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# TCU opens second varsity forms drive

### Executive secretary says 90,000 study places available

By Getrude Mbago

THE Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) has opened the second round of applications for first-degree programmes for the 2023/24 academic year, with 116,133 candidates having applied during the first window.

Prof Charles Kihampa, the TCU executive secretary, made his observation in remarks to journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, urging those who missed in the first phase to send their applications to the respective universities.

There are over 90,000 more opportunities to be filled by eligible candidates, he said, noting that the second window commences August 25, to close on September 6.

First round applicants had a total of 86,624 candidates confirmed and enrolled in respective universities, he said, citing an increase of applicants in the first window to 116,133 overall, from 106,295 applicants a year earlier.

In total, 186,289 study opportunities are available this year, "so all eligible applicants are invited to utilize the second window to send their applications," he said.

There is also an increase in university programmes from 757 last year to 809 programmes for the 2023/24 academic year, he said, noting that this change was being stirred by technology shifts and job market needs.

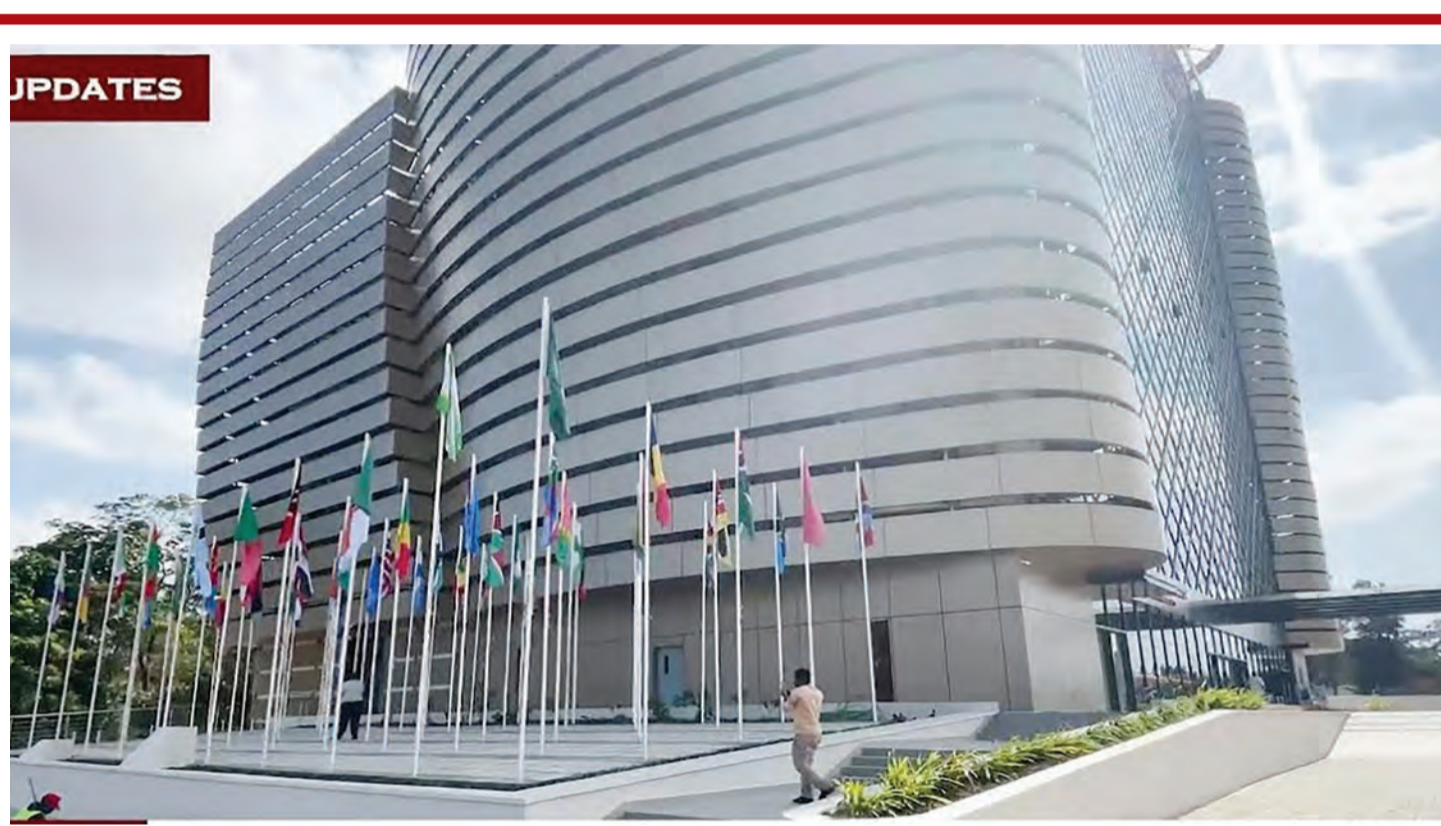
He demanded those who sent applicants and obtained admission confirm with one university before September 7, as a total of 43,213 candidates are cited for admission in more than one university.

Concerned applicants and the general public need to avoid being misled by presumed middlemen claiming to provide services on how to join higher education institutions, he cautioned.

"We have three groups of people who are eligible to apply for higher studies, namely form six leavers, ordinary diploma and those with foundation courses from the Open University of Tanzania (OUT). All information on how to apply and minimum requirements are found in the TCU website and respective varsities," he specified.

The various universities need to declare open their programmes that still have chances for students to apply, placing help desks to provide needed assistance to students seeking to process their applications, he added.

**We have three groups of people who are eligible to apply for higher studies, namely form six leavers, ordinary diploma and ...**



PAPU headquarters in Arusha city. File photo

## Samia to inaugurate new PAPU head office buildings

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AT least five Heads of State and score of top officials from 26 African countries are expected to join President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the inauguration of the Pan-African Postal Union complex here on September 2.

Selestine Kakele, the Information Communication and Information Technology ministry deputy permanent secretary, told journalists yesterday that the 18-storey building took up 33bn/- to construct.

It will serve as the headquarters of the continental posts and communications body as well as a business complex.

Inaugurating the new building will cap off the 41st administrative council meetings for PAPU, which changes the city skyline at its tallest edifice yet.

The building peaks at 18 floors high in addition to basement parking floor, entry-level ground floor, aside from an additional rear wing.

Standing at the Philips junction of Sekei Ward, formerly a radio assembly factory along the Moshi-Arusha highway, it is adjacent to the Simeon Road, next to Mount Meru Hotel, another imposing city feature.

Sirili Akko, the Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO) chief executive officer, cited the building inauguration as a major event in improving the city façade and boosting opportunities for conference tourism.

Investors will also take into consideration the cost of renting floor space, to ensure that potential tenants are attracted, he said.

The PAPU complex is a joint venture with the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), where the Pan African body footed 60 percent of the costs.

## Trade volume tops BRI decade city symposium

By Correspondent James Kan-doya

TRADE volumes between Tanzania and China stand at \$8.31bn annually, more than tripling commercial flows be-

tween the two countries a decade ago.

Chen Mingjian, the resident Chinese ambassador, made this observation yesterday in Dar es Salaam at a two-day symposium to mark the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the brainchild of President Xi Jinping who took office in March 2013.

Held under the theme "China Africa Vision: Towards a Sustainable Future," the symposium was organised by the Chinese embassy, the Mwalimu

Nyerere Foundation (MNF) and the China Global Television Network (CGTN).

China remained the largest source of investment in Tanzania by late 2022 statistics with

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This is a view of a section of the modern complex mainly meant to serve as the new commuter bus stand at Mwenge in Dar es Salaam's Kinondoni municipality, as captured on Thursday night. It is understood that structure will also stand as a business hub. Authoritative sources said its construction is nearing completion, but they would not be drawn into saying precisely when it would become operational. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

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## TANESCO hires staff as JNHPP nears completion

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Tanzania Electric Supply Co. (TANESCO) has increased staff numbers at the Julius Nyerere Hydro-Power project (JNHPP) as it prepares for material assembling ready for power

generation rumbling off by next June. Maharage Chande, the managing director, yesterday led a top management group in touring the site to inspect progress, carrying out a scenario analysis on the recent weather forecast by

the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA). It shows that the wide parts of the country will receive above normal rains from late next month, where the CEO observed that by the end of this month the project will be 91-percent complete.

He told journalists at the site that manpower will be added in groups as the handing over process proceeds, with 20 employees placed on the site, reaching 92 as the project reaches final touches. That is 10-percent of total work from this moment, he

stated. "The remaining task here is to assemble equipment and finish off connecting the machinery," he said, noting that at present there is a

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## TANESCO hires staff as JNHPP nears completion

FROM PAGE 1

power supply deficit of 100 MW which will be curbed when JNHPP starts generation. Electricity needs have increased to 1,482.7 megawatts from 1,354.5 MW by the end of last year, he said, elaborating that the Kinyerezi I project to generate 185 MW was "swallowed" by the rise in electricity demand, owing to a sharp increase in economic activities. The inspection and evaluation tour has shown that everything was intact and evidently the project will be completed as scheduled, he said, affirming that the management was similarly evaluating projected above normal end of year rains to accommodate any such prospects to the JNHPP construction schedules. Finance director Renatha Ndege stated that the management's wish to view progress at close range was informed by the desire to see the project being completed on time, sorting out energy supply bottlenecks quickly. The completion of the project will be a game changer to the energy sector as it will stimulate economic activities in improving the feasibility of manufacturing projects, he said. Last December 22, President Samia Suluhu Hassan graced an occasion to start filling the dam as contractors completed building in the water diversion channel. The dam has the capacity for 33.2bn cubic meters of water, officials said. With its June

2024 completion schedule, JNHPP will tremendously improve the country's energy mix, as hydropower sourcing lessens overall energy costs in the country. Project works took off in December 2018 as part of the fifth phase government put aside the concerns of a wide ranging conservationist lobby to bring to realisation a decade's old dream of a major power station at the Stiegler's Gorge, standing at 100m depth. An online entry on the site says it was named after a Swiss explorer who was killed here by an elephant in 1907, and during the decades after independence it was part of the Selous Game Reserve named after a British explorer. Since the start of the power project, the zone with the project was hived off to become the Julius Nyerere National Park, ranking with the Serengeti and Ruaha national park as among the richest concentration of wildlife in Africa. Tanzania needs a sustained increase in power generation as the country inches towards an industrial economy, while seeking to diminish unit costs of energy that for a decade have been weighed upon by considerable reliance on natural gas. Renewable sources of energy are picking up but require higher starting costs per unit of generation, while hydropower generation is a relief at about 36/- per unit, much lower than 103/- and 112/- for wind and geothermal generation costs, respectively.

