked forthwith and the 25% down payment shall be forfeited and the property resold after a fresh notification.
- The interested parties will be allowed to inspect the property by prior appointment.

For further information please contact:
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- Advise the Managing Director and the Board of Directors and management on the issues of law, compliance, corporate governance and legal framework of governing banking industry.
- Manage shareholders register, communicate with them as well as ensure that dividends are paid.
- Maintain company records, such as lists of directors, shareholders, and annual records.
- Manage Legal and Regulatory Risks of the Bank.
- Manage and maintain the Board calendar and ensure that all Board and Committee meetings are held in timely manner.
- Organize, prepare Agendas for and taking minutes of the Board meetings, Board Committees meetings, Annual General meetings and Excom meetings
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- Manage litigation and associated costs.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

The successful applicant should have the following minimum qualifications and experience

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- Master's Degree in business related fields will be added advantage.
- Professional qualifications as an Advocate.
- A Minimum of 8 years' experience in legal as Company Secretary and 7 years' experience General Banking.
- Ability to communicate effectively with excellent interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated ability to lead, manage, mentor and develop Teams.
- Superior verbal, written and presentation skills.
- Demonstrated creativity and analytical ability.

If you believe you can clearly demonstrate your abilities to meet the criteria given above, please apply for the role through tz.kcbgroup.com by 20 th December, 2022

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

DMI asks govt for a special ship for practical training

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) has asked the government to facilitate it with a special ship to be used for practical training.

The request was made on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam by Acting Rector of the Institute, Dr Tumaini Gurumo, during the 1st convocation held at the institute premises in the city.

She said currently it becomes difficult for graduates to break through in their profession because they cannot undergo practical training.

"The good thing with a ship is that it will include all training facilities and will have a classroom and restrooms. It is multipurpose since it can be used for training and at the same time commercially," said Dr Tumaini.

"Despite using the ship commercially, it will be used for practical training for our graduates. This will make us produce many seafarers whose demand is still high inside and outside the country," she added.

She added that despite the fact that there is still great demand for seafarers inside and outside the country majority of its graduates are yet to be employed due to a lack of practical training to accomplish their profession.

Dr Tumaini mentioned other challenges that face the institute as old infrastructures which have been in use for more than 40 years since its establishment in 1978.

She said the institute started with only 12 students those days but it is still running with the same infrastructure at the time it has 4,049 students.

Dr Tumaini commended the government for supporting DMI

with training facilities that she said don't match with the number of its students.

She said it will be better for the institute to have its own practical training ship instead of being too dependent on foreign ships which have limited space to accommodate students.

"We need people who will speak for us; the government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with some countries to take our students for practical training, but the agreement is yet to be implemented.

Retired Major General, Said Shaaban who is the Chairman of Zanzibar Maritime Authority (ZMA) commended DMI for the success it has made since its establishment.

He said since then, DMI managed to produce competent seafarers who are currently working in big companies outside the country.

"There is still demand seafarers that is why I see you have an important role to play in this sector and I encourage more youth to take this opportunity to study this profession because employment is very easy," he said.



The good thing with a ship is that it will include all training facilities and will have a classroom and restrooms. It is multipurpose since it can be used for training and at the same time commercially



Fire fighters conduct mock fire rescue drill organised by Oryx Energies at Kurasini in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Planners called upon to assist govt's development strategies

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Finance and Planning Minister, Dr Lawrence Mafuru has called upon planners to assist the country to plan and have strategies on various development plans that aim to enable the country to have a high level of economic growth.

Dr Mafuru made the remarks when opening the annual forum for planners held recently in Dar es Salaam.

He said in any country of the world planners are the ones who decide how the nation should be, hence he called upon them to make sure the plans they make are beneficial to the present and future generations.

He also called upon planners to

make sure various issues discussed in the three days of the forum as well as the resolutions reached to be fully utilised for the preparations of the 1050 National Development Vision out of the implementation of the 2025 National Development Vision.

He added that the government, through the Finance and Planning Ministry will make sure preparations for the 2050 National Development Vision become inclusive in order to have the vision that will help in the country's economic growth and spur its fast development.

Dr Mafuru also thanked forum participants for debating various issues including poverty, sustainable development plans, government debt, and education. Knowledge

and skills to spur competition, job creation and innovation.

He assured forum participants and the public in general that the government will work on the views and advice that will be given to them.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner of the National Planning Department of the Finance and Planning Ministry Dr Mursali Milanzi said the three-day forum is held every year with the aim of exchanging views and experience so that the knowledge obtained therefrom should be used to improve work performance in various sectors.

He said the forum has been of great benefit to planners due to its importance in spurring economic growth and added that they should

utilise well the knowledge gained in improving the lives of the people.

Royal Lyanga, Assistant Commissioner in the ministry's National Planning Department said in order to improve planners' work performance, the finance and planning ministry has worked on stakeholders' opinions for establishing a planners' database that will help to make follow-ups on implementation of government development projects.

Planners Forum is held every year by bringing together planners, economists and statisticians from various ministries, independent departments, government agencies, public corporations, regional secretariats and local government authorities.

'26 equipped with mining skills for 2021/2022 financial year'

By Guardian Reporter

TWENTY-six people have been empowered with mining skills for the 2021/2022 fiscal year, thanks to the efforts made by Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML).

Dr Kiva Mvungi, GGML's senior manager in charge of health, safety, environment, and training, said this when bidding farewell to the 26 training graduates in Geita Municipality, Geita Region.

He described the move as an important milestone in their respective fields of study, noting: "Our company has been offering these opportunities annually, and numerous young graduates have applied. Those of you who managed to attain employment here, we congratulate you on seizing the opportunity to apply when vacancies were open and becoming permanent employees of this company. Those who have not yet found employment should continue to submit applications whenever GGML posts job openings."

Dr Mvungi highlighted: "Completing this programme is the first step in demonstrating your maturity when called for job interviews. You now have more experience. A high proportion of young people who have participated in this programme have been hired by a variety of companies; naturally, you will also be employed at GGML or elsewhere. Our objective is to ensure that the mining industry in this nation has access to a skilled workforce."

Eng Ruth Mugerusi, who is employed in GGML's blasting unit, is appreciative of the opportunity to attain a job while she was completing her internship.

"I am a Tanzanian who is extremely grateful to GGML for this opportunity. After completing my university education, I applied for and began this internship. As I was

in training, a post was announced; my colleagues and I applied and passed the interview; and today, we have been hired by GGML. I encourage other graduates of this programme to continue submitting applications whenever vacancies become available, as GGML is a company that offers opportunities to all individuals, including women," said Eng Mugerusi.

Since the programme's inception in 2009, a total of 168 graduates have benefited, including 58 females and 110 males. The majority of them are employed by GGML in its process plant, engineering, technical, blasting, and mining departments, while some are employed by other companies in and out of the country.

GGML implements a training internship programme annually in partnership with the ministry in the office of the Prime Minister responsible for employment, youth, and people with disabilities, the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF), and the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE). It is also one of GGML's core values that mining activities should benefit the Tanzanian community and societies within which the company operates.



I am a Tanzanian who is extremely grateful to GGML for this opportunity. After completing my university education, I applied for and began this internship



Retired Major General Said Shaaban who is board chairman of Zanzibar Marine Authority (ZMA) speaks during the first convocation of Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) held in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Use friendly technology to curb Co2, investors in industry, tourism and aviation sectors urged

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

INVESTORS competing in industry, aviation and tourist firms' sectors have been challenged to use friendly technology in order to reduce the production of carbon dioxide that contributes to negative effects of climate change.

The challenge was given yesterday by the Deputy Minister for Investments, Industry and Trade, Exaud Kigahe when opening

the global competition forum now ongoing here.

He said: "I would like to tell you that if these firms will abide by the right use of carbon dioxide, it is evident they will help to reduce carbon dioxide that contributes to the effects of climate change."

"The aim of all business people is to get profit, therefore it is essential to make sure that just competition is adhered to, including ensuring regulatory authorities in competitions prevent

business monopoly and market forces swallowing competitors in the business.

"Investors in industry, aviation and tourist firms' sectors should use friendly technology in controlling environmental degradation including wildlife in the tourism sector by reducing the wildlife ecology including tree cutting for charcoal."

Due to this importance, he called upon various stakeholders to plant trees in order to control the

increase of carbon dioxide, hence it is essential for trees to be planted to safeguard the wildlife ecology and natural vegetation.

Earlier, the Chairman of Fair Competition Commission (FCC), Dr Aggrey Mlimuka said the forum is important in making sure there is sustainability and competition to ensure tourism grows rapidly simultaneously with environmental conservation.

Meanwhile, Acting Arusha District Commissioner, Richard Ruyago pleaded on various stakeholders in the environment conservation sector to make sure the environment is protected to prevent the effects of climate change.



Happy Independence Day

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Innovative rating agency launched to up investments in biodiversity

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Leadership University's School of Wildlife Conservation, Dalberg, and FSD Africa Investments have launched a pioneering initiative aimed to boost biodiversity investments by helping investors measure and track the impact of their biodiversity-related investments over time.

Dubbed: Biodiversity Investment Rating Agency (BIRA), the initiative brings together the partners' in-depth expertise in biodiversity conservation and restoration, finance, and impact investments towards promoting smart investments.

African Leadership University's School Of Wildlife Conservation (ALU's SOWC), Dalberg, and FSD Africa Investments bring together their in-depth expertise in biodiversity conservation and restoration, finance, and impact investments to form a partnership that will help investors measure and track the impact of their biodiversity-related investments over time.

Mike Musgrave, Associate Director, Conservation Leadership Faculty, School of Wildlife Conservation, said: "Institutional investment in biodiversity as an asset class will be the key to unlocking the billions of private capital we need to address climate change and promote the business of conservation."

Biodiversity loss is ranked as the third most significant threat to humanity, after carbon emissions and nuclear war. Yet, less than 16 percent of the required funding is currently available for biodiversity, leaving a US\$ 700 billion funding gap for biodiversity conservation and restoration. Private capital can play a critical role in closing this funding gap while tapping into an attractive asset class that is poised to grow.

However, investments are currently limited because there is no standard way to measure, rate, track, and communicate biodiversity impacts. Investors are looking for simple, credible tools based on biodiversity science.

He noted that BIRA will advise investors on identifying the opportunities for impact investing in the biodiversity sector, spotlighting relevant frameworks to measure biodiversity investment impacts, and provide existing aligned frameworks with guidance on how to make their tools investor friendly.

The agency aspires to see measurement frameworks that can provide simple answers to investors' questions about the potential outcomes of biodiversity investments. BIRA

will work in collaboration with existing frameworks that meet certain design criteria to develop modules that match measurement frameworks with investor needs.

DevangVussonji, Partner, Dalberg Advisors, said: "We have lost 68 percent of monitored animal populations between 1970 and 2016. We face a \$700 billion funding gap in reversing this effect, and private capital will be essential in filling this gap. BIRA aims to attract private capital to the sector by making it easier for private investors to measure, communicate, and track biodiversity outcomes."

Anne-Marie Chidzero of FSD Africa Investments, said: "FSD Africa Investments is proud to partner with Dalberg and the African Leadership University's School of Wildlife Conservation to create the Biodiversity Investment Rating Agency. This innovative initiative to help investors measure and track the impact of their capital on biodiversity conservation and restoration will play a central role in increasing investment in the sector."

In the initiative, ALU SOWC will bring its expertise in scientific inquiry, research, and training to ensure that the modules developed are credible and usable. BIRA will also lean on SOWC's expertise to develop and launch training programs that will help bridge the existing knowledge gap in the market.

By bridging the gap between investors and the existing biodiversity measurement frameworks, BIRA will support informed decision-making by investors. Ultimately, this will increase investments in conservation and restoration, leading to positive biodiversity outcomes.

The School of Wildlife Conservation (SOWC) is the conservation initiative of the African Leadership Group. It was established in 2016 to promote conservation as an African growth sector by developing the next generation of entrepreneurial conservation leaders at all levels through undergraduate, middle management, and professional programs. In combining innovative research and leadership talent cultivation, SOWC encourages entrepreneurship and leadership within the wildlife economy and provides a platform for entrepreneurs and conservation professionals to incubate their innovative conservation business models. At a macro level, SOWC seeks to influence the sector's decision-makers by challenging existing business models and promoting an entrepreneurial, impact-driven, business-minded approach to African conservation.



Human Rights director of the ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs Sarakikya Nkasori (2nd-R) hands over a trophy and certificate to a young activist from Agha Khan hospital Dr Zainab Artan during the International Human Rights Day held in Dar es salaam yesterday. Right is Legal and Human Rights Centre executive director Anna Henga. Photo: Correspondent Iman Nathaniel

Dugange dissatisfied with progress of dispensary construction in Chamwino

By Guardian Reporter

DR Festo Dugange, Deputy Minister in the President Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) has expressed his dissatisfaction on the construction of Machali B Dispensary in Chamwino District, Dodoma region and called upon officials to take steps.

Dr Dugange expressed his dissatisfaction on Wednesday during his inspection visit of the dispensary project at Machali B Village.

He called upon district officials to adopt a procedure of assessing their performance as for a long time they have been withholding development funds without valid reasons.

"This is a big challenge, if we can stay with 50m/- earmarked for the dispensary for more than 12 months without completing the project, I think we need some self-assessment and take steps, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has provided funds and our task is to implement the project for the people to start being served," he said.

He also called upon Chamwino District Executive Director, Dr Semistatus Mashimba to explain how they have mobilised themselves so that by December 12 this year, four dispensary projects whose funds were allocated should be completed to start operations.

Meanwhile, the District Executive Director Mashimba said the deputy minister's directives will be worked on to enable the dispensaries to start operating.

Dodoma District Medical Officer, Dr Best Magoma said in

FY 2021/22 the region received 1.3bn/- for the construction of dispensaries.

He said the expectation is to see that by December 30 this year, all projects are finalised but also, he added in FY 2022/23 the region received 550m/- for 11 dispensaries whereas two dispensaries have been earmarked for Chamwino District.

Earlier, Chamwino District Medical Officer, Peter Athumani, reading the report on the Macghali B Dispensary project costing 93.5m/- said construction work incorporates people's efforts valued at 3.52m/- that involved collection of building stones, sand and aggregate while the Council provided 10m/- from its internal funds.



Elisafi Mgonja chief of school quality assurance Dar es Salaam Zonal hands over a gift to a Jubilation school student at the graduation ceremony held yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

LATRA to start inspections on use of online bus tickets

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

LAND Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) has begun making impromptu inspections on the use of online tickets for passenger buses that make trips from Mbeya to other regions in the country.

The aim of the inspections is to control wanton fare hiking especially during the end of the year holiday season when the number of bus passengers increase.

Senior LATRA Officer for Mbeya Region Omary Ayoub said apart from controlling fare hiking, the authority also wants to make sure all passengers have online tickets that have great benefits to passengers and transport stakeholders.

He said the inspections are the initial steps for the controlling the violation of the country's passenger transport laws and regulations, especially as the country approaches the end of the year

festive season.

Regarding passengers' benefits in buying online tickets, Ayoub said it helps the government collect its appropriate revenue, measure against theft by bus operators' employees and ensuring that passengers are charged the right fares as indicated by the authorities.

A cross section of passengers who spoke on the issue of online tickets said the system was good and was helping them against inconveniences they had been experiencing in the past.

One of them, Jumanne Hamis said the system enables them to buy tickets without having the need of personally going to bus agents' offices and the possibility of having one seat allocated to two passengers.

The government, through LATRA has established a system whereby bus operators are required to sell tickets online and abandon former paper tickets.

Tanzania and JICA register significant achievements of cooperation - official

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) have recorded significant achievements in different areas of cooperation.

So far, a total of 22,064 Tanzanians have benefitted with a training programme from JICA in a period of sixty years. The government has also benefitted from technical cooperation (97.3 billion Japanese Yen) and a grant aid of 131.5 billion Japanese Yen).

Speaking during a seminar and journalists tour to JICA supported projects in the country,

Tanzania chief representative, Yamamura Naofumi said the aim was to introduce JICA cooperation activities to the media and cement the existing relationship.

He said some of the beneficiaries of a training programme are officials from local government authority.

Naofumi said JICA priority areas to Tanzania aimed at assisting the country to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs). He said they are implemented a program to strengthen rice production at Kahe in Kilimanjaro region to promote industrialisation.

He said JICA also implement

projects for rehabilitation of the Kigoma port, Arusha -Holili road improvement and project for the widening of new Bagamoyo road.

He said the strong cooperation between JICA and Tanzania has resulted in construction of a number of big projects such as Mfugale Bridge, Selander Bridge and Makundi fish ferry market in Zanzibar.

Naofumi said they are supporting local government reforms, public financial management, health system strengthening and improving water supply.

"I would like to commend Tanzania for a strong collaboration

with JICA for 60 years. We will continue supporting Tanzania for the future bilateral relationship," he said, noting that development investment has reached \$ 1.0 billion to date.

JICA Senior Advisor, Msofee Raymond mentioned some projects implemented in the country through JICA as construction of international ferry fish market at Kivukoni in Dar es salaam, Malindi fish market in Zanzibar and Mfugale flyover.

Others are construction of Gerezani Bridge, water irrigation schemes in Kahe, Kilimanjaro region and Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) power station.

He said: "JICA reaffirms its commitment to collaborate with the government in implementation of projects in the identified priority areas," he said.