## Samia to inaugurate postal union building

FROM PAGE 1

Observers say the building has vastly changed Arusha city's skyline, after declining property development for the past half-decade, far eclipsing the Ngorongoro Tourism Centre building, the Mafao House of the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) near the old clock tower and Naura Springs Hotel, all designed more than a decade ago. Beijing Engineering and Construction Ltd undertook the works, fielding a number of sub-contractors, with the postal body making good use of its official head offices since 1980, as

a specialized agency of the Organisation of African Union (OAU). PAPU emerged from a continental postal conference held here at that time, one of several regional and international organizations headquartered in the northern tourist city that easily connects with other East African capitals. Other international entities with offices here include the former UN criminal tribunal for Rwanda now having a residual mechanism, the African Court for Human and Peoples' Rights, plus the East African Community (EAC) and its affiliated institutions.



Opposition Chadema national Vice Chairman (Mainland) Tundu Lissu addresses a rally in Shinyanga municipality yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

## Trade volume tops BRI decade city symposium

FROM PAGE 1

the volume of direct investment up by 2.5 times that of a decade ago, she said.

Over the past decade, BRI has built a new bridge for China-Tanzania friendship and the strategic docking between the two sides has been deeper, he stated, pointing out that over the past ten years, Tanzanian exports to China were chiefly agro-products like coffee, avocados and soybeans.

So far China has provided Tanzania with more than 2,000 scholarships and thousands of vocational and technical training places, she stated, emphasising that cooperation between China and

Tanzania in education, culture, health and tourism has flourished.

The people of the two countries have been getting to know each other deeply, she said, pointing at a series of strategic projects having laid a solid foundation for Tanzania's economic and social development and regional interconnection.

"I have witnessed the flourishing co-operation between China and Tanzania under BRI. Tanzanian enterprise representatives told me that the Belt and Road cooperation has brought many business opportunities," Cheng affirmed.

Mussa Zungu, the National Assembly

deputy speaker, said that BRI represents an opportunity for the East African Community partner states to access financing and material support for infrastructure projects.

Key areas covered by the BRI is infrastructure connectivity, with BRI particularly attractive as a catalyst for EAC economic integration, he said, noting that the EAC partner states are in a better position to take up investment opportunities tied with this initiative.

Deng Li, Foreign Affairs vice minister, said China will join hands with all other countries, including Tanzania to promote high-quality Belt and Road co-

operation in a programmatic way, while creating more benefits for people in all participating countries.

Joseph Butiku, the MNF board chairman, said that the symposium was meant to review the progress achieved by China and EAC states within the BRI context, to identify major challenges arising in that process.

Symposium participants were government institutions and political parties, national and regional legislative bodies, members of the diplomatic corps, leaders of various denominations, faculty members and students.



Julius Nyerere Hydro-Power Project coordinator John Skauki (gesturing) explains a point to members of the Tanzania Electric Supply Company (Tanesco) management team, Aboubakar Issa (R) and Decklan Mhaiki, who made an inspection tour of the mega-project in Rufiji District yesterday. Photo: Correspondent

## JKT volunteers programme to attract professional youth

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE National Service has opened window for the local youth to apply for this year's volunteers programme, outlining six key professional sectors to be prioritised when selecting applicants.

Brigadier General Hassan Mabena, NS head of administration who doubles as the service chairperson of strategic committee on agriculture, livestock and fisheries development, yesterday unveiled the sector as fisheries, irrigation, psychology, wildlife, livestock and civil engineering.

He said that the selected sectors are reflecting the economic areas which the government is currently working to improve with an eye to help heighten the

country's economic performance.

"We have become interested to give special priorities to the youth who holds vibrant background in the sectors in order to further mould them for sake of the national future development," he added.

Giving a special press conference over the development at the National Service Headquarters based in Chamwino District, Brigadier General Hassan Mabena informed that an intensive interview for affiliating with the key posts have been slated for Monday (Aug 28), where the prospective qualified applicants will have to report to their relevant camps from 26th to 29th of September, this year.

"I want to remind the youth and the general public that this is just a volunteering program, through which we're

imparting the involved youth with the vital life studies, as well as other necessary skills in pertaining to diverse socio-economic sectors," he expressed.

Furthermore, he communicated that the insight vision behind the program was not to offer any employment, but to capacitate the youth with practical-based skills to help them stand a chance to employ themselves," Brigadier General Hassan Mabena insisted.

He urged the youth to turn out in multitude and apply for the prestigious opportunity which focuses to turn them becoming more patriotic, saying the application process is being coordinated by the officer of the Regional Commissioners (RCs).

As per this year's setup, the annual pro-

gramme will in this year welcome applicants from different education levels, ranging from primary education to high learning.

For the form four youth applicant, he detailed that they must not exceeding 20 years and must be those graduated between 2020, 2021 and 2022 academic years.

"The form six applicants, he expressed, they must not exceeding 22 years of age, graduated from the same academic years (from 2020 to 2022)," he added.

The envisaged programme will be open for both, the youth from Mainland and Isle, and the prospective applicants must possess the valid relevant certificates.



Winnie Mlay (4th-L), founder and coordinator of Dar es Salaam's Peninsula English Medium School, is joined by the chairperson of the school's committee, Sally Dawit (to her right), and pupil Suzana Badi on Thursday in cutting a cake at the school's 19th Standard Seven 'graduation'. Photo: John Badi

## TTCL pledges to transform country into cashless economy in four years

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Telecommunications Corporation (TTCL) has talked the plans set to transform the country into a cashless economy by 2027.

Peter Ulanga, the director general unveiled the plans on Thursday in Dar es Salaam when addressing the media on the corporation performance for the last two years.

Ulanga said that TTCL has been positioned to transform the sector and make Tanzania one of the best countries in sub-Saharan Africa in enjoying the digital economy.

"We're working in line with our four-year strategy-2022/2023 to 2026/2027 that among other issues is to improve data infrastructure that will make TTCL meet its desired target and takes Tanzanians to the cashless economy," Ulanga said, noting that the corporation envisages to export connectivity to the neighboring landlocked countries.

He also said that the corporation is set to accelerate the digital economy through quality supply of communication services including internet data.

According to him, TTCL targets to supply a national fibre optic cable network (National ICT Broadband Backbone (NICTBB) at the door step of about one million households by 2027 and ensure that all 139 districts are connected with 5 generation (5G).

According to Eng. Ulanga, the corporation can make Tanzania a leading country in the East African region and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) due to the presence of an excellent communication infrastructure capable of achieving digital economic growth.

"We're doing well in the digital economy and we'll continue to do better and makes our people go in the same pace of the current digital world," he said, adding when the country connects with other countries digitally, it will be able to help increase the income of foreign currency and the economy will continue to grow.

"We will sell innovation, and technology abroad through TTCL while Tanzanians will see how the organization is growing and capable of making Tanzania a leading country not only technologically but economically in our region, in terms of security and culture when it sells digital," he said.

## DAWASA CEO calls for speedy implementation of sanitation project

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

KIULA Kingu, the acting chief executive officer of the Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa), has directed supervisors of the Sinza-Kijitonyama sanitation project to increase pace and complete the work before the end of next month.

Kingu made the directive yesterday after inspecting progress of the project which will cost a total of 1.4bn/- after its completion.

He said the implementation of the project which has now reached 18 percent, will be of great benefit to the people in areas.

"This is a strategic project which aims to help the businesspeople who have rented

also in the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) Commercial Complex along Sam Nujoma Road and residents of Sinza and Kijitonyama areas to which have high water table, causing frequent environmental pollution," said Kingu.

Director of DAWASA Sanitation Department, Engineer Lydia Ndibalema who also

manages the project assured the director that they will work hard to ensure that the work is completed on time. "This project will be completed within agreed time, we have organized ourselves as a department and the Chief Executive Officer has added tools so that the work goes faster and from tomorrow changes will be seen," she assured.

She said the project costs 1.4bn/- and will benefit more than 1,000 customers and thus end the environmental pollution challenge which has affected the Sinza and Kijitonyama for years.

The PSSSF Sinza-Kijitonyama Sanitation Project will benefit areas of Sinza B, Sinza C, Mabatini and Kijitonyama.

## The Guardian Limited

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- Proven record of successfully driving revenue growth, enhancing customer experiences, and leading cross-functional teams

##### Mode of Applications:

Visit I&M Bank website <https://www.imbankgroup.com/tz/> on career section to apply for the job or send your CV to the following email address [recruitment@imbank.co.tz](mailto:recruitment@imbank.co.tz) with a subject of "Head of Retail and Digital Banking job application". Deadline for receiving applications is 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023.

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Vickey Puncheon (L), Kudu Graphite Mining Company's general manager for corporate sustainability, pictured yesterday briefing Minerals minister Doto Biteko (R) at the ongoing Mining and Investment Exhibition in Ruangwa District, Lindi Region. Looking on are Kudu geologists Peter Malley and Benjamin Kisawike. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Parliament calls upon TEMESA to oversee ferry building contractors

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Parliamentary Infrastructures Standing Committee has called on Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) to closely supervise contractors constructing government ferries to make sure the ferries are of high quality standards.

The remarks were made here by the committee's chairman, Selemani Kakoso after it received TEMESA's report on government ferries operations. "Make sure you closely follow up of the contractors, we want to see people benefit by these ferries to which the government has been providing huge sums of money for their purchase and/or construction," said Kakoso.

In addition, the panel called on the Agency to make sure it operates commercially in order to go in tandem with market competition from within and outside the country in boosting its services to their customers in various areas of the country.

The Committee chairman also

instructed TEMESA to hire adequate experts as well as providing training to the existing experts so as to empower them to attain their set goals.

For his part, Deputy Works and Transport Minister (Works Sector) Eng. Godfrey Kasekenya said in 2023/24 FY the Agency plans to implement seven new ferry building projects to serve Kisorya-Rugezi, Bwiro-Bukondo, Mafia-Nyamisati, Ijinga-Kahangara, Nyakariri-Kome and Buyangu-Mbalika as well as two smaller ferries to serve Magogoni-Kigamboni in Dar es Salaam.

Kasekenya explained that the Agency also plans to complete refurbishment to various ferries including the MV Kazi, MV Misungwi, MV Musoma MV Tanga and MV TEMESA.