Rescue helicopter owned by KiliMedAir aviation company stationed at Mt Kilimanjaro for rescue operations atop Kibo and Mawenzi peaks. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

Govt applauds CAMFED support to girls' education

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has applauded the Campaign for Female Education (CAMFED) Tanzania, a non-governmental organisation with programmes supporting girls to go to school, learn, thrive, and become leaders and change makers in their communities.

Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special groups, Amon Mpanju made the remarks yesterday, saying the organisation is doing remarkable work.

He noted that while the government has many policies and strategies aimed at enabling children, especially girls attain education, CAMFED and other organisations are playing important role is complementing government efforts.

The deputy PS was speaking yesterday at the launch of CAMFED Association, Chamwino chapter where some 696 girls who completed secondary education through CAMFED support this year convened.

The organisation sponsored a total of 740 girls from poor backgrounds in some 26 schools in Chamwino district to get education from form one to form four.

He expressed the government's commitment to work closely with such organisations saying, "The government appreciates the noble work you are doing to support Tanzanians from poor backgrounds and just imagine that without your support these bright young girls could have not gone to school".

Mpanju, citing that he lost his mother when he was just one-year-old and later his father while he was in class three recalls the pain of living without strong family support.

He reminded the students that it was through well-wishers and organisations like CAMFED that he is where he is today.

He called upon the girls to make good use of the support and refrain from actions that can spoil their lives and dreams since the country need their services and up and coming leaders.

Earlier, Programme Manager, Caroline Kinasha said CAMFED's programmes tackle poverty and inequality by supporting girls to learn, thrive and lead.

She added that it also builds a network of support around each girl, providing her with tailored support during school, beyond school, and into her future.

She said the network currently has 35,925 members but the number is likely to reach 49,000 by the end of this year.

"Our programmes provide continued support after girls graduate and join the CAMFED association, including our unique peer support and leadership network" she said.

Through the network, young women gain access to pastoral support and practical training in life, financial, business and leadership skills, health and well-being, and can access employment and further education opportunities.

Mariamum Mlenda, CAMFED Association Chairperson, Tanzania, thanked the organisation that has touched lives of thousands of Tanzanian girls.

She pointed out that girls have the ambition to become change makers and leaders in their communities, but they lack equal access to education and opportunities. "With CAMFED support, I completed my secondary education and now I am using my skills and knowledge to help other young girls build their confidence and reach their dreams. I promote the girls' education in communities as a mechanism to end poverty and build a stable economy," she observed.



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HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY



President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar
His Excellency Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi



President of The United Republic of Tanzania,
Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan

1961 - 2022 → 61 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

The Management and Staff of the Zanzibar Ports Corporation (ZPC), join the President of The United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, and The President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Council, His Excellency Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi and all Tanzanians in celebrating 61 years of Tanganyika Independence (now Tanzania).

God bless Africa, God bless Tanzania.



OUR PORTS OUR ECONOMY

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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT
ROADS FUND BOARD



CONGRATULATION

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Roads Fund Board congratulate the President of the The United Republic of Tanzania Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan on her election as chairperson of Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM).

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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT
ROADS FUND BOARD



CONGRATULATION



President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar
His Excellency Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi



Comrade Abdulrahman Kinana,
Deputy chairperson of Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) mainland

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Roads Fund Board congratulate the President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Council, His Excellency Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi on his election as Deputy chairman of Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) Zanzibar, and comrade Abdulrahman Kinana on his election as Deputy chairperson of Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) mainland

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Sustainable agriculture is the root of Africa's economic transformation

THE Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) stressed that Africa must transform or modernise its agriculture, primarily to feed itself and reduce dependency on imports for agricultural and food items, while fostering the sector to drive the industrialisation process.

Speaking on the topic, "Accelerating Sustainable, Economic Transformation in Africa's Agriculture Value Chains," at the Africa Sustainable Agriculture Summit 2019, held in Nairobi, Kenya, FAO subregional coordinator for Eastern Africa, David Phiri highlighted that hunger and malnutrition are on the rise again in Africa, after two decades of progress. Africa is now home to over 256 million people who are in dire food insecurity, of which over 132 million are in Eastern Africa.

"Governments should create an enabling policy environment, where the private sector, including in agriculture, thrives and creates jobs, particularly for the youth and women. Agricultural policies that spur farm productivity, commercialisation and the agro-processing industry are crucial for agricultural transformation," Phiri remarked.

Agriculture is the science and art of cultivating plants and livestock. Agriculture was the key development in the rise of sedentary human civilisation, whereby farming of domesticated species created food surpluses that enabled people to live in cities.

Agriculture is one of the economic drivers in Tanzania with the country benefitting from a diverse production base that includes livestock, staple food crops and a variety of cash crops. While the sector's GDP has more than tripled in the last 10 years, farmers and private sector actors still face considerable challenges. Declining export revenues; land acquisition hurdles; and smallholder farmers

struggling to access economically viable technology, adequate storage facilities, markets and credit have affected private investment.

The history of agriculture began thousands of years ago. After gathering wild grains beginning at least 105,000 years ago, nascent farmers began to plant them around 11,500 years ago. Pigs, sheep and cattle were domesticated over 10,000 years ago.

Plants were independently cultivated in at least 11 regions of the world. Industrial agriculture based on large-scale monoculture in the twentieth century came to dominate agricultural output, though about 2 billion people still depended on subsistence agriculture into the twenty-first.

Modern agronomy, plant breeding, agrochemicals such as pesticides and fertilizers, and technological developments have sharply increased yields, while causing widespread ecological and environmental damage. Selective breeding and modern practices in animal husbandry have similarly increased the output of meat, but have raised concerns about animal welfare and environmental damage.

Environmental issues include contributions to global warming, depletion of aquifers, deforestation, antibiotic resistance, and growth hormones in industrial meat production. Genetically modified organisms are widely used, although some are banned in certain countries.

The major agricultural products can be broadly grouped into foods, fibers, fuels and raw materials (such as rubber). Food classes include cereals (grains), vegetables, fruits, oils, meat, milk, fungi and eggs. Over one-third of the world's workers are employed in agriculture, second only to the service sector, although the number of agricultural workers in developed countries has decreased significantly over the centuries.

Now more than ever, Africa must implement short-term livelihood-saving responses

OVER 50 million people in eastern Africa will face acute food insecurity this year, according to a new study backed by the World Food Programme (WFP) and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

Issued by the region's Inter-Governmental Authority on Development, the IGAD Regional Focus on Food Crises report sounds the alarm over escalating food insecurity and malnutrition in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan.

The current food security situation across the Horn of Africa is dire after four consecutive rainy seasons have failed, a climatic event not seen in at least 40 years, or since the beginning of the satellite era.

Now more than ever, we must implement short-term livelihood-saving responses with long-term resilience building aimed at addressing the root causes of food crises in our region.

Since 30 per cent of the African population remains food insecure, several African governments have been encouraging enhanced subsistence and small-scale farming activities within their countries. Currently, poor households are accessing their food from the market, food generated from subsistence farming, and allocations from public programmes or other households.

Even though most subsistence and small-scale farmers are well trained and knowledgeable after generations of subsistence and small-scale farming, there is still a need for more capacity strengthening to improve their

farming capabilities, skills, and sustainability. Farmers can develop crop rotation, rotational grazing, and soil health monitoring methods.

These methods can be incorporated into subsistence and small-scale farming to enhance their farming yield in the long term. Nevertheless, to fully accomplish these capacities, farmers should be able to monitor and manage their crops and animals more effectively. This way, they can transform their subsistence and small-scale farming into sustainable job creation and lucrative enterprises.

In some cases, extension services workers were hired specifically to disseminate agro-information on best practices, research, and technology transfer through a public sector-driven model. However, public sector spending on agriculture has varied widely across the different African regions. In most African regions, limited spending on agriculture impeded the availability of agricultural extension services programmes.

Tanzania has been tackling food insecurity by employing the country's agricultural extension systems. These extension services enable the Tanzanian government to revamp and reform their small-scale farming activities.

Historically, agricultural extension programmes enable Tanzanian farmers to access agricultural information to improve their farming capacities. However, these extension services are primarily conducted through face-to-face communication to disseminate information on various farming methodologies and technologies.

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Digital human rights need to be enshrined in law

By Emma Gibson

THE 17th Internet Governance Forum (IGF), which was hosted by the government of Ethiopia with the support of UN ECA and UN DESA, will take place from 28 November to 2 December 2022 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, under the overarching theme "Resilient Internet for a Shared Sustainable and Common Future". There were five themes that guided the agenda of the meeting, drawn from the Global Digital Compact found in the UN Secretary-General's report on "Our Common Agenda".

The upcoming consultation on the Global Digital Compact presents a unique opportunity to ensure that human rights in the digital world are protected in international common standards.

The United Nations has proposed a Global Digital Compact, a set of shared principles for our digital future, which is scheduled to be agreed upon by member states in September 2024. The compact was expected to "outline shared principles for an open, free and secure digital future for all", and the consultation being conducted by the UN Secretary-General's envoy on technology presents a unique opportunity to ensure that these principles are rooted in human rights law and underpinned by an intersectional feminist, anti-discrimination analysis.

This is not the first time a range of countries have contributed to a document articulating a better way forward in the digital world. The Declaration for the Future of the Internet lays out priorities for an "open, free, global, interoperable, reliable, and secure" Internet, and establishes a code of practice for how nation-states should act in the digital sphere. Sixty-one countries have signed on, and while this is a welcome step, it underscores how the world's current patchwork of laws and policies are failing to adequately protect and promote human rights online.

The Declaration envisions a well-governed digital domain in which human rights and democracy are defended, privacy is protected, freedom of expression is upheld, and censorship condemned.

But all this cannot be achieved simply by making a statement of intent. Our human rights apply in the digital world too and our digital rights have to be protected in law.

The Internet - a tool for great good and huge harm

Early predictions on how the



Internet would remove barriers and usher in freedoms, connect people globally, and help achieve liberty, democracy, and equality, have only partially been realized.

While the Internet has been a conduit for much good, it has also become a powerful tool to commit harm, including facilitating the proliferation of disinformation, surveillance, and polarization, alongside an explosion in online crime, harassment, and abuse.

Digital dividends do not benefit people in the way they should, and the facade of the digital world that most people see conceals the rife existence of exploitative and often low-paid work.

The application of uneven regulations across jurisdictions, and the continuing use of standards and principles that are voluntary for the private sector, has resulted in multinational tech companies largely regulating themselves. But they have failed to stem the rising tide of harmful narratives, hate speech, and disinformation that is poisoning our digital ecosystem.

We need to rethink how we ensure that the Internet and digital technologies are available, safe and accessible to all.

The call for universal digital rights

To achieve a well-governed digital realm, international women's rights organizations Equality Now and Women Leading in AI are calling for universal digital rights, rooted in human rights law and underpinned by an intersectional, feminist informed and anti-discrimination analysis. Clearly articulating how human rights apply in cyberspace would ensure accountability

on the part of governments and companies.

Some laws and regulations exist, particularly around data privacy and freedom of expression. However, what is needed is an agreed understanding of fundamental digital rights.

Providing clarity on what constitutes universal digital rights would address the current critical failings arising from the misuse of the Internet and digital technology. It would protect people from human rights violations that are outside the framing of current laws, such as how the law applies in the virtual world of the Metaverse. And it would foster an inclusive digital landscape, including by promoting equitable and affordable access to the Internet and digital technology.

Clarity on universal digital rights would respond to existing challenges around protection of a person's "digital twin" -- their digital representation. It would ensure trustworthy Artificial Intelligence, and address the current uneven and ineffective regulation of the Internet.

Human rights apply in the digital world too and our digital rights must be protected in law

Achieving universal digital rights is ambitious in scope but the only way to truly guarantee an equitable Internet and use of digital technologies is through international, multi-sectoral cooperation. Just as the efforts of individual nations alone can never solve a worldwide environmental crisis, nor can we rely on separate national laws and policies to guide, regulate, and care for our global digital ecosystem.

The fact that over five dozen countries have signed up to the Declaration for the Future of the Internet is a sign that, even in these times of geopolitical instability, there is still an appetite to rally behind an ideal of how the digital world should function. The Digital Global Compact provides an opportunity for realization of this ideal at the global level.

Diverse voices need to be heard and contribute to global and multi-stakeholder discussions on how we will achieve universal digital rights. This is why Equality Now and Women Leading in AI are taking part in the 2022 Internet Governance Forum in Addis Ababa and are excited to connect with others who want to co-create legal, ethical, and technical solutions to address current and future harms in the digital realm.

We want to make sure that the perspectives of women, girls, and other discriminated-against groups from every part of the world are fed into the consultation on the Global Digital Compact so that the Internet and digital technology works in everyone's interests, not against them.

Emma Gibson is the Campaign Lead, Universal Digital Rights, for Equality Now.

Equality Now is a feminist organization using the law to protect and promote the human rights of all women and girls. Since 1992, an international network of lawyers, activists, and supporters have held governments responsible for ending legal inequality, sexual exploitation, sexual violence, and harmful practices.

Sperm degeneration to exposure to toxins, bad lifestyles

By Telesphor Magobe

A NEW study shows that sperm count is declining at an alarming rate globally since 2000 due to exposure to toxins and unhealthy lifestyles. According to the findings of Levine et al (2022), this is evidenced in 223 studies, yielding 288 estimates based on semen samples collected from 1973 to 2018 and from six continents.

"This analysis is the first to report a decline in sperm count among unselected men from South and Central America-Asia-Africa, in contrast to our previous meta-analysis that was underpowered to examine those continents...Research on the causes of this continuing decline and actions to prevent further disruption of male reproductive health are urgently needed," reads part of the study findings.

The authors are hopeful that the new evidence provided in their study will receive attention not only from clinicians and scientists, but also from decision-makers and the general public.

"Since 1972, sperm count has dropped by about 1 per cent each year. Since 2000, the annual decrease has been, on average, more than 2.6 per cent," says Grace van Deelen in her article entitled 'A new analysis shows a crisis of male reproduc-

tive health' published on November 17, 2022.

Over the years, there have been reports on a steady decline in sperm quality, but not many people paid attention to this alarming phenomenon. Furthermore, some studies suggest that sperm counts in some countries will likely reach zero by 2045 - that is in 22 years.

Possibly, one of the reasons not to pay attention to this alarming phenomenon could be that some people think it doesn't concern them. Others don't even think there is such a problem. Whether the problem doesn't concern them and others don't even think there is such a problem, the fact is a decline in sperm quality is now an existential human problem in the 21st century.

New findings confirm previous studies on this reproductive health problem. In 2021, a lead reproductive epidemiologist and professor of environmental medicine and public health at Icahn School of Medicine in New York City, Dr Shanna Swan, in her new book entitled "Count Down" she co-authored with award-winning health writer Stacey Colino acknowledged the existence of a spiraling human fertility crisis.

According to Dr Swan, exposure to "everywhere chemicals" - the bisphenol-A (BPA), phthalates and per- and polyfluoroalkyl



substances (PFAS) that can be found virtually everywhere, in pesticides, food containers and wraps, make-up and cosmetics, and even children's and baby products such as bottles, cups and pacifiers is the root cause of the fertility crisis.

Exposure to toxins, says Dr Swan, increases miscarriage rates, rising incidences of genital abnormalities among boys and puberty setting in far earlier for girls than in previous generations.

To this list other studies add a reduction in semen quality, testicular volume and penile length.

"Chemicals in our environment and unhealthy lifestyle practices in our modern world are disrupting our hormonal balance, causing various degrees of reproductive havoc," Dr Swan stresses.

In another study she co-authored in 2017, she suggests "sperm counts in the western world have fallen by an astonishing 59 per cent between 1973 and 2011. At this rate,

sperm counts will likely reach zero by as soon as 2045."

Some previous studies linked this phenomenon just to stress and unhealthy lifestyles and still many people think so, but only few people know exposure to plastic by-products, such as phthalates, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), bisphenol A (BPA), polystyrene, brominated flame retardants and antimony trioxide, and chemicals, such as insecticide and pesticides, could also

lead to low sperm quality and impact negatively on reproductive health.

Phthalates, BPA, PVC and polystyrene can be found in baby bottles, sippy cups, teething rings, pacifiers and toys and so children are constantly exposed to these plastic by-products. Some recent studies suggest that plastic by-products have been detected in human stool, urine and blood stream and in some fish species as a result of plastic pollution.

It is only recently that a

global campaign against plastic pollution and exposure to chemical residues found especially in vegetables and fruits, have gained momentum. According to an analysis based on 97,170 popular fruit and 113,431 popular vegetable samples by Pesticide Action Network (PAN) Europe, there had been a 53-per cent rise in contaminated fruits and vegetables in Europe between 2011 and 2019. Some international media outlets refer to this high level of toxicity as

a "shocking rise in toxic pesticides".

FAO Guidance (2020) on pest and pesticide management policy development highlights three steps in pesticide risk reduction: 1) reduce reliance on pesticides, 2) where the use of pesticides is necessary, select products with the lowest risk to human health and the environment from authorised products that are effective against a particular pest or disease and 3) ensure proper (correct) use of the selected products for approved applications and in compliance with international standards. If this is adhered to it will reduce to a considerable extent exposure to toxic pesticide residues and chances of contracting chronic non-communicable diseases.