TEMESA Chief Executive Officer, Lazaro Kilahala said that the Agency has attained various achievements including the installation of the electronic revenue collection system at Magogoni - Kigamboni ferry aimed at boosting revenue collections.

## TIC starts to train new ambassadors about state investment opportunities

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIA Investment Centre (TIC) has started to train new ambassadors about various investment opportunities available in the country so that they can motivate new foreign investors when they report to their destinations.

The ambassadors are those who were recently appointed and sworn in by President Samia Suluhu Hassan who, during the swearing - in ceremony at the State House directed that they should be given training of investment opportunities.

Speaking immediately after the training yesterday, the Director of Investment Promotion Department at TIC, John Mnali, said the training will be continuous for all ambassadors representing Tanzania in various countries.

"As you remember, when the President was swearing - in the new ambassadors, she said that they should be given investment training, so we have started implementing those instructions and the training will be continuous for all

ambassadors," he said.

The ambassadors who received the training yesterday include Canadian Ambassador-designate, Joseph Sokoine, Omani Ambassador Fatma Rajabu, Naimi Aziz from Austria and Ali Mwadini who is going to represent Tanzania in France.

He said TIC explained to the ambassadors the various improvements they have made in attracting investment for all investors coming to invest in this country.

He said they have provided them with various tools that the amb-

sadors will use to attract and encourage investment when in their missions.

He said they have told the new ambassadors about the importance of looking for investment opportunities in the construction of industries that will manufacture various finished products whose raw materials are available in the country.

"Even in renovation projects, for example, an investor has a project that could not be done very well if he wants to do renovations, the law gives him many incentives different

from a new investor," he said.

Mnali said another good thing about the 2022 law changes is that the time to serve investments in the country has been reduced from 14 days to seven days.

Canada's ambassador- appointee, Joseph Sokoine, hailed the government for the decision to give them such training and promised to use it to encourage new investments in various sectors from Canada.

"For sure, this training has opened our eyes about the many investment opportunities available in our

country and we will tell investors to come and invest in the agricultural, mining and industrial sectors to increase the value of the products we produce so that we can export products and bring in foreign currency and increase employment to our people," said Sokoine.

Tanzania's ambassador to Oman, Fatma Rajabu, said one of the government's priorities is to promote economic diplomacy, so they will use the training to promote investment and tourism attractions.

ENDS/sm

## Over 80 residents of Ngorongoro relocate to rural Arusha, Manyara

By Guardian Reporter, Ngorongoro

THE 19th group of 16 households with a total of 87 people and 740 livestock has voluntarily moved to Msomera and other areas in Arusha and Manyara regions to allow conservation activities within the Ngorongoro Conservation area.

Speaking during the launch of second phase of the voluntary relocation exercise at the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) headquarters yesterday, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Mohamed Mchengerwa said in this phase the government will construct 5,000 houses at Msomera and Kitawi villages.

He said the government's intention is to see citizens reallocated from the protected area have access to basic needs as well as improved social services such as education and health. He said among the group, two families are moving to Msomera in Handeni District while others are moving to Karatu and Monduli districts.

"May I call upon others to voluntarily register for the exercise to facilitate conservation activities. The government will continue to empower those willing to move to other places," said the minister as he handed over cheques to the families. Mchengerwa insisted that the exercise is voluntary whereas people choose where to go without being influenced. He warned some groups of people trying to convince the villagers not to reallocate, saying they are committing a crime and that legal measures will be taken against them.

"Let no one try to undermine the government's conservation efforts," he remarked, adding the villagers have made wise decisions to move to safer places that are free from wildlife attacks.

One of the villagers, Luka Oleapa said they are thankful to the government because they are going to own better houses and land parcels for development. "I also convinced my fellow villagers to reallocate; at our new homes we will have farms and grazing areas. The government should continue to educate people on the importance of moving from the protected area as some are reluctant only because they are not well educated on the matter," said Oleapa.

Ngorongoro District Commissioner, Raymond Mangwala said the government has successfully reallocated hundreds of people in the first phase.

Mangwala added that the government is determined to improve the tourism sector through enhanced conservation activities. He said the district has within a year generated over 150bn/- through tourism, attributing the success with the Royal Tour film.



Athumani Makole, chairman of Dodoma city's Sabasaba market, addresses traders in the national capital yesterday on ways to deal with the various challenges facing the facility. Seated (front row, R-L) are Dodoma Regional CCM chairman Adam Kimbisa, Dodoma district commissioner Jabir Shekimwari and Dodoma Urban legislator Anthony Mavunde, who is also Agriculture deputy minister. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

## Govt urges stakeholders to limit use of chemicals eroding the ozone layer

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE government has asked procurement and supply officials to consider limiting the use of chemicals and equipment that erode the ozone layer or have an impact on human health and the environment.

Dr Switbert Mkama, the Acting Permanent Secretary in the Vice President's Office (VPO) made the call yesterday when opening one-day training workshop for procurement and supply officers on the implemen-

tation of the Montreal Protocol on chemicals that deplete the ozone layer.

Dr Mkama has said that at the beginning of the 1970s, scientists discovered that some man-made chemicals, including refrigerators, air conditioners, fire extinguishers and mattresses, have infiltrated the air and eroded the ozone layer, causing harm to human health and the environment.

"The result of the erosion of the ozone layer is to allow more ultraviolet radiation to reach the earth's surface,

which causes various effects on human health and the environment. The effects are such as skin cancer, eye damage that causes blindness and effects on the growth of plants and other living organisms," said Dr. Mkama

He also said the results of the discovery caused the International Organization for the Environment (UN Environment) to conduct a scientific assessment and decide to take effective measures to protect the Ozone layer by establishing the Montreal

Protocol on the control of chemicals that deplete the Ozone Layer adopted in 1987.

The VPO official said that in implementing the Protocol, the Government has taken various steps including preparing and implementing the Plan to Eliminate Chemicals that Deplete the Ozone Layer of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) by 2030 as well as the Implementation Plan of the Kigali Amendment to reduce the use of chemicals in society hydrofluorocarbons.

"Under these plans, one of the activities that are neglected and should be implemented includes providing training to procurement and supply officers from various institutions regarding the implementation of relevant Protocols, including the implementation of Environmental Management Regulations (Control of Chemicals that Deplete the Ozone Layer) of the year 2022" said Dr. Mkama.

He said procurement and supply officers are the main actors in the process of han-

dling the procurement of various equipment in public offices, so they have a great responsibility to provide Ozone education to others in order to increase efforts to preserve the Ozone Layer and save human life and living things.

Kemilembe Mutasa, acting director of the Environment Office of the Vice President, said in implementing the Protocol, the Office has continued to provide training to various stakeholders including procurement and supply officers from various ministries with the aim of building

their understanding about the requirements of the Protocol Montreal.

"The Office of the Vice President in collaboration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority, the Chief Government Chemist's Laboratory Authority, the Tanzania Standards Organization and various Technical Training Colleges have continued to provide training to various officials on the management and control of chemicals and equipment containing chemicals controlled under this Protocol" said Kemilembe.

## PM's Office commences process to review national policy on disability

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability) has commenced the process to review the National Policy on Disability of 2004 to meet current needs.

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Prof Jamal Katundu made the statement yesterday during the opening of the stakeholders' meeting to review the preliminary information of the review.

He said that the job is implemented in collaboration with UN Women and the review process will engage representation of all groups of people with disabilities in order to have a better policy.

"My office will ensure that this policy is completed early as this has been a long-term request for people with disabilities, I request that the team that will go to collect opinions go around every region to en-

sure that they get opinions from all groups of PwDs people so as to ensure that we get a good policy which meets the current needs," he explained.

Jacob Kayombo from UN Women commended the government for reaching a good step of the process which will enable the country to have a better policy for the group.

Jonas Lubago, general secretary of the Tanzania Federation of Disabled People's Organizations (SHIVYAWATA) thanked the government for fulfilling its promise to improve the policy assuring that the federation will participate fully in order to have a good policy.

Earlier, Dr Consolata Sulley, lecturer from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) said the initial steps will involve collecting views from stakeholders including PwDs so as to ensure that the group's rights and issues of genders are incorporated in the policy.



Simanjiro district commissioner Dr Suleiman Serera (R) addresses mine owners and Tanzanian miners in Mirerani township on Thursday on the need for them to contributing to the community's development in the spirit of corporate social responsibility. Left is the Simanjiro district executive director Gratian Makota. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

## President Kagame issues warning to Catholic tourists who 'worship poverty'

KIGALI

RWANDAN President Paul Kagame has warned Catholics who visit pilgrimage sites known to have been sites of Marian apparitions each year, accusing them of 'worshipping poverty'.

Every year, thousands of pilgrims travel, sometimes on foot, to the town of Kibeho, known for several

apparitions of the Virgin Mary to three young girls in the early 1980s.

This year, however, the Rwandan president lashed out at the pilgrims after a mass in Kibeho attracted more than 20,000 people on Assumption Day, August 15.

Speaking to young people on Wednesday, he described the pilgrimage as "horrible". "If I hear of this again, that people have

traveled to worship poverty, I will bring trucks to pick them up and throw them in prison, and I will only release them when they no longer have this mentality of poverty," said Paul Kagame, himself a Catholic, although it is not known what prompted the threats.

However, a government spokeswoman assured AFP on Thursday that President Kagame was not

referring to Kibeho in his speech, saying he was probably referring to a little-known site in western Rwanda.

"In his speech at the youth event, President Kagame at no point mentioned a specific pilgrimage site, and certainly not Kibeho," said Yolande Makolo.

"What he was most likely referring to was an informal pilgrimage-

type event taking place in the Rutshiro district," she added. "The aim (of the president) was to encourage young Rwandans to be ambitious and work hard, instead of being influenced by cult-like rituals."

There was no immediate reaction from the Catholic Church. Almost all Rwandans are Christians, with Catholics accounting for half.

The first Marian apparitions at

Kibeho occurred in 1981, and were recognized by the Church in 2001. The site has since become a popular place of pilgrimage for Catholics from all over the world, hoping for a miracle or healing.

According to local media reports this month, the Catholic Church is seeking 3.5 billion Rwandan francs (around 2.7 million euros) to expand the pilgrimage site.



Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORI) director general Dr Revocatus Mushumbusi pictured in Dodoma city yesterday speaking at the opening of a workshop on the integrated management of the landscape in the country's dry 'miombo' woodlands. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## TikTok okays content oversight in Kenya, assures President Ruto

NAIROBI

CHINESE social network TikTok has pledged to work with Kenyan authorities so that its content can be monitored and eventually removed, the presidency of the East African country, where a ban on the platform has been requested, said on Thursday.