Tanzania joined a global campaign against plastic pollution in 2019 when it banned the import, export, manufacture, sale, supply, storage and use of plastic carrier bags in the country. Regulation 5 of the Environmental Management (Prohibition of Plastic Carrier Bags) Regulations, 2019 states that: "All plastic carrier bags, regardless of their thickness are prohibited from being imported, exported, manufactured, sold, stored, supplied and used in Mainland Tanzania."

Although the ban seemed to be successful, not all traders comply fully with environmentally-friendly practices.



10 YEARS OF e-GA:

The Implementation of e-Government Authority in practice

Due to the great changes in science and technology happening in the world, it is a reality undeniable that if the government and various institutions in the world will not go in line with those changes, then the institutions will remain behind in terms of economic, political and social development.

These changes have given rise to the famous word "the world is a village", this is due to the fact that with the use of technology one can get information quickly and easily through the internet. The same way, governments and various institutions around the world everywhere they use the internet to run their operations through systems self-made.

The United Republic of Tanzania along with its Institutions has not been left behind in the use of Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) in its implementation of daily duties.

Through e-Government Authority (e-GA), the government has been able to develop systems with various operations and provisions of service to the community that not only increased efficiency in the performance of government but also increased efficiency and simplification of services provided to citizens, visitors and traders.

The Director General of e-Government Authority (e-GA), Eng. Benedict Ndomba said that e-GA has implemented various activities since its establishment 10 years ago, which have brought great success to the Government and its Institutions.

"In a period of 10 years, the e-Government has been able to perform its primary function of coordinating, managing and promoting the efforts of e-Government Authority as well as encourage the implementation of policies, laws, regulations, standards and guidelines of e-Government for educating the public", said Mr. Ndomba.

The achievements during the period of 10 years include managing fully the systems and infrastructure security (ICT), facilitating identification, response and online security threats, as well as conducting inspections and evaluations of systems security for various public institutions while managing their compliance with the law and principles, including about 52 standards and guidelines of e-Government. Those guidelines are available through the e-GA website



Director General Benedict Ndomba, explains how the government has advanced in improving various Services through application of information, Communication and Technology (ICT)

www.ega.go.tz

Moreover, the e-Government has also been able to receive, and give advice on the implementation of various projects of ICT for public institutions of about 223, and about 263 for compliance training from different public institutions.

Eng. Ndomba has mentioned other achievements attained in the period of 10 years, this includes building and managing the operation of Government storage facilities systems and information, that are currently used by 121 Institutions to store systems and their information for guaranteed safety, construction and communication network management of Government where so far 299 Institutions are connected and enabled to communicate under the coordination of the e-Government Authority.

However, e-Government in partnership with Various Public Institutions has designed, built and managed the operation and usage of 34 systems applications, 13 interactive systems and 20 systems sectors. The systems such as the

Government Payment System (GePG), the Government Mail System and its Institutions (GMS), the Water system of Invoices (MAJIS), the information system about employees and salaries (New HCMIS), etc.

Due to the development of technology and the increase in the use of mobile phones, e-Government has designed, built and managed the operation of the service delivery system for mobile phone system (Government Mobile Platform), where until now Various Public Institutions use it and enable ICT systems 236 to provide services through mobile phones using messages and USSD menu *152*00#. For example, LUKU, GePG and Water Bills, payment of land, etc.

"It is important to remember that, those steps go hand in hand with the provision of technical professional support in the implementation of the e-Government where the service is provided by e-GA officers in collaboration with officers from other government agencies," said Eng. Ndomba.

However, in order to make government services

online sustainable and keep pace with the growth of technology, e-Government is conducting different activities of innovation, research and learning at the center of Dodoma. Moreover, efforts are underway to expand the facility's services.

Through the center, e-government has collaborated with institutions of higher education and creative ones where there are about 13 studies for the identification of talents and creativity from young people who are studying or have completed higher education have been held and 125 students have participated until now.

In an effort to solve the challenges, which public institutions are facing in the implementation of e-government, Ndomba said that the Authority has given professional support to the 602 public institutions that use government services online through the help desk.

"With the success that has been achieved so far, e-Government Authority has planned to continue to carry out safety security management activities of ICT systems and infrastructure, take steps to reduce the quantity and systems replication and enable communication and exchange of information, design new ways of e-government especially through the internet mobile phones, as well as continue encouraging compliance with laws, regulations, standards and guidelines of e-government in Public Institutions".

"In order to enable systems to exchange information, the authority has built a system of Government Enterprise Service Bus (GovESB), this system enables various systems to change information, and more than 40 Institutes have started exchanging information through this system", said Ndomba.

Also, Ndomba has noted that the e-Government Authority aims to ensure that it manages to increase the scope of the infrastructure government communication network to be able to connect the Institutions in all the regions and all districts through the project fund Digital Tanzania (Digital Tanzania Project- DTP) and increase the capacity of the stations to preserve systems and information so that they can be used by all government institutions to increase productivity and efficiency, and ensure the security of government information.

The e-Government Authority (e-GA) is established in 2019 under the e-Government Act, No. 10 of 2019. It is a public institution mandated to coordinate, oversee and promote e-Government initiatives as well as enforce e-Government related policies, laws, regulations, standards and guidelines in public institutions. e-Government Act No. 10 of the year 2019 has specified roles and powers leading the e-Government Authority in the implementation of e-Government activities in Tanzania. e-Government Law is available through the website www.ega.go.tz



(Government Enterprise Service Bus) GovESB

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY FELLOW TANZANIANS

61st YEAR ANNIVERSARY

1961 - 2022



The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Alliance One Tobacco Tanzania Limited (AOTTL) join the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan and fellow Tanzanians in celebrating 61st year of independence.

AOTTL through its ESG (Environment, Social & Governance) policy will continue to work towards contributing positively to the national socio economic strategies and development of our nation.



Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan
President of the United Republic of Tanzania



BARAZA LA MITIHANI LA TANZANIA



Mhe. Dkt. Samia Suluhu Hassan

61 Maadhimisho ya miaka ya Uhuru wa Tanzania

Wajumbe wa Baraza, Menejimenti na Wafanyakazi wa Baraza la Mitihani la Tanzania (NECTA), wanaungana na Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania, **MHE. DKT. SAMIA SULUHU HASSAN** na Watanzania wote katika kusherehekea maadhimisho ya miaka 61 ya Uhuru wa Tanzania Bara.

Baraza la Mitihani la Tanzania (NECTA)
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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA ROADS FUND BOARD



MAINTENANCE OF ROADS: IMPORTANT CATALYST FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The road network in Tanzania Mainland comprises of 180,792 km of roads. Like in all other countries, road asset is the most valuable public asset in Tanzania. Value of classified roads is estimated to be about 16% of Gross Domestic Product.

Road transport is the most used mode of transport – more than 90% of passengers and 80% of cargo use road transport. Therefore reliable, efficient and safe is one of the important catalysts for social and economic development.

The geography of Tanzania, its size, spacious settlement pattern, diversity and dispersion give roads a special role in the integration of the national economy. Road transport is the most suited mode of transport in rural areas not served by other modes of transport. Travel between large towns and most villages is made possible only through road transport.

Connectivity provided by roads is perhaps the single most important determinant of well-being and the quality of life. The efficiency of the government programs aimed at rural development, employment generation, and local industrialization is, to large extent, determined by the connectivity provided by roads. By linking producers to markets, workers to jobs, students to schools and the sick to hospitals, roads play vital role to socio-economic development.

Efficient road transport is essential for efficient functioning of other modes of transport i.e. railways, air and water transport. This is due to the fact that road transport is the only means that connect other modes to the final consumption point of goods and services.

Importance of Road Maintenance

However, for these benefits to be sustained, roads require adequate maintenance. This is due to the fact that, like other assets, roads tend to deteriorate due to aging, traffic loading and impacts of weather condition. Maintenance is done to ensure the roads that have been constructed are maintained to the extent possible to their original condition.

When roads are left to deteriorate to very poor conditions, road agencies and economy as a whole incur higher future costs for rehabilitation or reconstruction and other costs associated by poor road conditions.

Results from studies suggest that if one USD is not spent to maintain a road section, an entire road section may fail completely and therefore require rehabilitation at more than three USD. It is estimated that repair costs rise to six times maintenance costs after three years of neglect and to 18 times after five years of neglect.

Effects of delayed and inadequate maintenance is more critical for road structures particularly bridges and culverts as their failures cause abrupt lack of access and limited utilization of respective roads network.

In addition to increased costs for rehabilitation and



Mr. Eliud T. Nyuhenga, Roads Fund Manager

reconstruction, there are other costs associated with delayed or neglected road maintenance. These include, higher vehicle operating costs in terms of fuel consumption, increased vehicle maintenance costs and travel time as well as road accidents which cause loss of lives, damage of road furniture and vehicles.

Therefore timely and adequate maintenance is necessary to avoid the increased costs for road agencies and road users.

Timely and adequate road maintenance prolongs life of a road, reduces road user costs and other social and economic costs associated with poor road conditions. Some of the advantages are elaborated below:

- Higher rate of returns of initial investment: road maintenance stretches period over which the benefits of the investment made are available and therefore provides a higher rate of return on the initial investment.
- Costs saving: results from studies suggest that if one USD is not spent to treat a road defect in preservation zone, an entire road section may fail completely and therefore require rehabilitation at

more than three USD in rehabilitation zone.

- Reduction of vehicle operating costs: vehicle operating costs studies have proved that for every one USD not invested in preventive road maintenance, road users waste three USD on extra transport costs while road authorities will spend five USD on rehabilitation costs.

Roads in poor condition result in higher vehicle operating costs because they reduce fuel efficiency; damage the vehicles, leading to higher maintenance and higher operation costs; reduce the life of tires; reduce vehicle utilization because of lower speeds; and reduce the life of the truck.

- Keeps road open for traffic and affordable transport services: timely and adequate road maintenance prevents pavement and structure from failures. It therefore contributes to more reliable transport services. Guaranteed physical access is key for people's access to social services – e.g., education and health and access to employment opportunities outside their communities.

Management of Road Maintenance
In order to ensure benefits to road users and protect value of government investment in road infrastructure, timely and adequate road maintenance is vital. Institutional, technical and financial capacities are prerequisite for timely and adequate road maintenance.

It is on the above background that the Government implemented major reforms from late 1990s in management of road sub-sector. The reforms aimed at addressing critical challenge of severe road deterioration due to lack of adequate maintenance. One of the results of the reforms was rationalization of institutional roles and responsibilities in road asset management as follows:

- Ministry of Works: management of policies, laws, regulations and guidelines and standards as well as monitoring and evaluation of road works;
- Road Agencies: design, construct and maintenance of road infrastructures;
- Roads Fund Board: mobilize fund for road maintenance, distribute and monitoring fund utilization to ensure value for money; and
- Ministry of Finance: mobilize funds to finance road development works.

Prior to the reforms, road maintenance works were financed through the Government's Consolidated Budget and executed by the Ministry of Works. Due to huge budgetary requirements to finance other Government policies, limited funds were allocated to fund road maintenance.

This led to large part of road network to deteriorate to poor condition and other sections to become impassable. For instance, percentage of roads in good condition dropped from 85% in 1980s to 15% and 10% for National and District roads, respectively.

Therefore the Government established Roads Fund and its Board in year 2000 under the Roads and Fuels Tolls Act, Cap 220 purposely to ensure sustainable availability of funds to finance roads maintenance.

Financing of Road Maintenance Works

According to "user-pay" principle, road users are responsible for financing of road maintenance to compensate road damages caused by their vehicles. Therefore, in principle, a road user is required to pay charges at a rate equivalent to cost for compensating the damage. In this case, governments finance construction of roads whereas road users finance their (road) maintenance.

Currently, the roads maintenance works in Tanzania is financed through Roads Fund revenue from three sources, namely: fuel levy, transit charges, and overloading charges. Therefore road users in Tanzania finance road maintenance through payment of the above levy, fees and charges. Collections from fuel levy contributes over 97% of Roads Fund revenue.

Experience from other African countries indicate that fuel levy is the main source of funds for road maintenance.

Moreover, in some countries, the maintenance is financed the government budgets.

Establishment of Roads Fund and its Board have led to well established sustainable system for financing and management of road maintenance works.

This has led to remarkable improvements, including the following:

- Sustainable availability of annual allocation of funds for road maintenance: funds for road maintenance are ring-fenced by law. Therefore there is sustainable flow of annual flow funds for the maintenance. This has enabled Road Agencies to have predictable flow of funds to finance annual maintenance programs and plans.
- Improvement of roads network condition: from financial year 2016/17 to 2021/22, proportion of National and District roads in good and fair condition has remained at 88% and 95%, respectively; from average of 15% in late 1990s; and
- Improved financial and monitoring systems: financial management systems and monitoring of utilization of Roads Fund has been improved. This has reduced wasteful of resources and improved quality of road works.

Roles of the Public in Protecting Road Assets

The public, particularly road users, can play important part in protecting road assets to ensure their utilization as planned. They can play the roles including the following:

- Not to overwater flows on roads: water flow is number one factor that cause premature deterioration of road assets. Water cause roads to deteriorate prematurely, especially gravel and earth roads. It also cause premature deterioration of sub-layers of paved roads. Therefore it is unlawful for a person to cause water to flow on a road.
- Not to overload their vehicles: there is vehicle load

limit for each road depending on road standards. Overloaded vehicles cause premature deterioration of roads. This leads to increased maintenance costs and vehicle operating costs.

- To protect road furniture: it is a responsibility of general public to protect road furniture such as road signs and street light infrastructure in their respective areas. If these infrastructures are damaged or stolen it can cause road accidents and resultant huge social and economic losses.
- Not to allow livestock to walk on roads: livestock tend to damage roads and cause premature deterioration of roads. Therefore the public is advised not to allow their livestock to walk on public roads.
- Not to repair their vehicles on roads: repairing vehicles on roads surface tend to damage roads due to spilling of fuels and lubricants. Therefore vehicle owners are urged not to abide by the law by not repairing their vehicles on roads surface.
- The public to report road condition to road agencies: this will enable road agencies to timely attend damaged or destructed road section. Road condition that can be reported include road closure or big potholes.

The Roads Fund Board has established an electronic system (e-Monitoring Application) that the public can use to monitor and report road conditions in their respective areas. The system has been established purposely to enable the public, particularly road users, to actively participate in management and maintenance of road assets in their areas. The report can be recorded sent by following the steps below:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Open "Play Store" or "App Store" Send the word "Barabara" Click "Install" icon Wait till 100% | <p>Or send the report by following the steps below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Call "152" 00# Select 4 Select 5 Follow instructions. |
|--|--|

Click "Open" icon and continue to follow instructions.



Kigoma commemorates 16 days of activism against GBV

By Guardian Reporter, Kigoma

THE Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) in collaboration with Caritas Kigoma Diocese and Bakwata Aids programme (BAKAIDS) has conducted a national forum in Kigoma region to commemorate 16 days of activism against Gender Based Violence (GBV).

The forum's objective was to promote actions from individual, family, community, and society to end violence against women and girls.

The global theme for this year's 16 days of activism against GBV which runs from 25th November to December 10th 2022 is 'Unite! Activism End Violence against Women and Girls' while locally the theme is 'Every Life Matters: End Femicide and Violence against Women and Children' which emphasize on actions to eradicate all forms of GBV to save the lives of women and children.

Speaking during the forum, Kigoma regional administrative secretary, Albert Msovela said that GBV still exist within communities, insisting to end the problem, every citizen must take part and make it a national agenda.

He said, there are many incidents of violence that continue to happen in the communities but some people do not report them over fears of being harmed by the perpetrators, asking responsible organs to protect the victims.

"Religious leaders involvement in fighting GBV is important because it helps society to have fear of God and stop the actions. Stakeholders should continue building capacity to religious leaders for them to be the catalyst for positive changes," he said.

Mwanza regional Sheikh, Hassan Kabeke said there is a need to use Holy Scriptures in condemning acts of violence.

"Holy books, the bible and the Quran strongly oppose all forms of violence. The scriptures should be mostly used because people believe the scriptures than anything else," he stated.

Father Florance Rutahiwa from the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) said that people no longer fear God, hence the increase in GBV cases.

He added that other factors that contribute to GBV are that people value things instead of their fellow human beings, globalization, use of drugs and parents failure to take care of the children.

Sheikh Khamis Mataka, Chairman of the National Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA) said: "Religious leaders are responsible for building moral authority for themselves so that they can get the power of God in leading and actively condemning GBV."

Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) in Kigoma region, John Ntalima said they face various challenges in the fight against GBV whereas some victims feel ashamed to report the cases.

Ntalima proposed that more education is needed to help society see the importance of reporting GBV incidents to the police gender desk and providing information on time for to get exhibits.

NCA Program Lead for GBV, Zaria Mwenge said statistics show that the situation is bad, insisting no one is safe until GBV is totally eliminated.

The April's World Bank statistics on GBV in Tanzania shows that 40 percent of women have been subjected to acts of violence, 17 percent have been subjected to sexual violence between the ages of 15-49 and 44 percent have been divorced from their partners, also 18 per cent of women have been subjected to violence while under that age.

Zaria added that, NCA is doing various interventions to eradicate GBV in the society, including building the capacity of religious leaders to ensure that they give education to their believers on the importance of fighting against GBV.

She said organization also empowers paralegals to provide support and legal advice to victims of violence and providing education to primary pupils and secondary school students on various issues related to GBV.

Kigoma regional community development officer, Msafiri Nzunuri said that efforts to address GBV in the region have succeeded as most of the people especially women understands about GBV.

He said the region have succeeded to create positive parenting groups at community level to promote issues of good parenting. He said a total of 367 groups have been created and are working to mobilize the community on good parenting.

Stakeholders who attended the forum recommended for the government to include in its curricula the issue of GBV and ensure the existence of a child protection policy in various institutions such as schools, churches and mosques.

They said police force should increase confidentiality for victims to keep them safe, and continue to provide education to the public.

The Tanzania Demographic Health Survey-TDHS 2015-2016 shows that sexual violence is frequently committed by persons with whom the woman has a close personal relationship.

40 percent of women who experienced sexual violence reported current or former boyfriends as perpetrators and nearly one-third (31percent) reported friends/acquaintances as perpetrators and 7 percent reported strangers as perpetrators.

The Social Institutions and Gender Index study (SIGI 2022) indicates that most of reported offences include rape, defilement, incest, sodomy, indecent assault, abduction, and bigamy.

It states that about 55 percent of women aged 15-49 have experienced physical violence. In the last 12 months, statistics shows that about 16 percent of women have experienced psychological violence, physical violence (15 per cent), economic violence (9 per cent) and sexual violence (7 per cent).





JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA
Wizara ya Ujenzi na Uchukuzi
TANROADS

MAADHIMISHO YA MIAKA 61 YA UHURU WA TANZANIA BARA



Baba wa Taifa Hayati Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere



Rais wa Awamu ya Pili Mzee Ali Hassan Mwinyi



Rais wa Awamu ya Tatu Mzee Benjamin Mkapa



Rais wa Awamu ya Nne Dkt. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete



Rais wa Awamu ya Tano Hayati Dkt. John Magufuli



Rais wa Awamu ya Sita Mhe. Dkt. Samia Suluhu Hassan

Mtendaji Mkuu, Menejimenti na Wafanyakazi wa **TANROADS**, tunaungana na Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania Mhe. Dkt. Samia Suluhu Hassan pamoja na Watanzania wote katika kuadhimisha miaka **61** ya Uhuru wa Tanzania Bara.

MUNGU IBARIKI AFRIKA. MUNGU IBARIKI TANZANIA


TULIPOTOKA



Barabara ya Morogoro-Dodoma kabla ya ujenzi eneo la Kibaigwa



Barabara ya Chunya-Makongolosi kabla ya ujenzi




Barabara ya Tengeru-Sakina kabla ya ujenzi

TULIPO



Barabara ya Morogoro-Dodoma ilivyo eneo la Kibaigwa



Barabara ya Chunya-Makongolosi ilivyo sasa



Barabara ya Tengeru- Sakina ilivyo sasa

MIUNDOBINU BORA YA BARABARA, VIWANJA VYA NDEGE NA MADARAJA KWA MAENDELEO YA TAIFA

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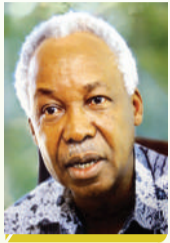
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TANZANIA SOCIAL ACTION FUND MFUKO WA MAENDELEO YA JAMII



61st INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY



The late Julius K. Nyerere
The First President of the
United Republic of Tanzania
1961 - 1985



Hon. Ali H. Mwinyi
President of the United
Republic of Tanzania
1985 - 1995



The late Benjamin W. Mkapa
President of the United
Republic of Tanzania
1995 - 2005



Hon. Dr. Jakaya M. Kikwete
President of the United
Republic of Tanzania
2005 - 2015



The late Dr. John P. Magufuli
President of the United
Republic of Tanzania
2015 - 2021



Hon. Dr. Samia S. Hassan
President of the United
Republic of Tanzania
2021 - present

National Steering Committee, Management and Staff of Tanzania Social Action Fund join her Excellency, The President of United Republic of Tanzania Hon. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan and all citizens of Tanzania in celebrating 61 years of Tanzanian's Independence

"Amani na umoja ni nguzo ya maendeleo yetu"

Executive Director
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EAC member states to postpone launching Monetary Union, Single Currency rollout

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

A special task-force has proposed to delay the implementation of the East African Monetary Union (EAMU) until 2031 from initial date of 2024, saying it is too soon considering members have not attained all requirements.

The proposed delay is an indictment on the members' commitment to achieve EAMU, a key pillar of integration. The EAMU is the third pillar of the East African Community (EAC), others being the Customs Union and the Common Market Protocol.

"The region, under EAMU, was originally expected to adopt a single currency by 2024. "We have a roadmap that was supposed to be implemented between 2013, when the Monetary Union protocol was signed, and 2024. But we did not manage to implement most of the activities in that roadmap," Pantaleo Kessy, EAC's principal economist commented.

However, the review conducted by the task-force has shown that all the partner states, namely Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and South Sudan, are behind schedule.

According to the EAMU roadmap, four broad prerequisites need to be achieved ahead of the establishment of the Monetary Union and the first one includes the full implementation of the Customs Union and Common Market protocols.

Both the Customs Union and Common Market Protocols are currently under implementation.

Although much progress has been made, the protocols are not yet fully implemented because partner states are at different levels of implementation.

Another obstacle hindering the progress toward the EAMU stems from the fact that not all partner states have attained the four macroeconomic convergence criteria, for the implementation of the monetary union.

UN says illicit trafficking in cultural property harms the Africa's identity

NAIROBI

THE United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has said the illicit trafficking in cultural property harms Africa's identity.

Hubert Gijzen, UNESCO regional director for Eastern Africa said in a speech read on his behalf by Misako Ito, the regional adviser for communication and information for Africa at UNESCO that illicit export of physical cultural objects has been practiced throughout the history of the continent in various forms and with different intentions.

"The scourge threatens, in the long run, the very identity, history, and memory of the African peoples," Ito said in Nairobi, Kenya's capital, during a capacity-building workshop on the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property in eastern Africa.

The five-day forum aimed to raise awareness and build capacity on the importance of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

Ito called on all stakeholders to join forces in the protection of Africa's rich heritage because they represent unique instruments of cultural diplomacy.

She observed that certain works of art and culture play a critical role in the history of communities from where they were taken and the severing of the cultural property deprives people of their heritage because it is unjust for the symbols linking them to be denied, and for the roots that have taken hold to be severed.

According to Ito, eight countries in the Eastern Africa region including Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, and Tanzania have ratified the 1970 Convention on the illicit transfer of cultural objects.

Peninah Malonza, Kenya's Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage Cabinet Secretary said that the COVID-19 pandemic worsened illicit trafficking in cultural property in the Eastern Africa region and increased the challenges that now include large-scale looting and illegal online sales.

Malonza said that Kenya is keen to ensure that it puts in place robust preventive measures and commits to engaging in inter-regional and international cooperation to eliminate the illicit trafficking of cultural objects.

She noted that Kenya is also fast-tracking the ratification of the 1970 Convention on the illicit transfer of cultural objects so that it can join other state parties to the agreement.

Malonza said the ratification of the convention will further reinforce the role and contribution of culture as an enabler for the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

217185401

WE CELEBRATE 61 YEARS OF

TANZANIA INDEPENDENCE

Yapi Merkezi takes pride in being part of a progressive economy of the United Republic of Tanzania. Our Board, Senior Management, and entire Yapi Merkezi Staff join the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the Government and the citizens of Tanzania in celebrating its 61st year of independence.

May the spirit of freedom continue to usher our shared pursuit for prosperity, oneness and happiness for all Tanzanians

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Bank of Baroda (Tanzania) Limited

61 CELEBRATING YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE 1961 - 2022

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the
Bank of Baroda (Tanzania) Ltd

wish to join the President of the United Republic of Tanzania,
H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan and all citizens of Tanzania on
commemorating the 61st Anniversary of
Tanzania's Independence.

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217185301

CONSTRUCTION BECOMES SECOND CONTRIBUTOR TO GROWTH

By Guardian Reporter

Construction sector become second contributor to economic growth in Tanzania mainland and the leading contributor in Zanzibar during the second quarter of this year ending June from sixth during similar quarter of last year.

According to quarterly economic bulletin by Bank of Tanzania (BoT), in Tanzania mainland the sector contributed 13.1 percent to growth behind agriculture, which was on top of the list by contributing 14.9 percent to growth.

During similar quarter of last year construction sector contributed 8 percent to growth.

In Zanzibar, the bulletin shows construction was the leading contributor to economic growth with 12 percent, similar growth recorded during the second quarter of last year, followed by manufacturing which contributed by 9.5 percent and real estate by 8 percent.

The construction sector growth in Zanzibar during the reported period reached 10.6 percent while the real estate grew by 7.1 percent against contraction of 28.6 percent and growth of 6.9 percent respectively.

The bulletin shows that in Tanzania mainland, the sector grew by 4 percent during the period reviewed, more than doubled from 1.9 percent recorded during the quarter ended in June last year.

The bulletin shows that real estate contribution to economic growth was 2.6 percent during the second quarter of this year, a decrease from 3.4 percent recorded during similar quarter of last year.

Real estate growth in Tanzania mainland during the period was 4.4 percent, a slight decrease from the growth of 4.6 percent recorded during the end of the second quarter of last year.

BoT says performance of



the economy in the first two quarters of 2022 was 5.2 percent compared with 4.4 percent during the first half of last year,

which is fairly satisfactory given the unprecedented global challenges faced.

Data for third quarter will be released

by the National Bureau of Statistics in January 2023, but high frequency indicators of economic

activities also show satisfactory performance.

The economy grew by 4.8 percent in the quarter ending June 2022 compared with 3.8 percent in the corresponding quarter in 2021.

During the quarter ending June 2022, accommodation and restaurant activity recorded the highest growth, mainly attributed to a sustained recovery of tourism activities that is reflected in the continued increase in the number of tourist arrivals.

The number of tourists grew by almost 99 percent during the quarter compared with the corresponding quarter in 2021. Other activities which recorded high growth were finance and insurance (9.9 percent) driven by increased lending levels, which grew by 20.1 percent, and water supply (9.5 percent) attributed to improved water production and infrastructure to match water demand due to population growth.

Global demand for decorative tiles up by 4.4 pct

By Guardian Reporter

Through 2026, global demand for decorative tile is forecast to increase 4.4 percent per year to 22.6 billion square meters valued at \$280 billion, according to report by ResearchAndMarkets.com.

Market growth will be driven by strong gains in building construction activity in the Asia/Pacific and Africa/Mideast regions, where these tiles are common building products for aesthetic, cost, and religious reasons.

The increases in the average size of houses around the world, including larger kitchens and more bathrooms per dwelling, which boosts demand for flooring, interior wall cladding, and countertops and backsplashes will also drive the growth of the market.

Other drivers will be increasing personal incomes allowing for greater investment long term on housing products such as flooring, wall cladding, siding, and countertops as well as advances in digital printing, which have improved the ability of ceramic tile flooring to convincingly mimic the look of higher end materials such as hardwood and marble porcelain slab's rapid inroads in interior building applications throughout the world.

China and India are the two largest markets for decorative tile and combined they will account for 47% of absolute gains globally.

India, the world's second largest decorative tile market, is projected to see the fastest growth, with gains of 13% per year.

Growth will be driven by robust increases in both residential and non-residential building construction. In addition, the country's large decorative tile industry makes these products - especially ceramic tile - inexpensive and readily available to builders.

China, which is by far the largest decorative tile market in the world, is expected to grow at a rate below the global average, but the country will still account for a significant share of absolute gains in both value and volume terms.

Despite slowdowns in residential building construction, the country will continue to dominate the global decorative tile industry, supported by a vast nonresidential building construction market that commonly sources low-cost ceramic tile for flooring and wall cladding applications.

Large format porcelain slab will be the fastest growing decorative tile product in the world, with demand rising at a rate of 25 percent annually.

Maurel & Prom to buy Tanzania-focused Wentworth

By Guardian Correspondent &

Agencies

French independent Maurel & Prom has struck a £62 million (\$75.8 million) deal to acquire UK-listed Wentworth Resources after having an initial offer rebuffed in September.

The deal would see M&P boost its stake in Mnazi Bay gas field.

The two companies - partners in the Mnazi Bay gas field onshore Tanzania - said this earlier week that they have reached agreement on the terms of a recommended acquisition of the entire issued and to be issued share capital of Wentworth by M&P.

The planned deal would see Wentworth shareholders receiving 32.5 pence for each share, valuing the entire issued and to be issued ordinary share capital at about £61.7 million.

This offer represents a premium of about 30 percent on Wentworth's closing share price of 25 pence on 2 December.

Adjusting for Wentworth's existing cash of about \$30.2 million as at 1 November 2022, the acquisition values the company's business and non-cash net assets at about £37.1 million.

This planned acquisition "represents a material increase" to the initial indicative offer price proposed by M&P on 23 September this year, the French company said. On news of the deal, Wentworth's shares were trading 22 percent higher at 30.5 pence in London this morning, while M&P share price was up just over 1 percent at €4.07 (\$4.29).

Wentworth's sole non-cash asset is its 31.94 percent interest in the Mnazi Bay gas asset which is operated by M&P.

The offer has the support of Wentworth directors and the backing of about 22 percent of the London-listed player's other shareholders.

The deal is subject to approval of shareholders, the Tanzania government and the waiver of any right of first refusal or pre-emption right of state-owned Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation.

Black Rock in power talks for Mahenge graphite mine

PERTH

Australia Securities Exchange (ASX)-listed Black Rock Mining has inked a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU) to secure grid power for the Mahenge graphite project, in Tanzania.

Black Rock on Monday announced the MoU with Tanzania Electricity Supply Company (Tanesco) to collaborate on the construction of a 229 kV transmission line to the Mahenge project, as well as local towns.

Black Rock CEO John de Vries told shareholders that grid power will provide Mahenge with a significant multiplier effect through low-cost sustainable power which should lock in the project's position in the lowest quartile of the cost curve, low carbon which will differenti-

ate Mahenge's product in key consumer markets, and the provision of reliable power for the Ulanga and Mahenge areas, driving the win-win relationship developed under the government Framework Agreement and ratified by the Special Mining Licence.

"This MoU follows recent stakeholder discussions and presentations in Tanzania as part of a whole of government workshop forum which focused on collaboration to achieve key outcomes for the Mahenge graphite mine operation.

"Critically, as we navigate the debt and equity finance process, investors should look at this outcome and gain confidence that Black Rock and Faru are focused on our long-term plan to deliver a world-class, sustainable and responsible graphite project at Mahenge," said De Vries.

troileum Development Corporation.

Commenting on the agreement, M&P chief executive Olivier de Langavant said: "As the operator of the Mnazi Bay gas field, increasing our stake through the acquisition of Wentworth is a

logical step and reflects our stated strategy of maximising value from existing assets.

"Mnazi Bay is an important project to M&P and we look forward to ensuring it continues to

make a positive impact, helping Tanzania meet its increasing energy demands and enabling local development."

Wentworth chairman Tim Bushell said the board "is pleased to recommend the acquisition

by M&P which represents a substantial premium to Wentworth's prevailing share price and offers an opportunity for our shareholders to realise this value in the near term for cash".

NATIONAL HOUSING CORPORATION

61 Years OF TANZANIA INDEPENDENCE

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of National Housing Corporation (NHC) join the President of the United Republic of Tanzania

Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan

and all Tanzanians to celebrate the 61st independence anniversary of Tanzania

We in NHC restate our commitment to honour our 6th phase President by playing our role of promoting quality habitats in the country.

DIRECTOR GENERAL :NATIONAL HOUSING CORPORATION
 P.o.box 2977 | DAR ES SALAAM
 Tel +255 222105000-5 | Email: dg@nhc.co.tz

INTERVIEW

African real estate market limping back to normalcy post-pandemic

The return of businesses to offices across several cities in the African continent is opening up the property market in offices and warehouse sectors. However, there remains a shortage of high-quality, internationally specified warehouse facilities to satisfy the growing level of requirements. Boniface Abudho (pictured), Africa Research Analyst at Knight Frank shared his outlook on the residential property market, during an interview with Zawya Projects.



Cross-border investment in African commercial estate in 2021 is reported to be down by 49 percent from 2020. What is the current outlook for the real estate market in commercial space in Africa?

With the abating of COVID-19 restrictions, many businesses have made a full return to the office. This has helped lift occupancy levels in all of the 29 African cities tracked by Knight Frank.

The influx of returning expatriates, most of whom had left during the pandemic due to job losses, has boosted office occupancy rates around many cities on the continent.

The successful completion of several key general elections has reinforced the market's confidence levels. For instance, Kenya and Angola successfully completed their general elections in the summer and investors and occupiers have slowly begun to ramp up their activities in these two markets.

Markets like Egypt are also benefiting from normalisation of global travel. Businesses that had previously exited Cairo due to the uncertainty surrounding business continuity in the wake of COVID-19 are returning. This has helped to lift occupancy levels to around 70 percent.

Elsewhere, Africa's industrial sector continues to remain resilient with agriculture-linked activities, data centres, and logistics facilities underpinning demand. Various government initiatives designed

to spur growth have bolstered the demand.

However, there remains a shortage of high-quality, internationally specified warehouse facilities to satisfy the growing level of requirements.

Inadequate transport and energy infrastructure remains the key demand dampener in many countries. This is changing rapidly with governments recognising the importance of upgrading existing infrastructure to support local economies and sectors such as industrial and logistics.