"In a virtual meeting with President Ruto (pictured) on Thursday morning, TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew committed to ensuring that content is moderated to meet community standards," says a statement on the Kenyan presidency's website.

"TikTok will work with Kenya to review and monitor its content," the text adds.

"This new development means that inappropriate or offensive content will be removed from the platform", it assures, indicating that TikTok has also committed to opening an office in Kenya "to coordinate its operations on the continent" and "to hire more Kenyans".

No details were provided on the modalities and timing of this content moderation.

The popular video-sharing app owned by the Chinese group ByteDance is very popular in Kenya, where a businessman, Bob Ndolo, recently asked Parliament to rule on its ban.

"The applicant denounces the fact that (...) the content shared on the platform is inappropriate and promotes violence, explicit sexual content, hate speech, vulgar language and offensive behaviour that pose a serious threat to Kenya's cultural and religious values," National As-



sembly Speaker Moses Wetangula detailed to MPs on August 15.

A parliamentary committee is due to study the request within two months.

Kenya's neighbour Somalia announced on Sunday that it was banning TikTok, as well as the Telegram messaging service and an online betting site, with effect from August 24, claiming that these platforms were being used by "terrorists", notably the radical Islamist Shebab.

In Senegal, the authorities suspended it in early August until "further notice" due to the dissemination of "hateful and subversive" messages following protests against the imprisonment of opposition figure Ousmane Sonko.

The application, which has more than a billion active users worldwide, is also suspected by the authorities in the USA and several European countries of not protecting data sufficiently and of allowing Beijing to spy on and manipulate its users, something the group has always vigorously denied.

## TARURA all set to repair 21,057 kms of roads

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) is set to repair 21,057.06 kilometers of roads in the country in the current financial year which will include a 427-kilometer stretch of tarmac road.

In 2023/24, the government has given TARURA a total of 858.517bn/- to support diverse projects for construction of new roads, but also, for the rehabilitation road infrastructures in different districts across the country.

Out of the amount, 710.31bn/- is from internal sources and a total of

148.207bn/- has been sourced from foreign sources through different projects, including the Tanzanian Cities Transforming Infrastructure and Competitiveness (TACTIC), and the Tanzania Roads to Inclusion and Socio-economic opportunities (RISE) projects, among others.

At a press conference yesterday, TARURA Chief Executive Officer Victor Seff said this year's plan involves construction of 855 bridges at different locations and at least 70-km of drainage systems.

"And among our key priorities in the implementation of different projects in the current fiscal year is to continue

making good use of resources that are available at the project's site's vicinity in order to reduce construction costs," he expressed.

Moreover, Seff added that as of March, 2023, the Agency had already managed to construct a total of 163 stone-made bridges, worth 8.7bn/-, the development which served 50 percent of the involved cost.

He unveiled that the stone-made bridges has been constructed in different regions, including Kigoma (92), Singida (24), Tabora (5), Kilimanjaro (10), Mbeya (2), Arusha (6), Morogoro (2), Rukwa (3),

Coast (1), Ruvuma (3) and Iringa at least 15 bridges have been constructed.

Together with that, and in further efforts to help reducing construction cost, he communicated that TARURA was continuing to conduct several technological trials with an eye to use the soil that available at the roads constructions sites, unveiling the technologies as Ecoroads, Ecozyme and GeoPolymer.

"So far, we have managed to construct a 1km road stretch in Dodoma Capital City through Ecoroads technology, whereby in Mufindi district, a total of 10km of road is expected to be constructed through the

technology," he expressed.

TARURA is an Executive Agency of the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), established under Section 3 (I) of the Executive agencies Act. (Cap 245) by Order Published in government No. 211 dated May 12, 2017 and was inaugurated on July 02, 2017.

TARURA is vested with the responsibility of managing the development, rehabilitation, maintenance, axle load control, environmental and road reserve management of rural and urban roads network for the Socio - Economic development of Tanzania.



Coconuts on sale at an open market at Temeke in Dar es Salaam yesterday, with the going wholesale price ranging between 1,000/- and 1,500/- each. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## IFM, Dutch university agree on mutual collaboration in exchange programmes

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Institute of Finance Management (IFM) and University of Groningen in Netherlands (UoG) have signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at bolstering mutual collaboration in exchange programmes.

Dr Emmanuel Mzava, IFM's deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics, Research and Consultancy) unveiled in Dar es Salaam when speaking at a public lecture organised to mark 20 years of collaboration between the two higher institutions.

During the public lecture, Prof Manda Broekhuis and Prof Peter Verhoef from the Netherlands presented two papers, titled "Quality Assurance of Higher Education: More than Rules and Regulations" and "Digital Transformation is Changing Business" respectively.

He said that they agreed to extend collaborations such as an exchange programme to build the capacity of IFM staff and get exposure in the Netherlands land.

"Under the agreement, we will exchange staff for teaching for both institutions (IFM and UoG). Selected staff from UoG will visit IFM for teaching and staff from IFM will visit the UoG for teaching," he said.

Dr Mzava said that they have also agreed to establish a new winter school programme for IFM's students and staff going to Netherlands as it was for students' summer where students from the Netherlands came to the country.

"Our collaboration is institution based and therefore, we hope it will be sustainable for the benefit of two countries," he said.

He said during the 20th years of collaboration, a notable success has been recorded such as numerous PhD's and master degrees candidates graduated in the Netherlands.

Others are joint research publications and various journal studies, training and building capacity in research methodologies to its high level lecturers.

Netherlands Ambassador to Tanzania, Wiebe de Boer said the collaboration has been important for students pursuing PhD and master degrees of all institutions adding that the two countries have a long historical relationship in the agriculture sector.

The relationship has been characterized by strong economic and diplomatic ties, growing trade and investment, exchange of knowledge, experiences and expertise.

Sirieli Nchemba, Senior Lecturer at IFM said that the collaboration between IFM and Groningen of Netherlands has played a big role in building the capacity of the institute's staff.

Dr Kelvin Njumwa, from the Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA) - Dar Es Salaam Based Campus commended IFM for the strong and sustainable collaboration.

He said the collaboration will build the capacity of lectures in the fight against fraud from students as a result of emerging technology such as artificial intelligence.

## 'Investing in paralegal programmes best initiatives to improve access to justice for poor, marginalised groups'

By Correspondent James Lanka, Rombo

INVESTING in paralegal programmes has been cited as one of the best initiatives which will help improve access to justice for poor and marginalized groups.

A lawyer from Tübingen city in Germany, Raaf Eberhard made the statement here when speaking to this paper during an official visit of a delegation of friends from Tübingen city at the head-

quarters of the Action for Justice in Society (AJISO) organisation's offices.

Eberhard who was accompanied with other friends from his city explained that, after their official visit at the AJISO to learn their different programmes they learnt that paralegal programmes often fall within the rubrics of access to justice and legal empowerment.

He said that paralegals have

great contributions to criminal and civil legal aid.

He noted that on the 16th June of 2014 Moshi announced a twin city partnership with Tübingen city in Germany whereby the legal paper was signed in a ceremony in Moshi by Mayor Jaffary Raphael Michael and Daniela Rathe, head of the faculty for art and culture, as a representative for Mayor Boris Palmer.

The twin city partnership be-

tween Tübingen and Moshi aims to encourage and simplify individual and institutional contacts and encounters as well as to make cooperation on global problems such as climate change and peace work on the municipal level possible.

"After our official visit of paralegal project in Rombo district who are facilitated by AJISO they learnt that, access to justice approaches generally attempt to

expand access to just treatment under law while legal empowerment has a specific focus on empowering poor, vulnerable and/or excluded populations, and increasing the capacity of communities to exercise their own rights," he said.

He said: "I am very interested with the AJISO's paralegal programme as I really learnt that appropriately trained community-based paralegals can provide

invaluable assistance for legal education, navigate the legal systems, and provide support throughout the legal process."

Executive Director of AJISO, Advocate Virginia Silayo explained that paralegal programmes had been introduced by some non-governmental organizations (NGOs) some many years ago, but it was officially recognized by the government of the United Republic of Tanzania in 2017.

## NPS and e-GA launch digital system to help speed up service delivery of criminal cases

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE National Prosecutions Service (NPS) in cooperation with the e-Government Authority (e-GA) yesterday launched a digital system aimed to help speed up service delivery in management of criminal cases.

Dubbed: 'Case Management Information System (CMIS), the new cloud-connected system has specifically been tailored for gathering, processing and keeping records pertaining to criminal cases.

Speaking yesterday during the official launch of the system, Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), George Simbachawene, said the development will play a key role to improve service delivery and access to justice.

"Since its inception, the e-Government system has been playing a meaningful role in increasing efficiency and transparency at the public institutions; thus, I remain optimistic that the NPS office will benefit the same," he added.

Minister Simbachawene said that the digital system is acting as the 'brain' of the government as it helps to reduce service burden in service delivery in public institutions.

He said that through the e-Government system, a total of 17, 411 criminal cases have so far been registered, whereby out of the cases, at least 7,361 cases have come to an end and judgements have been issued.

He added that a total of 10,050 cases are currently at different levels of judgements, thanks to the e-system.

"To be honest, the e-Government system has come along with numerous achievements towards improving service delivery at the NPS office. This is a good example to be adopted by all public institutions that involve in service delivery towards the public," he insisted.

He observed that effective use of the e-Government system in the public institutions was a promising vehicle to assist the country attain the set and much needed 2025 National Development Vision, together with the National Development Plan (2021/22-2025/26).

Deputy Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Pauline Gekul said that President Samia Suluhu Hassan has always been insisting for all public institutions to install and make sober use of the system.

She added that through use of e-justice, the system will play a pivotal role to improve deliverance of justice.

Eng. Benedict Ndomba, e-GA director general (DG) said the Agency will continue to ensure all public institutions adopt use of the vital system in order to scale up service delivery.

Director of Public Prosecution (DPP), Sylvester Mwakitalu, said installation of the digital system at the office will assist him to speed up issuance of criminal cases judgements, as well as improving other vital services.



These city commuter buses were involved in a minor collision at a Mtoni kwa Aziz Ali section of Temeke municipality in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

WEALTHY people have been urged to join hands with humanitarian organisations in the country so as to increase support to people facing various disasters.

Jackson Nsabo, Save the Children's refugees response field manager made the call in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during the commemoration of the World Humanitarian Day 2023.