Could you further elaborate on your observations on commercial real estate, and specifically on the office space market?

Africa's office markets remain buoyant, with the demand for prime offices outpacing supply in several cities across the continent. This is despite the spiking inflation and repeated currency devaluations.

Most businesses have returned to the office full-time as the pandemic restrictions have been largely removed from around the continent.

The rising demand for smaller offices of less than 300 square metres (sqm) in Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia is of particular interest. This is being driven in part by rising global inflationary pressures which are curtailing occupiers' expansion plans, particularly those of the international variety.

While office rental rates in Lagos have held steady at \$55 psm since the fourth quarter of 2021, they remain the highest on the continent.

Nigeria appears to have fully recovered from the

pandemic, with occupancy levels for Grades A and B standing at close to 100 percent. Grade A offices continue to attract the highest demand, despite their low supply.

One of the reasons why rents have remained stable in the Lagos market is due to the declining pipeline of new projects. And with a limited number of new developments, upward pressure on lease rates is expected to persist.

However, despite the apparent availability of office space, businesses are focussed on best-in-class space, preferably with ESG credentials attached. These buildings remain in short supply around the continent. Businesses are willing to pay a premium for such offices, especially international companies with global ESG mandates.

On ESG, could you throw light on the prospects for ESG-compliant properties?

In Africa, demand is centred on best-in-class space, with investors and occupiers zeroing in on schemes that satisfy their ESG criteria. This theme will continue to intensify, raising questions about the future of older, more secondary and non-ESG-compliant stock.

However, the number of green-certified developments remains low. According to our research, Africa has approximately 785 green-rated buildings, 641 in South Africa alone. For comparison, the United States has 81,000 green-rated buildings and is the world leader.

Rising inflation and increasing cost of

borrowing are said to be curbing domestic demands for houses. What according to you is the key to opening up the sluggish home sector in Africa?

Affordability remains the key to unlocking Africa's home potential.

Across the continent, housing demand is shifting away from city centres to the suburbs primarily due to affordability considerations. The shift in demand is further enhanced by the relative gain in indoor and outdoor space. Affordability is expected to come into even sharper focus with inflation continuing to edge upward and household incomes continuing to be eroded.

Historically, housing affordability challenges have usually been addressed at the government level through various subsidies. In the current environment of record inflation, the continent's authorities are rapidly mobilising to stave off any cost-of-living emergency.

The Egyptian government, for instance, has already intervened in the residential market by reducing land acquisition costs. Other governments have tried to encourage the development of more affordable housing through tax rebates on construction costs.

Elsewhere, the challenge is even greater. In many markets on the continent, demand for residential real estate has historically been fuelled by easy access to cheap debt financing, but the rising lending rates are quickly becoming a stumbling block for many house hunters.

For example, mortgage rates in Nigeria stand at over 20 percent, positioning them well out of reach of the average buyer. The recent transactions in the country are being linked predominantly to the cash-rich diaspora.

Developers recognise the scale of the challenge, and the continent has seen a wide range of residential property types being brought forward to address Africa's affordable housing needs. Co-living and fully furnished apartments have quickly become more mainstream and are proving to be a hit among locals as well as returning single expatriates.

Which are the countries and sectors in Africa's property market that have fared well or have bright prospects in near future?

Data centres have emerged as the new demand drivers. They are gaining traction amongst developers and investors in Africa as an attractive alternative development asset.

Separately, the logistics sector also enjoys heightened demand with many occupiers gravitating towards high-quality warehouses, which remain in short supply. Developers are rapidly mobilising around the continent, but a significant deficit remains.

Manufacturing is also fast becoming a central pillar of demand for many of the continent's industrial markets. Kenya, for instance, is encouraging the consumption of locally produced goods through initiatives such as 'Buy Kenya, Build Kenya', which is creating new demand.

Rising inflation in South Africa is also boosting demand for locally manufactured goods. Unsurprisingly, demand from manufacturers is rising rapidly.

Do you see any discernible effect of global factors on investment in African real estate?

The monetary tightening in the United States and rising risk premiums associated with the war in Ukraine have placed downward pressure on exchange rates across Africa. However, real estate investors have mitigated this risk by deploying their capital to projects with dollar-denominated returns, where possible.

From an investment point of view, rising oil prices have benefitted many hydrocarbon-dependent economies in Africa. Indeed, Uganda is pressing ahead with plans to invest \$15 billion in developing its oil sector, with the first exports expected by 2025. This is likely to have a transformative impact on the economy.

Is the continent's real estate market out of the pandemic challenge or do the pandemic-related legacies persist?

Vaccination rates in Africa remain lower than in the rest of the world. Only 24.4 percent of people in Africa have received one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine compared to 69 percent around the world. There have been challenges in accessing rural populations and managing stigmas associated with vaccines.

Some legacy economic challenges spawned by the pandemic remain. Although, with restrictions now largely removed, demand is improving across all sectors.

CELEBRATING

61
YEARS
OF INDEPENDENCE

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the
Canara Bank (T) Ltd.

wish to join the President of the United Republic of Tanzania,
H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan and all citizens of Tanzania on
 commemorating the 61th Anniversary of
 Tanzania's Independence.



Canara Bank (Tanzania) Ltd.
 (Together we can build a better life)

CONSTRUCTION

AFRICAN AQUACULTURE LEADERS TO BUILD AQUA-FEEDS MILL

NAIROBI

Maxim Agri Holding, Victory Farms and Gatsby Africa have announced plans to break ground on the SamakGro aquafeed mill.

According to a news release, the feed mill facility will be managed by Netherlands-based Maxim Agri and will produce high quality and affordable aqua-feeds to meet the demand from East Africa's growing aquaculture industry.

The company has extensive experience in emerging markets through its operations in Pakistan and Sri Lanka, with its Kenya operations launched in November 2017.

Maxim Agri will focus

on producing customised feed to help small land commercial farmers maximise their performance.

Obaid ur Rehman, general manager of SamakGro Limited Kenya, said, "we are excited about the strategic advantages and opportunities for the aquaculture industry that this joint venture will create through localising feed production and making available a product of verifiable, consistent quality that aquaculture practitioners and entrepreneurs can rely on."

Construction of the SamakGro mill is ongoing in Naivasha, Kenya, with feed production expected to begin in 2023. The news release projects that multiple jobs will be created and that liveli-

hoods will be positively affected when the mill comes online.

In addition to being geared for aquaculture nutrition and feed production, the mill plans to invest in local ingredient trials and development, testing for the right mix of nutritional elements from Kenya-produced ingredients. The project also hopes to keep sustainability at its core by relying on sustainable sources of energy. SamakGro's main facility will operate on a mix of solar and geothermal power.

"We are excited about the strategic advantages and opportunities for the aquaculture industry that this joint venture will create," said Rehman.

Caesar Asiyo, Victory Farms chief development officer, is confident that

once it is operating at full capacity, the SamakGro feed mill will play an instrumental role in alleviating the perennial shortage of affordable quality aqua feeds in the country and become a major contributor to level the field for the growth of a robust and competitive aquaculture industry.

The joint venture will contribute directly to the Manufacturing pillar of President Uhuru Kenyatta's Big Four Agenda and will play a critical role in economic development through creation of employment opportunities.

Once operational, the mill will provide foundational support for food and nutritional security through its direct linkage to the aquaculture industry.



Britain urges banks to offer mortgage flexibility

LONDON

Britain has called on banks to support households finding it difficult to make payments on mortgages during the cost of living crisis.

Finance minister Jeremy Hunt told banking bosses at a meeting on Wednesday he expected them to help borrowers, while the Financial Conduct Authority laid out options the regulator said lenders should adopt to ease the strain.

"We expect every lender to live up to their responsibilities and support any mortgage borrowers who are finding it tough right now," Hunt said in a statement after the meeting.

Attendees included NatWest Chief Executive Alison Rose, Nationwide CEO Debbie Crosbie, HSBC UK CEO Ian Stuart, Lloyds CEO of consumer lending Jasjit Singh, consumer campaigner Martin Lewis and FCA Chairman Richard Lloyd.

The lenders agreed to offer support such as switching to cheaper fixed rates without a new affordability test, extending a loan or lowering monthly payments, the finance ministry said.

The FCA, in draft guidance on Wednesday, also laid out similar options it said banks should offer customers.

However, the proposals stopped short of the forbearance package offered to borrowers in COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns, which included widespread payment holidays.

Britain is facing an economic crunch that official budget forecasters predict could mean households face a record hit to living standards over the next two years.

Political turmoil in Britain under the short-lived premiership of Liz Truss also forced up the cost of borrowing and led lenders to hike mortgage rates, although some have edged down since markets calmed under Prime Minister Rishi Sunak.

After years of rising house prices, signs of strain are starting to appear in the housing market. Prices slid last month by the most since the global financial crisis, mortgage lender Halifax said on Wednesday.

In its draft guidance, the FCA also said firms may offer payment concessions, adding that lenders did not have to reassess affordability when changing a mortgage contract to reflect forbearance.

The FCA announced a short public consultation on the guidance until Dec. 21.

"Firms may offer a range of contract variations to support borrowers who would like to reduce their monthly payments, and our rules allow this regardless of whether customers are facing payment difficulties," the FCA said.

"We will consider if there are further steps we can take to help firms to support their borrowers, including at scale."

CELEBRATING 61 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the
Bank of India (T) Ltd,
 wish to join the President of the United Republic of Tanzania,
H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan and all citizens of Tanzania on
 commemorating the 61 Anniversary of
 Tanzania's Independence.



Her Excellency **Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan**
 President of the United Republic of Tanzania



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
 MINISTRY OF LANDS, HOUSING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS DEVELOPMENT
 TOWN PLANNERS REGISTRATION BOARD



CELEBRATING 61 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE 1961- 2022



61

YEARS
 OF INDEPENDENCE

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Town Planners Registration Board, join the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency **Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan**, and all Tanzanians in celebrating 61 years of Tanganyika Independence (now Tanzania). Town planners' registration board will continue to work and stand by the government making sure that through our activities we contribute positively to the national economic strategies and wellbeing of the communities we work in.

God bless Africa, God bless Tanzania.

TOWN PLANNERS REGISTRATION BOARD
 Location: Library Street Telephone: 026 2323833 | Hotline: +2550753 504222 | P.O. Box 1150, Dodoma,
 Tanzania, Email Address: registrar@tprb.go.tz | Website: www.tprb.go.tz



Her Excellency **Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan**
 President of the United Republic of Tanzania

WORLD

As WHO pandemic pact talks begin, poor nations on back foot

GENEVA/LONDON

GLOBAL talks have begun on drafting new health rules for combating pandemics, and developing nations are lobbying for fairer access to treatments than they got during COVID-19.

But they worry that the odds of a favourable outcome from a scheduled 18 months of negotiations at the World Health Organization are already stacked against them, as they lack the negotiating firepower of wealthier countries.

South Africa, Pakistan and India were among countries that made formal requests, during an initial three days of talks that ended on Wednesday, to ensure the process is inclusive.

That challenge is "very daunting," said an ambassador from a developing country who asked not to be named.

"The advanced countries have the requisite resources and can afford to have it covered and we cannot," he said.

Countries' relative negotiating clout is significant since questions of fairness

- including access to vaccines and drugs and calls for transparency in governments' dealings with pharmaceutical firms - are set to be at the heart of talks.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus called the accord a chance to make the world safer for generations, while labelling the distribution of shots during COVID-19 as "vaccine apartheid".

Jaouad Mahjour, the WHO's Assistant Director-General, Emergency Preparedness and International Health Regulations, said the health body had heard small delegations' concerns "very clearly" and would be taking them into consideration.

Three sources familiar with the negotiations say developing countries are seeking a trade-off built into the treaty, which would reward them for sharing information about disease outbreaks with guarantees of access to treatments.

Pressure for a breakthrough on this may increase, they say, with talks on a temporary waiver of intellectual prop-



People wait to be vaccinated against COVID-19 at Ngando informal settlement in Nairobi on Dec 16, 2021. File photo

erty rights for COVID-19 treatments deadlocked at the World Trade Organization.

Marathon talks

At the WHO, 18 months of tough negotiations on the 32-page document lie ahead, with a deal targeted by May 2024. One diplomat estimated the talks alone would take up to 400 hours.

In parallel, country teams are discussing setting up a G20 pandemic fund and revamping the WHO's existing health emergency rules. Experts following the latter will have to sift through over 20 proposals containing some 300 amendments.

To respond to the challenge, some Western countries like the United States have appointed a lead negotiator. US representative Pamela

Hamamoto said this week that despite progress, the draft was "not yet ready for our use".

Meanwhile, "small governments will not be able to engage in (the) process as they will be totally overwhelmed," said Clare Wenham, associate professor of global health policy at the London School of Economics and Political Science, who follows the WHO.

Many poorer countries lack technical specialists to advise on WHO matters within the Geneva diplomatic mission, where the UN agency is based. Instead, diplomats from smaller nations split their time between health and other topics, like trade.

South Africa's Precious Matsoso, co-chair of the pandemic treaty talks, told Reuters countries could hire experts to help, or band together for regional representation. **Agencies**

Netanyahu secures majority, closer to forming government

JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S incoming Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu secured a parliamentary majority yesterday after his Likud party said it had reached an agreement with the Jewish ultra-Orthodox Shas party.

Netanyahu's right-wing alliance won a comfortable victory in a Nov 1 election, Israel's fifth in less than four years. His partnership with far-right parties has stirred concern at home and abroad.

"We have completed another step towards the formation of a right-wing government that will act to serve all of Israel's citizens," Netanyahu said in the statement.

The agreement with Shas gives Netanyahu control over 64 of the Knesset's 120 seats, though a final coalition deal has yet to be signed.

According to the agreement, Shas leader Aryeh Deri will head the interior and health ministries during the first half of the government's term, then take up the finance ministry in the second half. Deri will also serve as deputy prime minister throughout Netanyahu's tenure.

Deri, a veteran politician, was convicted of tax fraud last year but spared jail under a plea deal. The Knesset will have to pass legislation that would enable his return to the cabinet.



Special military operation is lengthy process, but some results already in sight, says Putin

MOSCOW

THE special military operation is a long process, but it has already yielded significant results, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a meeting with members of the Council for the Development of Civil Society and Human Rights (HRC) on Wednesday.

"As for the results of the special military operation, some of them may manifest themselves only after a long while. New territories have appeared. This is a significant result for Russia. These are serious questions. Take the Sea of Azov, which has become Russia's inland sea. That's very serious," he said.

Putin recalled that even Peter the Great in his day fought for access to the Sea of Azov. The most important thing, though, is the people who live in all these territories, he said.

"The results of the referendum showed that the people want to be in Russia and consider themselves part of this world, part of this space, and our common culture, traditions, and language.

This is the most important result. Now they are with us. There millions of such people. This is the most important thing," Putin stressed. **Agencies**



Xi's Saudi visit to shore up unity

By Zhang Yunbi in Beijing and Xu Wei in Riyadh

UNITY and collaboration between China and Arab nations is set for a significant boost after President Xi Jinping arrived in Saudi Arabia's capital, Riyadh, on Wednesday for a state visit.

During his four-day Middle East trip, Xi will attend two important conferences - the first China-Arab States Summit and the first summit of the China and Gulf Cooperation Council.

China and Saudi Arabia are good friends, partners and brothers, Xi said in written remarks upon his arrival on Wednesday.

The two sides have always understood and supported each other over the past 32 years, during which strategic mutual trust has been consolidated and pragmatic cooperation has yielded fruitful results, Xi added.

As the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic and challenges to a global economic recovery, China and Arab countries will use Xi's visit to step up support for each other's self-reliant development, bolster post-pandemic prosperity, and advance peace and stability in the region, observers said.

The China-Arab States Summit is the first opportunity for face-to-face communication between leaders since the outbreak of the pandemic, Chinese consul-general in Dubai, Li Xuhang, told local media. It is also the first major multilateral diplomatic event co-chaired by China after the conclusion of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China

in October, he added.

"The summit constitutes a major diplomatic action of the largest scale and highest protocols intended for the Arab world since the founding of the People's Republic of China, and will become a milestone in the history of China-Arab ties," Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning said on Wednesday.

The two sides will map out a blueprint for future cooperation, and render each other firm support, promote common development and defend multilateralism, Mao said.

In the first nine months of this year, bilateral trade was \$319.3 billion, a year-on-year increase of 35 percent, according to a report issued by the Chinese Foreign Ministry on Friday.

In addition to constantly deepening collaboration on traditional energy, the two sides have also made breakthroughs in "high-end, cutting-edge technology domains", such as 5G telecommunication, nuclear power, aerospace and satellite technology, according to the report.

Yu Zirong, vice-president of the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation, said economic and trade cooperation between China and Arab countries has witnessed remarkable achievements since the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum was founded in 2004, and the introduction of the Belt and Road Initiative in 2013.

"The two sides should intensify efforts in advancing negotiation on a China-GCC free trade zone, further optimize the trade structure between them, tap into emerging areas



President Xi Jinping is warmly greeted upon his arrival by Governor of Riyadh Province Prince Faisal bin Bandar Al Saud, Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, Minister Yasir Al-Rumayyan and other key members of the royal family and senior officials of the government at the King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on Wednesday. XINHUA

for investment, and upgrade their collaboration on infrastructure," Yu said.

The Gulf Cooperation Council, which was founded in 1981, consists of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. China established relations with the grouping in 1981.

In recent years, two-way cooperation on the economy, trade, finance, energy, technology and culture has rapidly increased. The two sides started negotiation on a free trade agreement in 2004.

The upcoming China-GCC Summit will be the first time that leaders of China and GCC countries gather in person to discuss future plans.

The summit is expected to carry forward the China-GCC traditional friendship, enrich strategic China-GCC ties and lift relations to a higher level, said Mao, the spokeswoman.

Wang Guangda, secretary-general of the China-Arab Research Center on Reform and Development and a professor at Shanghai International Studies University said, "China's presence in the Middle East region is not to fill a geopolitical blank there, but to promote peace, facilitate dialogues and achieve common development".

Xi arrived in Riyadh on Wednesday for his second visit to Saudi Arabia since 2016.

The Saudi Press Agency said on Tuesday the visit will "bolster historic ties and strategic partnership between the two countries".

Currently, China is the top trade partner of Saudi Arabia and

the Middle Eastern country is China's largest source of oil imports.

"In recent years, the two countries have jointly advanced the synergy of the Belt and Road Initiative with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 blueprint, and they have achieved fruitful outcomes, benefiting the people of both countries," Chinese Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Chen Weiqing said in an article published last month.

During his visit, President Xi will hold talks with King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud to "exchange views on bilateral ties and issues of common concern, taking China-Saudi Arabia comprehensive strategic partnership to a higher level", said Mao.

People in Saudi Arabia have high expectations for the leaders' meetings as cultural exchanges and economic cooperation have made solid progress, especially under the BRI.

Yousef Al Balushi, a sales and marketing director in Riyadh, said China's development has been beneficial for the region. It represents the future, and many local parents want their children to study Chinese, he said.

Mark Refaat, an engineer working on a hotel project in Riyadh, said they have just finished a large complex in the capital, which features Chinese quarters among others. He added that China's infrastructure strength is impressive. **Xinhua**

THE third batch of space scientific experimental samples from China's Tiangong space station were delivered to scientists after a return capsule, carrying astronauts of the Shenzhou-14 crew, touched down at the Dongfeng landing site in north China's Inner Mongolia autonomous region on Dec. 4, Beijing Time.

The returned experimental samples included three cold packs of rice and Arabidopsis, and a bag with four boxes of container-free materials.

Rice, the main crop for humans, is a major candidate crop for the life support system in future manned deep space exploration.

Rice breeding under space microgravity is one of the important directions of space botany research. To ensure long-term sur-

China cultivates world's first rice seeds in orbit

vival in space, humans must make sure that plants can complete the alternation of generations and successfully reproduce in space.

It was the first time in history that the full life-cycle growth experiment of rice was completed in space. Previously, only thale cress, rape, peas and wheat had successfully grown from seed to seed in the space environment, but the rice had not been able to complete the full growth cycle in such circumstances.

The life-cycle growth experiments of rice were handled by Zheng Huiqiong, a researcher at the Center for Excellence in Molecular Plant Sciences under the Chinese

Academy of Sciences, and her team.

Flowering is a crucial stage for plant reproductive development. The team also systematically studied the effects of microgravity on flowering in space using the model plant Arabidopsis.

Several life sciences experiments were done during 120 days in orbit. Experimental seeds of rice completed the entire growth process from seed to seed, and relevant images were acquired from space for analysis. The rice was grown after the pruning and it yielded the second crop of mature seeds in space.

Besides, the experiments also completed the analysis and sampling on seed germi-

nation, seedling growth and flowering of Arabidopsis under space microgravity.

Preliminary results showed that rice plants became looser in space with larger leaf angles. Short-grain rice grew shorter while the height of tall-grain rice was not significantly affected. Besides, the spiral upward movement of rice leaf growth controlled by the biological clock was more accentuated in space.

Moreover, the ratooning rice can sprout two ears of rice 20 days after pruning in space, which confirms the possibility of growing ratooning rice in a small closed environment. It has provided new ideas and a solid basis for the efficient production of

crops in space.

It marked the first time in the world to apply ratooning rice technologies in space, and is expected to significantly increase the yield of rice per unit of volume.

Scientists for the first time studied the key biological clock-controlled genes that regulate photoperiodic flowering in space. They found that for Arabidopsis, the genes' response to a microgravity environment is significantly different from that on the ground. It has provided a new direction for using modified flowering genes to make plants better adapt to microgravity in space.

Modi's party set for landslide election win in India's Gujarat state

AHMEDABAD

INDIAN Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was headed for a landslide victory in his home state of Gujarat yesterday, a big boost to the Hindu nationalist party ahead of general elections due in 2024.

The western industrial state is a bastion of the BJP, which has not lost state assembly elections there since 1995. Modi was Gujarat's chief minister for 13 years before becoming prime minister in 2014.

The BJP led in more than 80% of seats out of a total 182 in early counting of votes and was on its way to wrest a larger majority than in 2017, when it won 99 seats in the last state assembly elections.

The party was also set to surpass its best results in Gujarat when it won 127 seats in 2002.

Modi remains widely popular in the country, partly due to economic growth and also because of his strong base among India's Hindu majority population, despite critics pointing to rising inflation, unemployment and growing religious polarization.

He is eyeing a third term as prime minister in 2024 and campaigned extensively across the state in the run up to the Gujarat vote.

The BJP's main opposition in Gujarat came from the Indian National Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which emerged in 2012 out of an anti-corruption movement.

The 137-year-old Congress party led in 26 seats, far below the 77 seats it won in 2017, while the AAP was ahead in nine seats having won none the last time.

In another state election in the small northern state of Himachal Pradesh, the BJP was also hoping to ride on Modi's aggressive campaigning to retain power. The BJP and the Congress were neck and neck for seats in the 68-seat assembly.

Victories in both Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh will come as a welcome boost for the BJP, which lost control of the municipal corporation in the national capital Delhi to the AAP, in results announced on Wednesday.

Agencies



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves to his supporters as he arrives to cast his vote during the second and last phase of Gujarat state assembly elections in Ahmedabad, India, Dec 5, 2022. REUTERS

UN says illicit trafficking in cultural property harms Africa's identity

NAIROBI

THE United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) said Wednesday the illicit trafficking in cultural property harms Africa's identity.

Hubert Gijzen, UNESCO Regional Director for Eastern Africa said in a speech read on his behalf by Misako Ito, the Regional Adviser for Communication and Information for Africa at UNESCO that illicit export of physical cultural objects has been practiced throughout the history of the continent in various forms and with different intentions.

The scourge threatens, in the long run, the very identity, history, and memory of the African peoples," Ito said in Nairobi, Kenya's capital, during a capacity-building workshop on the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property in eastern Africa.

The five-day forum aimed to raise awareness and build capacity on the importance of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. Ito called on all stakeholders to join forces in the protection of Africa's rich heritage because they represent unique instruments of cultural diplomacy.

She observed that certain works of art and culture play a critical role in the history of communities from where they were taken and the severing of the cultural property deprives people of their heritage because it is unjust for the symbols linking them to be denied, and for the roots that have taken hold to be severed.

According to Ito, eight countries in the Eastern Africa region including Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, and Tanzania have ratified the 1970 Convention on the illicit transfer of cultural objects. Peninah Malonza, Kenya's Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage Cabinet Secretary said that the COVID-19 pandemic worsened illicit trafficking in cultural property in the Eastern Africa region and increased the challenges that now include large-scale looting and illegal online sales.

Agencies

Xinhua

Russia ready for dialogue with US only on equal basis, says Russian embassy

WASHINGTON

MOSCOW is ready for dialogue with Washington only on the bases of the principle of equality and due account of its concerns about its security and calls on the US side for honest work, the Russian embassy in the US said in a commentary on the 35th anniversary of the Washington summit, which was released on Wednesday.

"We call on the American side to work honestly. Ignoring Russian interests as well as Washington's thoughtless implementation of its

foreign policy while being convinced of its own exclusivity and superiority, have already led to huge problems, crises in the world politics and economy," the embassy noted.

"We have learned our lessons from the past. We are well aware of the cowboy desire to "do away with the rival". We perfectly understand that one mustn't take everything the American political establishment, especially the today's one, says at face value," it stressed.

"Russia is ready for a dialogue only on the basis of equality and if our country's security concerns are

taken into account."

The embassy recalled that "a special achievement" of the Washington summit of December 8-10, 1987 was the signing by the leaders of the two superpowers of the Treaty on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles.

"Foreign policy decision makers in Washington today should once again look back at those events" to learn the lessons from them, the embassy noted.

According to the embassy, the memoirs of Soviet leader Mikhail

Gorbachev (1931-2022) and the then US President Ronald Reagan's (1911-2004) indicate that "it is obvious that the level of mistrust towards each other remained very high."

"The differences seemed to be insurmountable. However, both leaders were aware of the importance of the negotiation process, the need to change the paradigm and move away from open confrontation, fraught with the most tragic consequences for the whole world, to finding a compromise.

Diplomacy worked, negotiations were held, and meetings of experts

from both countries were organized," it stressed.

The conclusion, according to the Russian diplomatic mission, is that "with intransigence being visible to the naked eye as well as antagonism in approaches to solving certain problems in bilateral relations, it is necessary to hear and listen to a partner, understand and accept concerns related to ensuring the security of the state, and not try to cheat."

"There are too many spectators; there is no concealing cheap tricks," it added.

Agencies

Juncao contributes to treatment of saline-alkali land in Jiangsu province

YANCHENG, which literally means the "City of Salt" in Chinese, is located in east China's Jiangsu province. It is home to more than 455,000 hectares of coastal mud flat, which accounts for 70 percent of the total saline-alkali land of Jiangsu province.

Juncao, which in Chinese literally means "mushroom" and "grass", can be used to grow edible and medicinal mushrooms. In 2019, Zhang Quanxing, academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and professor at the School of Environment of Nanjing University, visited a demonstration base of Juncao in Pingtan county, southeast China's Fujian province, and learned about the plant's strong vitality, as well as its high economic and ecological value.

Later, he shared with Lin Zhanxi, chief scientist of the China National Engineering Research Center of Juncao Technology, the idea of planting Juncao grass on the coastal mud flat of Jiangsu province.

In April 2021, Yancheng started growing Juncao grass. Over the past year, the plant has brought about positive changes to the coastal mud flat in the city.

A Juncao test field in Caomiao township, Dafeng district, Yancheng, has planted 10 hectares of Giant Juncao grass, a Juncao grass variety that can grow about five to six meters tall.

The test field was once a piece of salty and barren land where nothing was able to grow.

The Juncao grass is sweet itself, but it tastes salty now because it



Giant Juncao grass is reaped in Caomiao township, Dafeng district, Yancheng, east China's Jiangsu province. File photo

absorbs the salt in the soil and thus lowers the salt content in the soil, according to Liu Bobin, professor at the Yancheng Teachers University.

Good news from Pingtan county confirmed the impact of Juncao grass. In June this year, a piece of mud flat in Pingtan county saw its salt content drop from 14.7 per mille to 1.3 per mille since it was planted with Juncao grass three years ago by a research team led by Lin.

Yancheng, which has a different climate from Pingtan county, has a higher requirement for the cold hardiness of Juncao grass. At present, researchers are working to cultivate a new variety of Juncao grass that suits the natural environment in Yancheng, so as to better solve the issue of soil

salinization in the city.

Apart from improving soil ecology, Juncao grass has also laid a solid foundation for enriching biodiversity in Yancheng.

Yancheng has the world's largest nature reserve for the protection of elks. Statistics show that over 7,000 elks inhabit the areas along the coastal mud flat in the city, including some 3,000 wild ones.

To ensure the source of food for the animals has always been a topic studied by the nature reserve over recent years, and Juncao grass is considered a substitution for traditional feed.

The nature reserve designated a piece of land as a Juncao test field, and the grass harvested there is fed to some of the elks.

According to Jia Yuanyuan, deputy head of the Yancheng research institute of elks, the animals enjoy eating the Juncao grass. However, it takes further scientific experiments to prove whether Juncao grass can be taken as daily feed for elks, she added.

If the result is positive, it will not only significantly reduce the feeding cost of elks, but also enrich the source of food for wild elk populations, Jia said.

Besides, Juncao grass is also a rich reserve of food for migrant birds staying, breeding or wintering in the city.

The strong capability of Juncao grass in nitrogen and carbon fixation has opened up even bigger prospects for the plant.

It is learned that different from other crops that take in nitrogen from the outside, Juncao grass is able to fix nitrogen in the soil through its photosynthesis, which improves the fertility of the soil and lowers the consumption of fertilizers. It is beneficial to the development of ecological agriculture.

Juncao grass can reduce greenhouse gases as well. "Based on experimental data, the photosynthesis efficiency of Giant Juncao grass is 4 to 21 times higher than that of broad-leaved trees. Each hectare of Giant Juncao grass can absorb more than 100 tons of carbon dioxide each year," said Lin.

Yancheng would see broad prospects of carbon fixation if it plants Juncao grass on all of its mud flats, the scientist added.

People's Daily

Bali bomb maker's release 'difficult day' for Australians

SYDNEY

INDONESIA'S release of convicted Bali bomb maker Umar Patek will be a "difficult day" for Australians who lost loved ones and relatives in the attacks, Australia's Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles said on Thursday.

Patek was freed on parole late on Wednesday, the same day a suicide bomber who once was jailed on terrorism charges attacked a police station in Indonesia's West Java province, killing himself and one officer.

Patek was sentenced to 20 years in prison in 2012 for his involvement in bombings that ripped through two Bali nightclubs, killing 202 people, including 88 Australians and 38 Indonesians.

"I think this going to be a very difficult day for many Australians - all Australians - to hear about the release of Umar Patek," Marles told ABC radio. "I'm particularly thinking right now of the families of those who were killed and injured in the Bali bombings."

The Australian government had made repeated representations to the Indonesian government about Patek's early release, Marles

said, and would continue to engage Indonesian authorities about ensuring Patek was under constant surveillance.

Patek, a member of the al Qaeda-linked Jemaah Islamiyah militant group, became eligible for parole in August because of good behavior in prison. His scheduled release was delayed after uproar from Australia.

Patek will be required to participate in a "mentoring program" until April 2030, and any violation could see his parole revoked, Indonesia's justice ministry said in a statement.

Australian Climate Change and Energy Minister Chris Bowen told ABC Television on Thursday that Patek's release was a concern for all Australians, but was unlikely to affect the bilateral relationship.

"I think it's important that Australia maintains strong dialogue with Indonesia so we can have those discussions, and that's exactly what we will do," he said.

Agencies



Company committed to supporting squash in the country

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadonga

THE main sponsor of this year's Uhuru Squash Open, Lorenzo company, has said they are committed to developing squash in the country from the grassroots levels.

This was revealed on Wednesday by Mustafa Lamuwalla, who is the managing director of the company, when he was talking about the Uhuru Squash Open which gets underway today at Colosseum Gym and Fitness Center in Dar es Salaam.

He said his company, which is dealing with Japanese truck parts, wants to support squash and see many people in the country associated with the sport.

"We are one of the biggest dealers of Japanese truck parts in the country, and being the biggest we want to see many people in the country playing squash and enjoying their lives," he said.

Lamuwalla said he has been a squash player and sponsor for the past 22 years and he pledged his continued support to the sport.

Lamuwalla has won many squash awards and trophies, some of them being East Africa Sports Festival in 2018 and 2019.

This year's edition of Uhuru Squash Open tournament has attracted top players from Kenya, Uganda and Zambia who have confirmed to

compete.

According to Tanzania Squash Federation (TSF) official Marwa Busigara, some of top foreign squash players who will compete in the tournament are Leon Keya and James Daladi from Kenya while from Uganda is Mike Kawooya and Enos Mwale from Zambia.

Busigara thanked Lorenzo company for its continued support to squash development in the country, saying the support from the company has helped in exposing many upcoming players of the sport.

He said this year's top winner will take home 1m/-, the runner-up will pocket 600,000/- and two semi-finalists will each get 200,000/-.

"The federation is very happy with the support which we are getting from Lorenzo company. It is through this company's support that we have managed to organize many tournaments which have helped our players to be active at the same time exposing young talents. We don't take their support for granted," he said.

The Uhuru squash tournament is held as part of celebrations of the country's independence.

Recently, the federation hosted the national championships in Dar es Salaam and Squash Open tournament at Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC).

Can Azam win the NBC Premier League this season?

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

MUCH has been made about the financial resources and investment of Azam FC. Many football fans are disappointed with the club's eight-year league title drought. It is a general consensus that as far as performance is concerned the investment has not been worth it so far.

After another third-place finish last campaign, Azam spent heavily so it makes sense for them to start challenging for the big honours once again. They have a young, talented and fit squad. However, could the challenge for the top honour in Tanzania football come this season?

Can they surprise everyone this season and snatch the NBC Premier League title away from Young Africans or Simba?

Recent results show Azam means business. They picked up a point in a 1-0 fought away draw at Polisi Tanzania to extend their unbeaten run to eight games on Monday. If Azam's controlled 1-0 victory over Simba did not convince you of their title credentials, then nothing will.

The key thing for Azam is to just keep going game by game. Ticking them off and seeing where it takes them. If they can stay in the hunt until around March, then who knows? They just need to keep doing what they are doing and just stay in the race for as long as possible.

With Simba and Young Africans set to compete in CAF Champions League and Confederation Cup group stage, Azam are in position to take advantage of the situation. Not playing in CAF could be a key factor when the NBC Premier League campaign hits the crucial stages in February-May. It isn't easy for clubs to fight on two fronts.