"We need to join efforts to support our fellow who are in need, we don't want to see any Tanzanian in disaster areas dying due to lack of support/assistance," he said.

According to Nsabo, humanitarians have no other purpose than to save and protect lives and deliver the basic necessities of life,

## Well-to-do people urged to support the needy

they stand shoulder to shoulder with the communities they serve and bring hope."

He said that Save the Children has been working in the country since 1986 and has extended their activities to various areas in the country where there are disasters.

"For example, currently, we are serving at Nduta Refugee Camp in Kibondo District, and Nyarugusu refugees' camp in Kasulu District, both in Kigoma Region," he said.

He called upon fellow non-governmental organisations and the community at large working on humanitarian matters to join hands and amplify their voices and continue to support Tanzanians faced with hu-

manitarian challenges.

He said Save the Children Tanzania works on seven thematic areas: child protection, health, nutrition, child rights governance, education, food security and livelihoods, and emergencies.

Others are policy influencing and advocacy, gender, HIV/AIDS are other areas, which contribute to the current programming. Dar es Salaam regional commissioner, Albert Chalamilu said that disasters are part and parcel of a human life and are inevitable, something which needs support from various parts to overcome them.

Chalamilu noted that some disasters lead

to psychological torture and here some people end up taking their lives.

"So, there is a need to have psychologists in communities who will help intervene and from time to time by giving psychological advice to people with the problems," he said. The theme of World Humanitarian Day 2023 is #NoMatterWhat. In a world beset by challenges, #NoMatterWhat speaks volumes about the extent to which humanitarian workers go, in an often dangerous and violent world to ensure that they alleviate human suffering.

UN Secretary-General's Message on the World Humanitarian Day by the UN Sec-

retary-General, António Guterres stated: "This year's World Humanitarian Day marks the 20th anniversary of the deadly attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad...to show our unwavering commitment to deliver for the communities we serve, no matter who, no matter where and #NoMatterWhat."

He noted that humanitarians are united by a shared mission to save and protect lives. They will never compromise on humanitarian principles, and always strive to make the best decisions for the people they serve.

Humanitarian work is difficult and dangerous, but we don't give up on our commitment to overcome the challenges and deliver life-saving assistance to people in need, #NoMatterWhat.



Group Six International and Sinotan Industrial Park chairman Johnson Huang makes a presentation in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a symposium to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Belt and Road Initiative between China and East African countries. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## BRICS GDP set to grow by 36pc following expansion

JOHANNESBURG

THE Gross Domestic Product of BRICS is now 36 percent of global GDP and 47 percent of the world population. This follows the announcement of the six nations to the BRICS bloc.

"We have decided to invite the Argentine Republic, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to become full members of BRICS. The membership will take effect from 1 January 2024," announced Cyril Ramaphosa President of South Africa.

India said adding the six countries shows the determination of BRICS for unity.

"India will continue to build consensus for those countries wishing to join BRICS. Expansion & modernisation of BRICS is a message that global institutions must mold themselves to changing times," said India Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In reaction to the bloc expansion, the BRICS Sherpa said they received applications from 22 countries.

"We had applications from 22 countries. All of these countries we have taken on board had applied formally. Expansion had to happen in a structured manner," stated Ambassador Anil Sooklal BRICS Sherpa.

The Johannesburg Declaration 2 adopted at this year's BRICS Summit here in South Africa is expected to ensure the development of BRICS nations and create more inclusive economic policies for all members.

## Renewable energy offers Africa the best chance to achieve SDGs, say experts

ABIDJAN

AFRICA must increase investment in developing its renewable energy, and attract greater support of the private sector and international financial institutions, if it is to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), experts meeting in Abidjan stressed Wednesday.

The continent should also control, exploit and transform its enormous mineral resources lo-

cally in order to generate the financial resources needed for its development, urged the experts, who represented a dozen African countries, during an African Development Bank workshop held on August 23-24, 2023. The meeting's theme was Financial Modeling for the Extractive Sector (FIMES).

"Renewable energy gives us opportunities to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. We also need to be major players in the energy field," said Dr. John David

Cooper, Director of Policy and Research at Sierra Leone's Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources. He was speaking on the panel on "Financial modeling for a just energy transition for certain critical minerals in transition countries".

Participants note that Africa has made considerable progress in energy transition despite the challenges. Pointing to the scale of the challenges still ahead, Silas Olang, Energy Transition Advisor for Africa at the Natural Resources Governance In-

stitute in Accra, Ghana, noted that no African country ranks among the world's top 30 in energy transition. Still, Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa are examples of countries implementing ambitious renewable energy development policies.

Renewable energy have the potential to provide electricity to the 600 million Africans currently deprived of it, create jobs and stimulate industrialization. "Every dollar invested in renewable energies will yield an ad-

ditional \$0.93", and the deployment of renewable energies will progressively lead to lower costs, unlike fossil fuels, said Mr. Cooper.

In addition to solar energy, Africa's renewable assets include wind power, biomass, hydroelectricity and minerals such as lithium, graphite and cobalt, which are needed for renewable energy technologies including the production of solar panels and batteries for electric vehicles.

A key theme of the discussions

was the need for the continent to take better advantage of its immense mining resources for sustainable development.

Dogari Bassirou, Director General for the Economy in Niger's Ministry of the Economy and Finance said that his country's uranium is exploited by France and its oil by China. This results in huge financial losses for African governments, who more often than not have to make do with foreign mining companies' statements on mineral content.

## Uganda's vanilla paradox leaves farmers frustrated

KAMPALA

MINIMALLY sought after at home, heavily demanded globally, vanilla. Growing the spice has been a craze in Uganda, but farmers are now questioning whether it is worth it.

When Mukasa ventured into vanilla in 2018, he was banking on hopes of making money. The spice was selling at \$80 per kilogram at the time, but he also knew that could fall tenfold.

"I decided to plant it targeting 20,000 shillings per kilogram. So that is when I started planting, but then I also started small, with around five plants, so I went up adding more and more with time," Dan Mukasa, a vanilla farmer based in Luwero, central Uganda.

To protect vanilla farmers, the government started declaring the harvesting period - a probable time that considers patterns in the different regions of the country. The beans mature first in the

west.

The official harvesting period opened on July 17. As dealers wind up with sales, farmers are already planning for the next harvest. "The date that we set is not absolute. It is either minus or plus - it is an estimate. You can't have a single date for all growers across the country, and yet we have different agronomical regions in this country", Kyakulaga Fred Bwino, state minister for agriculture.

Local exporters are raising concerns over the reduced consistency and quality, which cuts down on demand-fit Ugandan vanilla globally.

The designated harvesting period may offer some level of security, but to farmers it is not enough.

As Mukasa explains, "yes, someone can still be harvesting now but remember it is open time for everyone to sell, then you have more chances of having thieves to come and pick your vanilla because no one will ask them where

they got it from. But before that time, no one can sell vanilla. But now if it is selling time, anyone can sell vanilla no matter where they got it from."

The fluctuation on the global market has left vanilla farmers stranded. A kilogram now goes for a little over \$1. The government is asking farmers to be patient. "Because it has a unique characteristic, we advise those that already have it not to destroy it because you will destroy it today and tomorrow the demand will again go up, and the price will again go up, so please be patient," Kyakulaga Fred Bwino, state minister for agriculture.

Government statistics show that by the end of 2022, the country exported vanilla worth \$11 million.

From his two-acre farm, Dan's first harvest is just a few kilograms, but when his and the output of all growers in Uganda is aggregated, the country ranks number two exporter of vanilla on the continent after Madagascar.



Semani Mtoka, Special Seats councillor for Dar es Salaam's Majohe ward, airs her views on Thursday at a meeting on developments in the ward. It attracted various stakeholders, including representatives of civil society organisations. She is with ward executive Gerald Sarota (R) and Majohe Information and Knowledge Centre secretary Salma

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

## Dar young woman becomes heroine

A VISIT to one of the referral hospitals in Dar es Salaam in late March changed the life of a 25-year-old mother of two children aged three and eight.

Mariam Mwakabungu, a resident of Kinyerezi in Ubungo District, had visited her friend at the Amana Regional Referral Hospital that had given birth to premature twins, and as she was about to leave she saw a nurse attending to a premature baby.

"I asked the nurse where the baby's mother was and she told me that she was sick. The nurse asked me whether I could help give the baby kangaroo mother care. I accepted the offer in the blink of an eye," Mwakabungu said in an interview.

Kangaroo mother care is a technique that helps to keep a low birth-weight baby warm by carrying the baby

with skin-to-skin contact which provides protection from infection.

Mwakabungu said she gave the nurse her telephone number, and she went home asking the nurse to call her when she needed her kangaroo mother care services.

"The nurse called me and I went straight to the hospital where I started giving the service to the baby who, according to doctors, had weighed one kg since it was born a month earlier," said Mwakabungu whose two children were born weighing more than 3 kg each.

She said she stayed with the baby for one week and her weight increased to the required standard which is above 2.5 kg and the baby was later handed over to an orphanage after her sick mother had abandoned it.

She said as she had completed giving the kangaroo mother care to the baby, two more abandoned premature babies were brought to her and she continued giving the service to them.

"It is a very tiresome undertaking because you have to carry the baby with skin-to-skin contact for 24 hours even when eating," she said, adding that the only time one loses contact with the baby is when one goes to a washroom.

She said she gave the service on a voluntary basis, adding that the hospital only provided her with breakfast, lunch, dinner, and bus fare when she went home for a short rest.

She said she used to be a food vendor and sell second-hand clothes but she dropped the two businesses

after she had run out of capital.

Soft-spoken Mwakabungu thanked her husband for allowing her to volunteer to take care of premature babies. "When I told my husband what I was doing he said it was fine because I was saving the lives of the babies."

She said between late March and July she had given the service to three premature babies that have been handed over to an orphanage and now she was looking after a fourth premature baby that she was given to her on Aug 3.

Mwakabungu said her parents died when she was five years old, and years later she has to drop out of school because her grandmother that was looking after her had no money to pay for her school

fees.

She said her work was appreciated by Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan who recently awarded her a monetary prize.

"Top officials of the hospital visited me as I clutched a premature baby and handed me the money saying it is my present from the president. I was overjoyed beyond explanation," she said.

The president also directed the Ministry of Health to employ her permanently as a nurse and the process to employ her has already started, said Sarah Simba, the hospital's head of communications.

Mwakabungu suggested that the government should construct a special structure for accommodating premature children, especially those that have been aban-

doned by their mothers, from their infancy to adolescence to enable them to realize their life dreams.