Azam will arrive in the last months of the campaign with a big advantage of having energy and well rested players to focus on the league title race. However, Azam have been here



before and failed to deliver. Despite their brilliant first half campaign, they are still looking up at Young Africans when it comes to the league table.

This is why many still believe that the best Azam can hope for is a runners-up spot. Either behind Simba or Young Africans. At the start of the season, it was just difficult to see anything stopping Young Africans other than, say, some kind of injury pile-up that took out Fiston Mayele, Feisal Salum and Yannick Bangala for some considerable time.

But with their expected involvement in the CAF Confederation Cup group stage, their resources and focus will be stretched.

Simba might be finding their feet under Juma Mgunda and struggling with injuries, but they failed to trouble teams that are well drilled, especially in away games.

Simba leaving some points on the table against inferior oppositions during the first

half of the season is nothing new, but there have been some signs that similar results could follow as the season wears on.

They have suffered a number of injuries already, and an already thin squad is being pushed to its limits during a season that is already being tipped to be the most physically demanding ever because of the CAF Champions League Group stage games. However, this is a club accustomed to ups and downs and knows how to respond.

Nobody knows what to expect when the league second half campaign begins next week, but Azam, who are on the road to Kagera Sugar, will desperately hope they can pick up where they left off. Their next four league matches after that – Geita Gold (Away), Young Africans and Mbeya City before the Mapinduzi tournament break – will see some stern tests of their credentials.

Clearly the squad is not as strong as Young Africans, but it has far more strength in depth than in previous years and, if they can avoid injuries to key players, have a great chance of winning their first title since 2013-14.

They were the last team other than Simba and Young Africans to win the league title. They could be the first to end the Simba-Young Africans 8-year title reign.

Will Azam win the league? I think it's unlikely. Can they win? Yes, without a doubt. Right now, they are looking good, and they need to ride this wave. The NBC Premier League needs a strong Azam, and right now it has one. A three-horse race will do every favour in raising the competition levels.

And, looking at the bigger picture, Tanzania football needs Azam to sustain their sensational start to the season to maintain the illusion that the league is making leaps and bounds.



We are one of the biggest dealers of Japanese truck parts in the country, and being the biggest we want to see many people in the country playing squash and enjoying their lives

Yanga Princess coach frustrated by 'smash and grab' defeat

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YANGA Princess head coach Edna Lema felt his side had been on the end of a 'smash and grab' defeat by visiting Fountain Gate Princess in the Serengeti Lite Women's Premier League.

Fountain Gate Princess snatched a 31st-minute winner through Cynthia Shilwato Musungu to inflict an opening day defeat on Yanga Princess at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking to the press after the match, Yanga Princess coach Edna cut a frustrated figure, after her side dominated for most of the match but lacked a cutting edge to unlock Fountain Gate's well-drilled defence.

"The match was difficult for both teams and our girls played well and gave us what they were able to give but at the end of the day we lost the game. Our game plan failed, Fountain Gate were able to utilize the one chance that they got.

"We have many players who are playing in the Tanzanian league for the first time, so they were down. Later I spoke to them during halftime and in the second half they played well but in the end we lost the game. I congratulate Fountain Gate for getting a result against Yanga, they have started well. It's the first game, the league has just started, and I believe we have another chance to do well.

"We were playing Fountain Gate, a team that is aggressive, plays counter-attack. It was a different game, it is possible that our plan failed because they were just sweeping away every ball while we were playing. I think they were able to defend well, we created opportunities but failed to

use them. Yes, that's how football is," she said.

On his part, Fountain Gate Princess head coach Charles Alumira was delighted with his team's performance and results but was keen to stress they are taking one game at a time in their league title ambitions.

"The league has started, we are taking one game at a time. Yes, we have just started, the league is a marathon. I am very grateful to my players. They have followed the instructions, and they have been disciplined in defending. They have followed the instructions that's why they have rewarded themselves with three points for their efforts on the pitch.

"As Fountain Gate Princess, we dream of becoming champions and if you want to be a champion, you must beat Yanga and Simba. Therefore, if you beat Yanga, you must start working out how to also defeat Simba.

"Today, when we beat Yanga, it increases the focus and motivation of the players, it shows the players that they have the ability to beat any big team," she added.



We were playing Fountain Gate, a team that is aggressive, plays counter-attack. It was a different game, it is possible that our plan failed because they were just sweeping away every ball while we were playing

Grand Malt boasts of nearly a decade sponsorship of Kili Marathon

By Guardian Correspondent

IT is 7.15am on a chilly Sunday morning and the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42 km and Tigo Kili Half Marathon races have already started but there is still a bee hive of activity as the Grand Malt 5km race is about to begin.

Most of the participants can be seen finding their way so they can take part in this ever-exciting race that brings together participants from all walks of life that incorporates all ages - the young and the old, that is why it is regarded as a Fun Run as it has no age limit and forever entertaining.

To spice it up, it also attracts most of the dignitaries who attend the Kilimanjaro Marathon as all of them enthusiastically participate in the Fun Run.

Grand Malt has been one of the main sponsors and has made the 5km race bigger and better over the years with more than 5,000 participants. This will be its ninth edition as the event marks the 21st Anniversary.

The quality of sponsorship and consistency by Grand Malt, which is a popular energizing non-alcoholic drink produced by TBL Group, has given the event a major boost.

"We have seen this race grow in numbers and popularity as it incorporates people of all ages who run for fun," says the Grand Malt Brand Manager, Pamela Kikuli, adding that the 5km race comes with a lot of fun events where people from all walks of life take part. Grand Malt with its healthy qualities compliments participants' passion for running.

The Kili Marathon is normally, according to Pamela, a time for families and friends to get together, run or walk together and participate in the pre and post Marathon activities which participants combine with tours of the various attractions in and out of Moshi which include Expo as well as musical and cultural events.

She says this year's Grand Malt



Some of the participants from all walks of life during the Grand Malt 5km Fun Run in Moshi, Kilimanjaro. (Agencies)

has a lot in store during the February 26, 2022 event where they expect a huge turnout of people from in and out of the country.

"By now most hotels and guest houses are already fully booked ahead of the event next year, that just goes to show how big the event is as it is a time for booming business for the region and country," says Pamela.

The beauty about the 5km Fun Run, according to Pamela, is that one can decide to do the actual run or walk all the way to the finish and still fulfill the mission, adding that the Fun Run has helped a lot in inculcating an exercise culture in the society and for all, the Grand Malt 5km race is special because it grooms the youth and ensures they adopt healthy lifestyles at a tender age.

According to Pamela, Grand Malt is the appropriate drink for the race as it can be consumed by all people from children to adults and it has nutrients that help restore the lost energy while running.

"This is so far the leading non-alcoholic drink and the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon is one of the best marketing platforms for this

brand as participants get to taste and enjoy it as there is plenty of it at the venue," she says.

The brand manager says they will also have plenty of fun activities for the thousands of attendees.

"We want this to be an exciting and memorable experience for participants," she says.

Pamela is also upbeat about the Kili Marathon Expo Fair, which was for this first time held during the Marathon's 20th Anniversary in February, this year at the Moshi Cooperatives University (MoCU) Stadium and will go along with race number collection. She says Grand Malt will also feature in the Fair this year and calls on the public to turn out in huge numbers where they will get an exceptional Grand Malt experience.

"We urge all attendees and participants to ensure they do not miss out on this special experience as sponsors will have a lot to show case. For us Grand Malt it will be time to tell the Grand Malt story and journey with the Kilimanjaro Marathon, sampling of our drink and many other fun events," she says.

On registration, she calls on participants to register in

time as online registration has already started through www.kilimanjaronmarathon.com and through TigoPesa by dialing *150*01# and registration will only be confirmed upon payment after which a confirmation message will be sent to the participant.

Pamela is also grateful to other sponsors who have made the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon bigger and bigger over the years. They include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager-42KM, Tigo- 21km, Grand Malt -5km water table sponsors, TPC Sugar, Simba Cement, Kilimanjaro Water, Total Energies and official suppliers GardaWorld Security, Keys Hotel, Kibo Palace Hotel and CMC Automobiles.

Next year's event will be held on February 26, 2023 at the Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU) and is expected to attract more than 12,000 runners from more than 55 countries worldwide to mark the Kili Marathon 21th Anniversary in style.

The event is organized by Kilimanjaro Marathon Company Limited and is nationally coordinated by Executive Solutions limited.

Ronaldo loses Portugal spot to sully World Cup journey

DOHA, Qatar

SO, the dream is still alive for Cristiano Ronaldo. Soccer's most prolific modern-day scorer might yet, at the age of 37 and probably playing in his last World Cup, claim the one major title to elude him in a career like no other.

It didn't quite feel that way, though, as he walked off the field alone at Lusail Stadium, leaving the rest of the Portugal team to celebrate getting through to the quarterfinals after a 6-1 rout of Switzerland on Tuesday.

In fact, it was a rather sad sight. A veteran in decline departing the scene as his teammates — some barely half his age — continued to party.

This has been a turbulent and bruising few weeks for Ronaldo.

First came the explosive interview with Piers Morgan that shaped the start of his fifth World Cup campaign. Then the fallout, which included the termination of his contract at Manchester United.

When the tournament started, he broke a record — becoming the first male player to score at five different World Cups — and then he underwhelmed, failing to score in back-to-back games and responding to a substitution against South Korea by showing his displeasure and angering his coach.

Then came Tuesday night and the moment that might be looked back on as the start of the end of his glittering, record-breaking international career. Not only was he dropped from the starting lineup, but the 21-year-old player who replaced him — Goncalo Ramos — scored a remarkable hat trick.

Just imagine the thoughts going through Ronaldo's head as he trudged off the field after playing around 20 minutes as a substitute?

This was one of Portugal's greatest wins — indeed, it was the country's largest margin of victory in a World Cup knockout game — and it felt like Ronaldo could hardly get off the field quick enough.

So where does this leave Ronaldo? Already without a club, he is now likely to be second choice for Portugal to Ramos, who only made his Portugal debut three weeks ago.

Portugal coach Fernando Santos threw Ronaldo a lifeline, saying he'd continue to select players according to the strengths and weaknesses of the team's opponent. But it's unthinkable that Ramos will lose his place now for the quarterfinal match against Morocco.

AP

Netherlands' Noppert on Messi in World Cup: 'He's a human'

DOHA, Qatar

ANDRIES Noppert is ready to face Lionel Messi if the Argentina star takes a penalty kick in today's World Cup quarterfinal match.

"He's the same like us. He's a human," the Netherlands goalkeeper said Wednesday.

Messi has scored 21 goals in 26 penalty kick attempts for Argentina among his 94 international goals. He converted his spot kick to put Argentina ahead in the opening 2-1 loss to Saudi Arabia, then had his penalty saved by Poland goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny as Argentina won 2-0 to reach the round of 16.

The 6-foot-8 Noppert was released from second-division Dutch club Dordrecht at the end of the 2019-20 season, joined the top league's Go Ahead Eagles in January 2021 and moved to Heerenveen this season.

"It's about the moment," Noppert said. "He can also miss, and we see it in the beginning of this tournament."

The 28-year-old Noppert was in goal in the opening 2-0 win over Senegal, the second Dutch player to make his international debut at a World Cup and the first since midfielder Dick Schoenaker in 1978.

Noppert has allowed two goals in four matches and saved 15 of 17 shots on target, an 88.2% save percentage that is second-best in the tournament behind Tunisia keeper Aimen Dahmen, who saved nine of 10.

"He has an open personality. He is quite direct and outspoken," Netherlands coach Louis van Gaal said through a translator after the opener. "His quality is he can stop balls and he had to do that three times today, and he did it perfectly."

If the Netherlands gets past Argentina, the team would face Croatia or Brazil in the semifinals on Tuesday. The next day's semifinal match has the Morocco-Portugal winner playing either England or defending champion France.

Virgil van Dijk, a 31-year-old defender who was a member of the FIFPro world all-star team in 2020 and '21, said the Dutch have to prepare to play not just Messi.

"I'm very cautious, obviously, of what Argentina can bring, because they are a fantastic team. They are fantastic players," Van Dijk said. "So we have to be very good, very good in all departments. We have to prepare well and get ready for that."

The Netherlands is the best soccer nation never to win a World Cup, losing in the final in 1974, 1978 and 2010. The Dutch were eliminated by Argentina on penalty kicks in the 2014 semifinals, when Messi converted his nation's first attempt of the shootout.

"There is hunger. There is dreams. There's feeling that goes with when you participate in the World Cup," Van Dijk said. "You could be three games away from glory."

AP

World Cup Viewer's Guide: Quarterfinalists bid for title

DOHA, Qatar

AFTER non-stop soccer for the past two weeks, the World Cup is taking a small break.

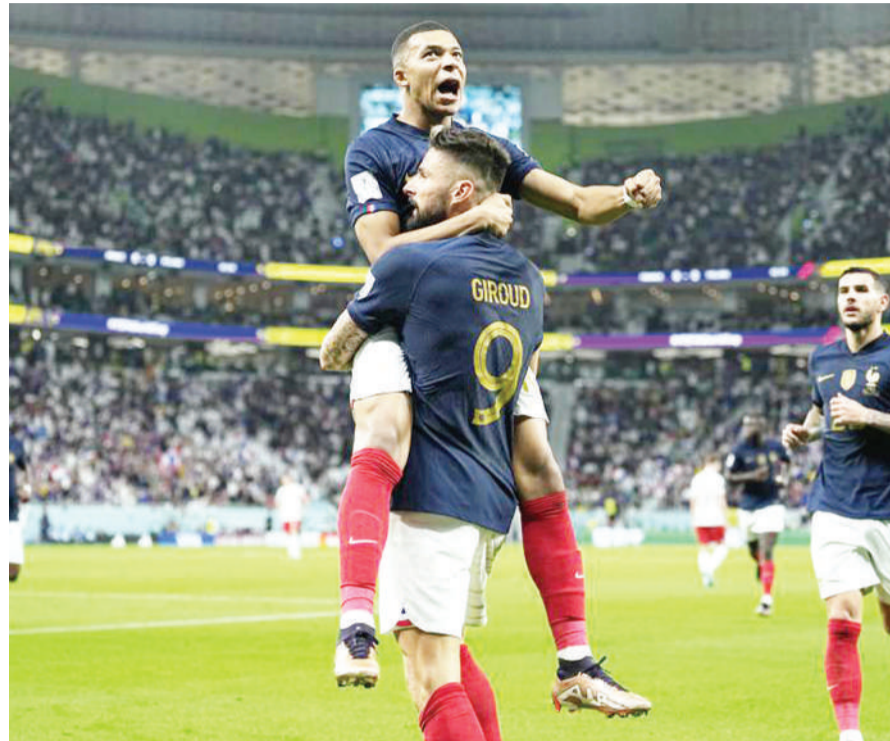
There will be two days of rest before the quarterfinals start in Qatar with at least one surprising team still in contention to win soccer's biggest prize.

Morocco produced the latest upset in a tournament that has had its share of them, beating Spain in the round of 16 on Tuesday to become the first Arab nation to reach the World Cup quarterfinals. The Moroccans, who also became only the fourth African team to reach this stage, beat the 2010 champions in a penalty shootout.

"What they've done today is extraordinary," Morocco coach Walid Regragui said after the match.

In the group stage, Saudi Arabia caused one of the biggest upsets in tournament history by beating Argentina in its opening match. Japan beat both Germany and Spain. The Germans and 2018 semifinalist Belgium both were eliminated before the knockout rounds.

Argentina, with Lionel Messi still looking to win a World Cup title, still made it through and then beat Australia to get into the last eight. Brazil, which had Neymar back in the lineup after an



France's Olivier Giroud celebrates with France's Kylian Mbappe, after scoring the opening goal during the World Cup round of 16 soccer match between France and Poland, at the Al Thumama Stadium in Doha, Qatar, Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022. (AP Photo)

ankle injury, is there as well.

And so is defending champion France, with Kylian Mbappe seemingly unstoppable. England, Croatia, the Netherlands and, of course, Portugal — with or without Cristiano Ronaldo in the starting lineup.

CROATIA vs. BRAZIL (Today, Education City Stadium)

Five-time champion Brazil looks ready to go deep at this year's World Cup, with Neymar recovered from an ankle injury and the country's greatest player, Pele, an inspiration as he watches from his hospital bed.

The 82-year-old soccer great is receiving treat-

ment in Sao Paulo as he recovers from a respiratory infection that was aggravated by COVID-19, but his presence can be felt among Brazil's players and fans, with banners, flags and T-shirts bearing his image.

On the field, Neymar and Co. are serious contenders, beating South Korea 4-1 in the round of 16.

"They are bold, they try one-on-one moves, feints, they are aggressive. It's impressive," Brazil coach Tite said.

Croatia is an aging team but has the know-how at the World Cup after reaching the semifinals four years ago.

NETHERLANDS vs. ARGENTINA (Today, Lusail Stadium)

Argentina has recovered from one of the biggest upsets in World Cup history and now faces the Netherlands for a place in the semifinals.

For Argentina to win its third World Cup, expect Messi to provide the magic.

The problem is, however, Messi is no longer at his peak — even if his country remains as reliant on him as ever and he has managed to score three goals so far in Qatar.

Argentina's fans have also played a part in inspiring the team.