Mary Mchemba, a nursing officer in charge of the Neonatal Unit at the Amana Regional Referral Hospital, described Mwakabungu as an "angel dedicated to saving the lives of abandoned premature babies."

She said Mwakabungu decided to stop doing her business and volunteered to save the tedious task of caring for premature babies.

Mchemba said the hospital's neonatal unit admits between 70 and 80 premature babies a month but the unit has only six beds. "That is why we are encouraging mothers to use the kangaroo mother care technique which is simple and cost-effective," she said. "Simple

cost-effective solutions such as kangaroo mother care can make a big difference in those vital first days of a small baby's life."

Mchemba, a professional nurse with more than 25 years of work experience, described a premature baby as one that weighs below 1.5 kg at birth, adding that a normal baby usually weighs around 2.5 kg at birth.

"A premature baby is born before 37 weeks of pregnancy are completed," she said. "Kangaroo mother care is both simple and cost-effective because it does not need a machine, but just a skin-to-skin bond between mother and child to provide this little baby with the needed warmth."

According to the United Nations Children's Fund data, more than 200,000 children are born prematurely in Tanzania every year, and approximately 9,500 of them fail to survive.

SATURDAY 26 AUGUST 2023

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

## Democracy meeting was helpful event for clarity

STAKEHOLDERS and a range of on-lookers at a democracy meeting held in Dar es Salaam at midweek had plenty to chew, and more than enough to carry for their own reflections in due course. It was not an event to cultivate a consensus on what democracy is all about, but rather a few key characteristics, while objectives, and even attendant methods, are open to interpretation. It was altogether to the point and disabusing, for anyone who expected a simple formula for all to obey.

Everyone knows the background to the meeting and indeed its aftermath, and in those regards as well little consensus existed in the meeting, among opposition parties and even within the ruling party, on its causes and outcomes. Suffice it is to say that 'all is well that ends well,' where reminders were given on the way in which democracy is contextual. Mwalimu JK Nyerere once rightly said in his time that democracy wasn't a one-size fits all panacea.

It is precisely these limitations that radical proponents of democracy have never accepted, believing that when everyone expresses themselves as they wish, all will be well.

Swiss and US envoys who attended the meeting lent a helpful hand in that regard, roundly emphasising that practising democracy includes taking note of a country's environment. It implies that virtually each country has its specific set of limitations, if not on paper, then in political usage, and those who participate in making use of democracy usually respect those limits.

The meeting was called by the Tanzania Centre of Democracy (TCD) and other partners to extensively discuss the state of democracy in the country.

## Needed: A fiercer war on corruption in our politics

THE member states of the African Union adopted the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (The Convention) at the Second Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held in Maputo (Mozambique), on 11th July 2003. The Convention entered into force on 5th August 2006, thirty (30) days after the deposit of the fifteenth (15th) instrument of ratification. To date Forty Eight (48) countries have ratified the Convention and are states parties to it. Nearly 75 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are estimated to have paid a bribe in the past year - some to escape punishment by the police or courts, but many forced to pay to get access to the basic services that they desperately need.

Corruption creates and increases poverty and exclusion. While corrupt individuals with political power enjoy a lavish life, millions of Africans are deprived of their basic needs like food, health, education, housing, access to clean water and sanitation.

The majority of Africans (58%) say that corruption has increased over the past year. This is particularly the case in South Africa where more than four-in-five citizens (83%) say they have seen corruption rise recently.

2. Most Governments Failing In Fight Against Corruption

There is no government which is rated positively on its anti-corruption efforts by a clear majority of its citizens. Out of 28 governments, 18 are seen as completely failing to address corruption.

3. Police And Private Sector Seen As Most Corrupt

Across the region, the police and business executives are seen to have the highest levels of corruption. The police have regularly been rated as highly corrupt, but the strongly negative assessment of business executives is a new development.

22 per cent of Africans who came into contact with a public service in

the past 12 months say they paid a bribe.

Out of six key public services, people who come into contact with the police and the courts are the most likely to have paid a bribe. This is consistent with our previous surveys and highlights the lack of progress made in addressing bribery in these two institutions, which are crucial for citizen security and the rule of law.

People in the region are divided as to whether ordinary people can make a difference in the fight against corruption - just over half of people think that they can (53 per cent), while 38 per cent think they cannot. Only roughly one-in-ten people who paid a bribe actually reported it.

There are a few countries in which citizens see low levels of corruption in their public institutions and see corruption as on the wane in their own country.

The region faces a serious challenge in ridding itself of corruption: although people told us that reporting incidents of bribery is one of the best ways to stop corruption from happening, they also told us that many people do not report bribery because they are scared of suffering retribution and think reporting mechanisms are ineffective.

In order to effectively prevent corruption in Africa greater efforts need to be made to protect whistleblowers from retribution, improve the effectiveness of reporting channels, and raise public awareness about how and where they can report corruption.

Many countries in the region have seen threats and violence against civil society, making it dangerous to operate and difficult to hold governments to account.

African governments must create safe conditions for civil society to undertake anti-corruption work, and governments need to guarantee the operational and physical freedom of such organisations.

It was partly in view of next year's local government polls and 2025 general election.

A key diplomat noted that the 30 years journey towards a multiparty democracy has not always been easy or straight, as certain periods witnessed alarming backsliding. While there was no debate on that aspect, local observers are well aware there is another side to that equation, that it wasn't simple backsliding, as if all was well earlier. While it is true that the backsliding has been checked, there is clear backsliding in some other areas, say in the fight against corruption.

Another issue is the seminar reference to certain events threatening to undo the important work that was already done in relation to democracy, where most opinion makers will agree, unlike in policy issues. Is there no threat to undo the important work that has already been done to make Tanzania a better place to do business? Does intervention from this or that quarter have in mind the public interest, in the sense of revenues or it is an issue of specialised interest groups?

The meeting issued a declaration enshrining the need for the forthcoming civic polls and the general election to be conducted after reviewing laws governing elections.

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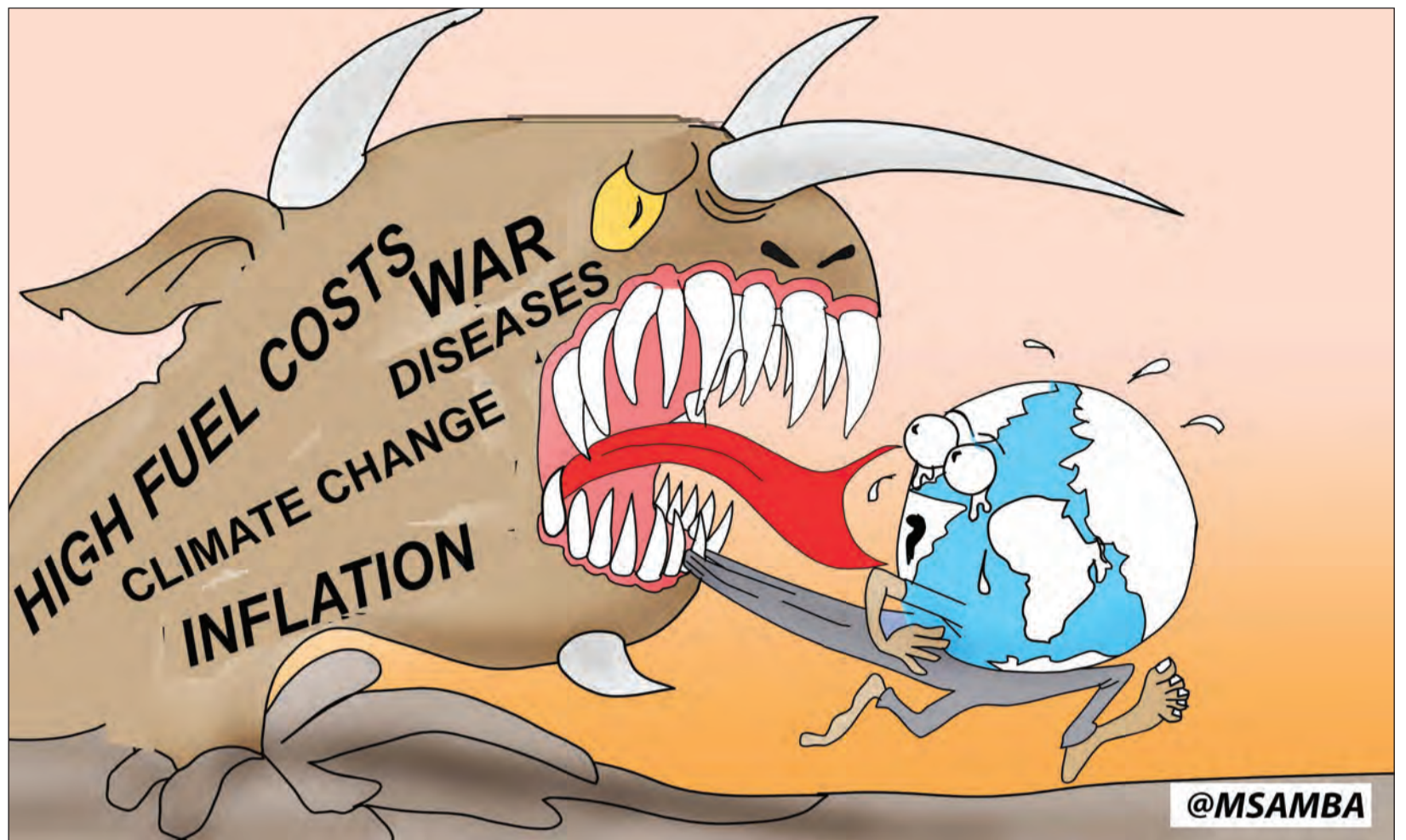
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## Should the coup in Niger amplify fears over terrorism in the Sahel?

By Special Correspondent

NIGER has been hit by multiple jihadist attacks since its president was overthrown last month, but observers caution against concluding that a long-running insurgency is shifting into higher gear as post-coup uncertainty mounts.

Since 2015, when jihadists started mounting cross-border strikes from Mali, thousands of people have died and hundreds of thousands have fled their homes.

The rebel officers in Niger who overthrew President Mohamed Bazoum on 26 July pointed to the "degradation of the security situation" under his watch - a belief shared by many Nigeriens.

But the situation is more complex than it may appear.

In the run-up to the coup, the situation had in fact been improving, at least in statistical terms.

In the first half of 2023, attacks on civilians fell by 49 percent compared with the same period in 2022, while the number of deaths was down by 16 percent, according to Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) project.

Western observers and partners, especially France, Bazoum's ally, had been quick to highlight the improvement.

They praised a shift in strategy that began after Bazoum took office in April 2021 following historic elections.

While the military regimes in Mali and neighbouring Burkina Faso focus on hefty "anti-terrorist" operations that are often blamed for heavy loss of civilian life, Bazoum fostered localised peace agreements, development projects and negotiations with heads of armed groups.

This was a flexible approach - hailed as highly promising by western partners - but often criticised at home, especially within the army.

### Urban versus rural perceptions

A June 2022 opinion poll by Afrobarometer found a big difference between rural and urban dwellers about how they rated Niger's security situation. People in the cities were far likelier to say that the problems were bad, even though people in the countryside were far likelier to be victims of violence.

According to Mahamane Tahirou Ali Backo, an associate researcher at a Niamey-based social monitor LAS-

DEL, who took part in the survey, "Urban people are more politically aware and have better access to information ... and the higher one's standard of living, the more importance one attaches to issues of security and health."

"The highest-profile attacks are against symbols of state or are large-scale attacks, but background violence is a daily phenomenon, because of gangs and the guns in circulation," he said. But rating insecurity on figures alone is not always accurate, due to the ruthless but hidden pressures that jihadists exert on local populations under their control.

"If visible violence is falling, that doesn't necessarily mean that people are better off - taxes are still being levied [by the jihadists] and even if the number of attacks is falling - the influence of armed groups is still spreading inside Niger," says Tatiana Smirnova of the Centre FrancoPaix, a French thinktank on conflict resolution.

### Plague of the Sahel

Jihadist insurgencies have plagued Africa's Sahel region for more than a decade, breaking out in northern Mali in 2012 before spreading to neighbouring Niger and Burkina Faso in 2015.

The so-called "three borders" area between the three countries is regularly the scene of attacks by rebels affiliated with the Islamic State group and Al-Qaeda.

The unrest across the region has killed thousands of troops, police officers and civilians and forced millions to flee their homes.

Anger at the bloodshed has fuelled military coups in all three countries since 2020, with Niger the latest to fall.

On Tuesday, the African Union said it had suspended Niger until civilian rule was restored and would assess the implications of any armed intervention.

This comes as suspected Islamic insurgents killed at least 12 Nigerien soldiers in the remote south-western region of Tillaberi.

An anti-jihadist operation by national guards was reportedly "the target of an ambush" on Sunday evening, according to TéléSahel.

This comes as the new military ruler General Abdourahamane Tchiani has proposed a three-year transition back to democracy - a call rejected by Ecowas - which sent a delegation to visit Niger on the weekend in a final diplomatic push.

## Marine protection matters for both people and nature

By Special Correspondent

MARINE protection is important for its own sake. We are only passing through this world and must leave behind a thriving planet - at least as healthy as when we arrived - for those who follow.

Equally, an effectively protected ocean is essential for people and prosperity in the here and now - and to have hope for a better, healthier and more resilient future for coastal communities around the world.

Coastal resilience, job security, sustainable fishing, equitable tourism, pollution-free beaches, renewable energy and so much more - these tributes of a healthy ocean promise boundless dividends for people everywhere, for generations to come. The sustainable and equitable use of effectively managed ocean resources is best ensured through the establishment and maintenance of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). These safeguard the health of life below and above the ocean surface.

In 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals - including SDG14 for the ocean - were established by all UN Member States to serve as a "shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet now and into the future." Under SDG14, there is a specific target to "sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve a healthy and productive ocean" - as well as pledges to tackle marine pollution and overfishing in all its forms.



Increasing MPAs feeds into all of these.

At COP15, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity conference in December 2022, countries came together in signing off on the Global Biodiversity Framework. They committed to protecting at least 30% of land and ocean by 2030, a long-called-for benchmark of planetary protection known as '30x30'.

In January, the World Economic Forum's Ocean Action Agenda and Friends of Ocean Action released the statement Ocean Action in 2023, calling for continued ambitious progress to achieve ocean health through the suite of opportunities ahead.

The first of these opportunities was the Fifth International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC5) that took place in Vancouver, Canada, on 3-9 February 2023, highlighted as a major stepping stone towards achieving the 30x30 goal.

Many diverse bursts of commitment for ocean

protection were announced during IMPAC5, building on the growing momentum of ocean action. These range from defining minimum required standards for effective MPAs, to pledges for ocean conservation. The Canadian Government also joined a growing swell of voices calling for a precautionary approach to the potential exploitation of resources in the deep ocean, by declaring an effective moratorium on deep seabed mining under its jurisdiction.

Indigenous peoples and first nations, as well as young people from around the world, were front and centre at IMPAC5, with wide applause for the diversity and inclusion of the broadest range of stakeholders at this congress. Diverse voices were valued for their critically important perspectives, knowledge, ideas, solutions, care and ecological stewardship of our ocean. The climate, nature, biodiversity and ocean crises cannot be solved unless we bring everyone to the table.



# What must be proved when relying solely on circumstantial evidence

By Telesphor Magobe

**L**AST week, we briefly looked at unfair termination of employment in circumstances whereby a man secretly goes to his wife's workstation and talks to her employer to terminate her employment. There are many married women who have fallen victim to this.

We said that by virtue of Article 22(1) of the Constitution of United Republic of Tanzania (R.E. 2005), every person aged 18 and above is entitled to work and by virtue of Article 9 "the state authority and all its agencies are obliged to ensure that every person who is able to work does work, and work means any legitimate activity by which a person earns a living." This Article applies to all persons and does not exclude women - that is, men and women are equally entitled to work or employment.

Therefore, when it happens that one is unfairly laid off or his or her employment is unfairly terminated, that person has the right to sue in court. But if one doesn't sue, they lose their right because "he who sleeps over his rights loses them". That is, only those who are vigilant against the abuse of their rights get court relief.

We even cited section 37(1) of the Employment and Labour Relations Act (Chapter 366) which states that: "It shall be unlawful for an employer to terminate the employment of an employee unfairly."

Today, I invite you to briefly look at circumstantial evidence. According to Black's Law Dictionary, circumstantial evidence "is evidence of facts or circumstances from which the existence or nonexistence of fact in issue may be inferred...it is the proof of various facts or circumstances which usually attend the main fact in dispute, and therefore tend to prove its existence, or to sustain, by their consistency, the hypothesis claimed...it consists in reasoning from facts which are known or proved to establish such as are con-



jured to exist."

Circumstantial evidence may be relied on where there is no direct evidence. It is direct evidence when the principal fact is attested directly by witnesses, things or documents and it is circumstantial evidence when there is no direct evidence of an eyewitness.

In criminal cases, Singh (2007) in his book "Principles of the Law of Evidence" argues that it is generally established that "in a case resting on circumstantial evidence all the circumstances brought by the prosecution must inevitably and exclusively point to the guilt of the accused and there should be no circumstances which may reasonably be considered consistent with the innocence of the accused."

In the case of Sikujua Idd (appellant) v the Republic (respondent) in a criminal appeal No 484 of 2019 from the judgment of the trial High Court in Bukoba, Sikujua Idd was charged with murder, contrary to section 196 of the Penal Code [R.E. 2002 now R.E. 2022].

It was alleged that on December 23, 2014 while he was at Nyakariba Village in Ngara District, Kagera Region, he murdered his father Idd Buturumbe and was found guilty, convicted and sentenced to suffer death by hanging as stipulated in section 26(1) of the Penal Code. The prosecution had three witnesses, including two of the appellant's

relatives and a fellow villager.

In convicting the appellant, the trial court found that the post-mortem examination report showed Idd Buturumbe suffered from a cut at the head and the right upper arm, which led to severe bleeding and caused his death. On the issue of his murder, the trial judge relied on circumstantial evidence to incriminate the appellant in the murder.

Aggrieved by the conviction and sentence, Sikujua Idd appealed to the Court of Appeal of Tanzania. After his appeal he got defence counsel who dropped his original memorandum of appeal in which he had presented seven grounds of appeal.

Instead, his defence counsel presented a supplementary memorandum of appeal which stated only one ground that the trial High Court Judge erred both in law and fact by convicting the appellant based on the prosecution's case which did not, by circumstantial evidence, prove the offence on the standard required by law.

However, the state attorney opposed the appeal on behalf of the Republic. He submitted that the prosecution successfully discharged its burden of proving the case of murder against the appellant and added that the circumstantial evidence which the prosecution presented irresistibly pointed to the appel-

lant as the person who killed his father.

During the weighing of evidence, the Court of Appeal cited the case of Shaban Mpunzu (Elisha Mpunzu v R, criminal appeal No 12 of 2002 (unreported) restated that "in a criminal case based purely on circumstantial evidence, the evidence must irresistibly point to the accused's guilt and exclude any other person."

Furthermore, the Court of Appeal said there was a gap in the circumstantial evidence provided regarding who had killed Idd Buturumbe (the appellant's father), adding that it could be the appellant or any other person.

Citing another case of Francis Alex v R, criminal appeal No 185 of 2017 (unreported), the Appeals Court said the trial court rejected circumstantial evidence, which relied on the evidence of trails of blood found at the compound of the appellant because the prosecution did not make any effort to ascertain whether the blood was of a human being and of the person who was killed.

It said further that where the prosecution case relies on circumstantial evidence, proof of oral confession is only one of the several links in the chain of circumstantial evidence requiring proof beyond reasonable doubt. "It cannot stand alone to sustain a conviction," the court said.

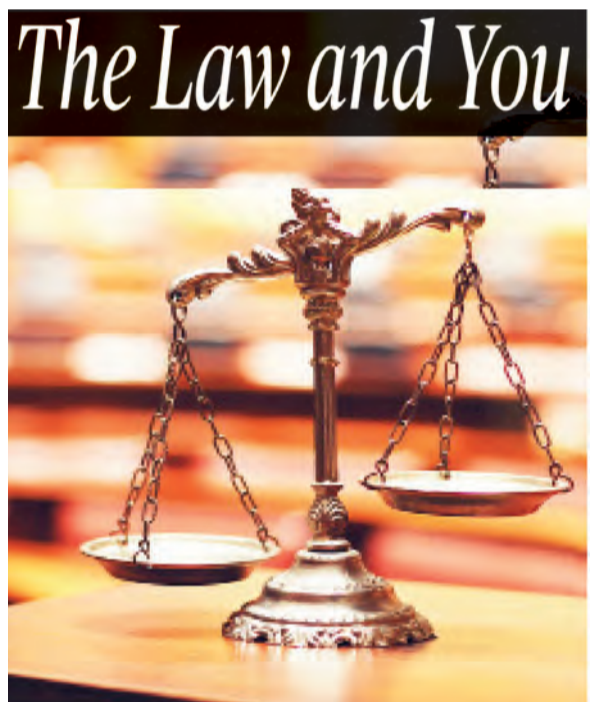
Stressing this point, the Court of Appeal cited the case of Said Bakari v R, criminal appeal No 422 of 2013 (unreported) in which the court said: "It is established law that a charge of murder can be fully proved by circumstantial evidence. In determining a case centred on circumstantial evidence, the proper approach by a trial court and an appellate court is to critically consider and weigh all the circumstances established by the

evidence in their totality, and not to dissect and consider it piecemeal or in cubicles of evidence or circumstances."