"This is a unique mor-

al boost. I'd like (it if) everybody could experience what a player feels when he sees all these people and thinks his country is behind him," Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni said. "They make you want to go out and celebrate."

The Netherlands has been quietly effective in reaching the quarterfinals, winning Group A and then beating the United States 3-1 in the round of 16.

These teams have plenty of history in the World Cup, with Argentina beating the Netherlands in the final in 1978 and in the semifinals in 2014.

MOROCCO vs. PORTUGAL (Tomorrow, Al Thumama Stadium)

Portugal has shown what it can do without Ronaldo after the five-time Ballon d'Or winner was benched in the 6-1 rout of Switzerland in the round of 16.

His replacement, Goncalo Ramos, scored the first hat trick of this year's World Cup.

It's not clear if Ronaldo will be recalled for the quarterfinal match against Morocco or if he will be asked to accept a reduced role.

"I will use what I believe is the right strategy, as I have done my entire life," Portugal coach Fernando Santos said.

That doesn't bode well for Ronaldo, given the fluidity the team showed against Switzerland without him on the field.

Standing in Portugal's

way is the surprise team of the World Cup, Morocco.

"No one is giving up. Everyone's playing with bandages, everyone is trying to raise their level of play and mentality," Regragui said. "We succeeded in creating a family, and we feel there's a whole country behind us."

ENGLAND vs. FRANCE (Tomorrow, Al Bayt Stadium)

Two of the best strikers in the world go head-to-head in the last of the four quarterfinal matches.

Harry Kane, the leading scorer at the last World Cup, finally got off the mark in England's 3-0 win over Senegal. But he has some catching to do if he wants to get close to Mbappe, who has scored five goals in the tournament.

"I think we still have not seen the best of Kylian," France forward Olivier Giroud said of his teammate. "I hope (his best) is going to come soon and he will beat all the records. He is amazing and he is still young, which is scary because he still can improve his game."

England has been getting its goals from a variety of places. Eight different England players have scored for the team in Qatar so far.

"They," England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford said, "have got to be worried about us as well, our threat in attack."

AP

The next World Cup will jump to 48 teams. Is bigger better?

DOHA, Qatar

THE next World Cup will be the biggest ever after world soccer body FIFA took the leap from a 32-team field to 48 teams in 2026.

It means more of soccer's so-called "little teams" that didn't make it to Qatar will be given a chance of a lifetime when the tournament is hosted by the United States, Canada and Mexico.

That could be great news for everyone who was entertained by Saudi Arabia's stirring upset of Lionel Messi's Argentina at this World Cup, Japan's two wins over former champions Germany and Spain or Morocco's humbling of star-studded Belgium and Spain on its way to an unexpected quarterfinal run. More surprises surely await in four years.

Still, it's not clear to everyone that bigger is better.

While 48 teams might increase the chances of fairytale moments such as Saudi Arabia's 2-1 win over Argentina in the group stage, there's also a good chance of the opposite: more one-sided games that may take some of the shine off a tournament that is meant to be the best vs. the best.

Spain 7, Costa Rica 0 also happened at this World Cup. As did England's 6-2 rout

of Iran, France's 4-1 dismantling of Australia and Qatar becoming the first host country to lose its three group stage matches. FIFA will need to dig even deeper into the lower levels of international soccer to get from 32 to 48.

"It means that we will have to find 16 more good teams," said Arsene Wenger, FIFA's Chief of Global Football Development and a central figure in making a 48-team World Cup workable.

FIFA is still promoting the expansion as an upgrade and good for the global game. All continents will have more slots and FIFA says opening soccer's marquee event to more of its 211 member countries or territories should have an impact beyond the teams, with the prospect of even more eyes on TV screens and more kids inspired to kick balls across the globe.

"I am convinced that if the teams, the countries have more opportunities to go to the world stage, it will do more for (soccer) development inside that country," Wenger said.

Qatar's World Cup is the first in the Middle East and the furthest FIFA has ventured from the game's heartlands in Europe and South America. That decision has provoked its own harsh criticism but the on-field action might have been a timely ad-

vert for the 48-team plan, which FIFA announced in 2017 and has had to defend ever since over doubts about what the exact format will be.

FIFA initially indicated it would be 16 groups of three teams, but that idea was widely criticized. Another option could be 12 groups of four teams. Wenger said FIFA's decision-making council has not decided yet.

In Qatar, Japan was one of three Asian teams to qualify for the last 16, which had never happened before. African teams collected more points in the group stage than ever. Morocco topped a group containing 2018 World Cup runner-up Croatia and semifinalist Belgium, and advanced to the quarterfinals by beating Spain on penalties on Tuesday. Cameroon signed off by beating

Brazil, the first time an African team has conquered the five-time champion and soccer's most celebrated team at a World Cup.

"Just look at how the World Cup is unfolding," said Senegal coach Aliou Cisse. "It's not like 30 years ago when the big fish were completely eating the little fish alive."

Amid Japan's run in Qatar, winger Takefusa Kubo said "they can't underestimate Asia." Ghana coach Otto Addo said Africa deserves its extra places and its teams now have a better chance of going further.

However, the expansion may not have much of an impact on the final outcome of the World Cup.

European and South American teams — the big fish Cisse referred to — have gobbled up

every one of the 21 World Cup titles so far, with 12 for Europe and nine for South America. No teams from another continent have made a final in nearly 100 years of World Cup history. Eighty-two out of 84 semifinalists have been European or South American. The United States in 1930 and South Korea in 2002 are the exceptions.

In Qatar, while teams from outside Europe and South America did well in the group stage, only Morocco advanced to the quarterfinals, where it will face Portugal on Saturday. South Korea, Japan, Senegal, the United States and Australia were all eliminated in the round of 16.

Cisse's Senegal are the African champions but were outclassed 3-0 by England. South Korea,

ranked No. 3 in Asia, was knocked out 4-1 by Brazil. South Korea forward Son Heung-min, his country's one star, said almost in envy: "Look at their players."

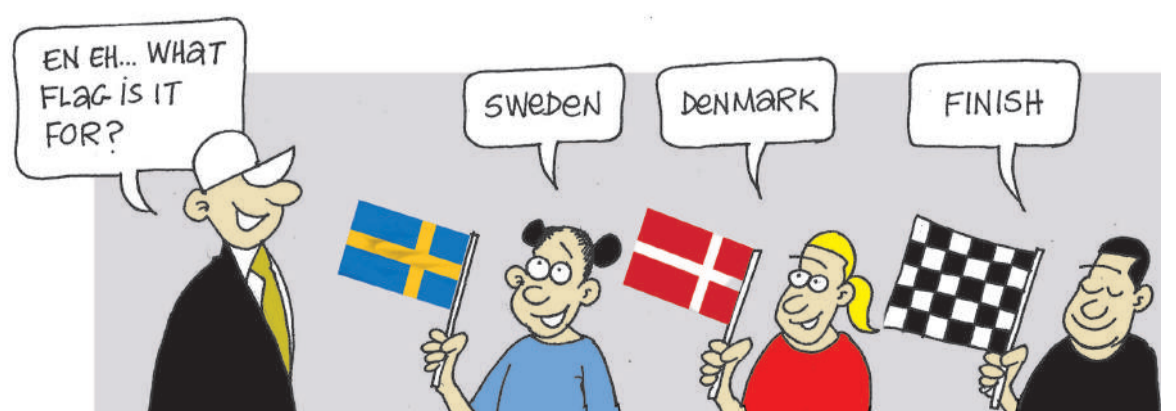
A bigger World Cup does offer clear advancement opportunities for FIFA, though.

Just over 3.5 billion people, more than half the world's population, watched the 2018 World Cup in Russia, according to FIFA, and the soccer body earned record revenues of \$7.5 billion from commercial deals tied to the Qatar World Cup.

With those numbers in the bank from a 32-team tournament, 48 offers the obvious chance to sell World Cup aspirations to more people in more places.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

World Cup Viewer's
Guide: Quarterfinalists
bid for title

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Mayele, Mgunda scoop Premier League Monthly Awards for November

By Correspondents Michael Mwebe and Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans striker Fiston Mayele has won the NBC Premier League Player of the Month award for November, with Simba boss Juma Mgunda scooping the coach of the Month prize.

Mayele, who missed last season's top scorer award by one goal, was unstoppable throughout November. He scored seven goals during the month, starting off with a hat-trick against Singida Big Stars and then grabbing back-to-back braces in further wins over Dodoma Jiji and Mbeya City to go joint-top of the goal-scoring chart with Simba forward Moses Phiri.

The Congolese international claimed the prize, beating Geita Gold's Said Ntibazonkiza and Phiri of Simba. The 28-year-old's latest Player of the Month award follows his previous successes in January 2022 and September 2022 since he arrived at Young Africans from AS Vita at the start of last season.

On the other side, Mgunda who was named Simba interim head coach following the exit of Maki Zoran in September led his side to four wins in six games. The Msimbazi Reds notched notable wins over Polisi Tanzania, Ruvu Shooting, Ihefu and Namungo as well as draws against Mbeya City and Singida Big Stars that have helped them stay within touching distance of title rivals Young Africans and Azam at the top of the league table.

Singida Big Stars coach Hans van der Pluijm and Kagera Sugar boss Mecky Mexime were also in the mix for the monthly gong, but Mgunda's Simba record makes him a deserving victor for November 2022. The club scored 11 goals and kept three clean sheets in November. It is the second time Mgunda has won the monthly award. He previously won it with Coastal Union at the end of last season.

Also, the Tanzania Premier League Awards Committee has chosen the Manager of the Liti Stadium in Singida Region, Hassan Simba, to be the Best Stadium Manager for the month of November, due to his exemplary performance of various ground management duties as well as issues related to the infrastructure in the stadium.

Meanwhile, the Simba interim head coach, Juma Mgunda, has made it clear that his current strategy is to ensure that they win every game with the aim of reclaiming the Tanzania Mainland Premier League Championship this season.

Mgunda made the statement after being named NBC Premier League Coach of the Month for November after winning four games and drawing two to relieve the pressure that seemed to be around the team.

Ambitious Mgunda will have a mountain to climb over league leaders Young Africans who lead the Premier League with 38 points while Azam FC have 35 points and his side is in third place with 34 points.

Mgunda has said that what he wants now is to see his team fighting to get three points in every game, believing that this is the right way for the Msimbazi club to reach their goal of winning the league championship.

He has said if he fails to achieve the goal things will become very difficult for him and Simba, which last season lost the Premier League title at the hands of their arch-rivals Young Africans.

"The biggest thing we want right now is to put more energy into our games by making sure we win every game, because the League has become very competitive and if we lose games and drop points it will get worse for us and we will miss out an opportunity to be champions," said Mgunda.

"You know the Premier League this season has been very different from previous seasons, that's why you see every team is committed to playing defensively and attacking. Factors like these drive us to avoid dropping points in our coming games," added Mgunda.

Despite Simba being in the process of searching for a new head coach who will come to work with Mgunda and Seleman Matola, who managed to get the club to the Group Stage of the CAF Champions League this season, the tactician believes that he should prepare his current squad to face the challenge in the league.

"Therefore, for my team, we have to prepare for any situation in order to achieve the goal of getting three points in every game from our opponents, the league is very competitive and therefore we have to be prepared physically and mentally," he said.

Simba is tasked with three away games to Geita Gold, Kagera Sugar and KMC before playing at home against Tanzania Prison at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Lions Cricket Club stuns DCC in 2022 Gymkhana Shield showdown



Lions Cricket Club's all-rounder Goodluck Andrew (R) receives the Man of the Match prize from Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Chairman Premji Pindoria after the former outfit came up against Annadil Burhani Club in this year's Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield showdown's duel that took place in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF GYMKHANA CRICKET CLUB

By Guardian Reporter

LIONS Cricket Club has stepped up its quest for successful spell in the 2022 Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield tournament after defeating Dar Cricket Club (DCC) by 23 runs in a Group B match played in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

It turned out to be a second victory in a row for Lions Cricket Club, which earlier endured frustrating start to its campaign.

The clash' eventual winners have moved to the third position in Group B following their victory.

Youthful cricketer Abubakar Selemani was a hero for Lions Cricket Club when it took on DCC because of his batting exploits.

The top-order batsman ended with great innings, given the youngster posted half-century, which was a timely boost during his outfit's turn with the bat.

The Atif Salim-led Lions Cricket Club opted to bat first once the team won the toss in the clash against rivals DCC.

The batting squad sought to make the most of its innings as it ended with 144/8 in 20 overs.

Apart from Selemani's heroics at the crease, there were meaningful contributions by top-order batsmen that helped the batting squad end with a good score.

Abdullah Imtiaz, slotted in as top-order batsman, notched 24 runs with fellow top-order batsmen Abdulsamad Ahmed and Gulraiz Haideri ending with 17 runs and 21 runs respectively.

Middle-order batsman Saleh Rasool put several solid knocks at the crease to end with 13 runs.

Lions Cricket Club's pursuit of a better total was further buoyed by 10 extras given away by the DCC bowling unit, which included four byes, two leg byes, and four wides.

Much as DCC's experienced cricketer Dharmin Parmar sought to orchestrate a successful attempt to

keep Lions Cricket Club at bay with his three wickets, the latter's batsmen were resolute.

Another significant bowling showing when the DCC squad fielded came from Moez Imtiaz as the bowler posted two wickets.

Needing 145 runs to come out victorious, DCC lost steam in the chase given its cricketers ended up scoring 121/7 in 20 overs.

Led by experienced cricketers Meet Jetha and Parmar, the DCC attempted to stage a fightback that was however let down by some early exits.

Jetha was eventually the top run-getter with his 36 runs, Parmar ended with 27 runs.

Assad Aziz notched 21 runs as DCC vainly sought to stay within reach of the 145-run target.

There were also some attempts by Gopal Solanki and Hiren Sharma later in the innings as the cricketers chipped in with 10 runs not out and

eight runs respectively.

The DCC's hopes for successful chase were all but over once Parmar had exited the crease with 14 balls left, whereas the club had amassed 115 runs.

Ahmed put his experience to use when Lions Cricket Club fielded, seeing to it the club thwarts the DCC chase with his skilful bowling.

The player posted two wickets, giving away 18 runs in his four-over spell.

Lions Cricket Club's Selemani was voted the Player of the Match and got a prize from the showdown's sponsors.

The outfits battling it out in this season's Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield showdown have been placed in groups A and B.

Group A consists of Caravans Cricket Club, GP, Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Center (SKLPSC), Pak Stars, Union Sports Club, and Gymkhana Cricket Club.

Aruti Aces, Upanga Sports Club, Aga Khan SC, Annadil Burhani Club, Dar Cricket Club (DCC), and Lions Cricket Club have been put in Group B.

The 2022 edition is sponsored by Cello/Ruby's Magic and Co, as well as long-time sponsors, General Petroleum (GP). Other sponsors are Planet Fitness, Gem Point, ETG, and Pepsi.

Cello/Ruby's Magic and Co has moreover sponsored a special cash prize to be handed over to batsmen scoring centuries and wicket-takers posting hat-tricks in the showdown.

This year's edition of the tournament was officially launched at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club early this month.

The jerseys for clubs taking part in the showdown were handed out to the outfits' skippers in presence of various supporters and stakeholders.

The showpiece's organizers stated that exciting matchups made up of old and new rivalries are in store for cricket followers in the city that will watch the tournament's ties during weekends.

Kaze praises Yanga's deserved Namungo win



Cedric Kaze

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

CEDRIC Kaze has praised his side's performance after Young Africans extended their lead at the top of the NBC Premier League by three points with a 2-0 victory over Namungo at Majaliwa Stadium on Wednesday evening.

Goals either side of the break from centre back Yannick Bangala and Tuisila Kisinda going unanswered by the hosts helped the defending champions finish the first half of the season on 38 points, three more than second placed Azam.

Speaking after his side's win, Young Africans assistant coach Kaze was quick to praise his team's performance.

"I said from the beginning that the game will not have many scoring chances, you have to use the few you get. We also know that this is not an

easy ground to get results, so I congratulate my players for performing their duties defensively and offensively. We possessed the ball, we had three, four, five opportunities and we scored two goals. Three important points that we deserve if we look at our performance in the 90 minutes."

Kaze was full of praise for their opponents and the manner in which they put pressure on them, especially in the second half, but felt his players were able to remain in the game before killing off the match with a late second goal.

"Namungo is a good team, they gave us a lot of challenges, like the opening 10, 15 minutes of the second half we let them come to us. They got confidence. They got two or three set pieces that were dangerous. But at that moment which was not good for us, we remained focused and

remained in the game.

"Our wide players gave us options on the flanks and also in the midfield we had a good balance of seeing each other and progressing the ball forward. Let's not forget our defence, when we were not good, they performed their duties to keep us in the game," he said.

Asked for his thoughts if the quality of Majaliwa's artificial pitch influenced their performance, Kaze was quick to affirm.

"If you get such a good pitch and you have good players, that helps a lot. The pitch was good and we enjoyed playing, that's why our performance was good and we got the three points."

Young Africans are next in action on Sunday December 11 in the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium as they start their Federation Cup title defence against third-tier side Kurugenzi from Simiyu.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

IF CROATIA COULD PLAY WITH THE NETHERLANDS, IT COULD BE CALLED 'THE NEIGHBOURS QUARTER FINALS'...

... IT'S WORLD CUP AND IT'S IN QATAR