In the circumstances, the three justices of appeal led by Chief Justice (CJ) I.H. Juma concluded that the appellant's conviction by the trial court on the basis of circumstantial evidence could not stand. Thus, the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, quashed the appellant's conviction for murder and set aside his sentence of death by hanging. It also ordered the appellant to be immediately set free, unless he was otherwise lawfully incarcerated.

**Today's legal maxim: "In law the proximate, and not the remote cause, is to be regarded."**

**The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at t22magobe@gmail.com**



## Freeze of loans to Uganda doesn't mean World Bank is becoming human rights watchdog

By Daniel D. Bradlow

**M**ANY people may be tempted to view the World Bank's recent announcement that it will freeze new loans to Uganda because of the country's vicious anti-LGBTIQ+ law as a harbinger of the Bank taking a more progressive approach to human rights issues.

While the announcement is welcome, based on my many years studying the Bank and on my research for my forthcoming book, *The Law of the International Financial Institutions*, I think there are good reasons to be cautious about its significance.

The World Bank, which has been operating for over 75 years, has 189 member states as shareholders. It funds development projects and programmes in member states that have annual per capita incomes below about US\$12,535. The member states elect a Board of Executive Directors that oversees the Bank's operations and approves all its loans.

The Bank's Articles of Agreement stipulate that it cannot base its decisions on political grounds. The articles state that the Bank "shall not interfere in the political affairs" of its member states. Nor should its decisions be influenced by the "political character" of these states.

Moreover, the Bank is instructed that it should only pay attention "to considerations of economy and efficiency". And that it should not be affected by "political or other non-economic influences or considerations."

The articles don't define these key terms. They also don't identify the criteria the Bank should consider when deciding if a particular issue should be excluded from consideration because it is "political" rather than "economic".

This means that this decision is within the exclusive discretion of the Bank's decision makers.

### Division of labour

The Articles were drafted and agreed in 1944. At the time, the division of responsibilities between those who made the "political" decisions and those who made the "economic" ones seemed relatively clear.

It was assumed that each Bank member state, as an exercise of its sovereignty, would decide for itself how to deal with the social, environmental, and cultural impacts and consequences of the particular transaction for which it was seeking the Bank's support.

The Bank, on the other hand, would take the state's decisions on these issues as given. It would merely consider if the particular loan request was technically sound and



Many people may be tempted to view the World Bank's recent announcement that it will freeze new loans to Uganda because of the country's vicious anti-LGBTIQ+ law as a harbinger of the Bank taking a more progressive approach to human rights issues. Credit: World Bank

economically and financially feasible.

This division of responsibility, of course, was unrealistic. The Bank's Board of Executive Directors must approve each loan. They represent its member states. It is inevitable that officials elected or appointed by - and ultimately accountable to states - will pay close attention to the political implications of their decisions. And that these considerations may trump the technical merits of the transaction. Thus, inevitably, political considerations, including human rights, have always been, at least implicitly, a factor in Bank operations.

The futility of the Bank's attempt to exclude political, including human rights, considerations from its operations can be seen at two levels. Firstly, at the level of the Bank's relations with its member states. Secondly, at the level of individual transactions.

A good example of the Bank's failed efforts to exclude political factors at the

country level was its decision in the 1960s to lend to Portugal and South Africa to fund the construction of the Cahora Basa dam in Mozambique.

The Bank decided to make this loan despite a UN General Assembly effort to impose sanctions on these countries because of their colonial and apartheid policies.

Many African states, supported by a majority of UN member countries, argued that the loan should have been denied. Their case was that the policies of the borrowers violated the human rights of their subjects. They were also a threat to regional peace and security.

The Bank's General Counsel defended the decision on the basis of the political prohibition in the Bank's articles and on the technical merits of the project. Despite its ostensible non-political position, the Bank did not make any further loans to South Africa until it became a democratic state.

At the individual transaction level, the Bank funds projects and programmes that have profound social and environmental impacts. Consequently, it is forced to pay attention to some of the political, including human rights, implications of these projects and programmes. For example, if it finances a road or a renewable energy project, the project will require land. The current occupants of the land may need to be moved to make way for the project. Alternatively, the project may have social and environmental effects that hurt people. It could, for example, affect the surrounding community's ability to grow food, or place the community at higher risk of accidents or exposes more young girls and women to the risk of gender-based violence.

If the affected community belong to minority groups in the country, with their own language, culture, and geographic attachments, they may qualify as indigenous peo-

ple under international law and the Bank's policies. In this case, the project may require their free, prior informed consent. However, there are disagreements among states and between the Bank and some of its member states about which communities qualify as indigenous and what is required to ensure that their rights are respected.

For example, some states and Bank stakeholders contend that it is enough to seek the consent of the community's leadership. But others maintain that the consent can only be established if particular vulnerable groups within the communities, such as women, youth, LGBTIQ+, or disabled people, are given specific opportunities to express their consent.

Some states may argue that giving such attention to these vulnerable groups is inconsistent with local practices and customs and that the Bank, pursuant to its own Articles, should not be interfering with these internal "political" matters.

In all these cases, the Bank has to exercise judgement. This means, for example, that in the Uganda case, the Bank could decide that it should not extend any new credit to

However, it is also easy to see that in another context the Bank - or its Board of Executive Directors - may conclude that on balance it is better to continue lending to the particular country despite serious human rights issues. Or to a particular project because the perceived benefits outweigh the costs. The challenge, of course, is ensuring that the Bank is making these decisions on a principled and predictable basis. And not according to its own whims and political preferences. And that it can be held accountable for the way in which it makes the decisions.

**Daniel D. Bradlow is Professor/Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for the Advancement of Scholarship, University of Pretoria**

# Growing feminisation of migration in Cuba poses new challenges

By Luis Brizuela

**E**MIGRATING from Cuba was an agonizing decision for Ana Iraida. She left behind family and friends; in her backpack she carried many hopes, but also the fear of facing dangers on the journey to the United States.

"My salary and that of my second job, as an editor, were insufficient. I wanted to prosper and help my parents. Nor did I want to have a child in a country where it is an ordeal to buy everything from disposable diapers to soap, not to mention food," the 33-year-old philologist who, like the others interviewed for this story, asked to withhold her last name, told IPS.

After selling her apartment in Havana, she left for Nicaragua in December 2022.

"Some friends lent me the rest of the money I needed. I reached Mexico by land. I paid 1,800 dollars to be taken to the (U.S.) border. I crossed and turned myself in to the border patrol in Yuma, Arizona, on New Year's Day," the young woman said from Houston, Texas, where she now lives.

Estimates put the number of Cubans who emigrated in 2022 at 300,000. Of these, some 250,000 attempted to reach the United States, the country that receives the largest inflow of Cubans and that is only 167 kilometers from Cuba across the Straits of Florida.

The increase in the exodus from this Caribbean island nation of 11 million people is happening against a backdrop of a worsening economic crisis, fueled by COVID, the stiffening of the U.S. embargo, partial dollarization, waning purchasing power of salaries and pensions, shortages of essential products and inflation.

Added to this are failures and delays in the implementation of a set of reforms to modernize the country, approved in 2011, and the unsuccessful implementation of monetary reforms since January 2021.

Local officials here argue that the U.S. Cuban Adjustment Act - known as the "wet foot, dry foot policy" - in force since 1966, encourages the exodus, since it made all Cubans eligible for permanent residency a year and a day after setting foot in U.S. territory.

In the past, the rule benefited all Cubans who set foot on U.S. soil. But since January 2017 it only applies to those who have entered the country legally.

However, the flow of Cubans into the U.S. slowed after President Joe Biden's administration adopted on Jan. 5 a temporary humanitarian residency permit program known as parole, similar to the one implemented in October 2022 for Venezuelans and previously for people of other nationalities.

As of the end of July, more than 41,000 Cubans had obtained temporary parole, 39,000 of whom had already reached the country, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reported on Aug. 18.

In addition, after a four-year freeze, on Jan. 4 the U.S. Embassy in Havana resumed processing immigrant visas, a decision that the Cuban government welcomed as a "necessary and correct step" aimed at guaranteeing regular, orderly and safe migration.

## Risks and impacts

International organizations and human rights groups warn of the risks faced by immigrants en route, especially women, children and the elderly, who are more likely to become victims of abuse, mistreatment, discrimination, extortion, kidnapping and sexual violence by organized crime groups.

"The journey was stressful," said Ana Iraida. "I could have been robbed of my money, raped or even murdered. Almost two years ago, when the airports reopened after the COVID pandemic, some young women who lived near my house left and their families never heard from them again."

Other migrants never reach their destinations and remain trapped in transit countries in overcrowded conditions or as victims of violence.

I was also worried "that they would detain me and send me back to Cuba, and that in the end I would have no home to return to, and be in debt," added Iraida.

According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), women account for 48 percent of international migrants worldwide and an increasing number are migrating independently, including as heads of households, in search of new opportunities, to join their families or to help relatives in their home countries.

Research indicates that this phenomenon, known as



Several people, mainly women, stand in line to check their tickets at Terminal 3 o the José Martí International Airport in Havana. According to the International Organization for Migration, women represent 48 percent of international migrants worldwide, and more and more are migrating on their own. CREDIT: Jorge Luis Baños / IPS

the feminization of migration, generates significant impacts on demographic, physical, economic, cultural and gender indicators in regions and countries.

Cuba's January 2013 immigration reform eliminated the requirement for exit permits and letters of invitation for nationals residing on the island, extended from 11 to 24 months the time they could stay abroad without losing residency, and repealed legislation that allowed the confiscation of assets of those who left the country.

Subsequent regulations have also favored increased travel abroad for personal reasons and the possibility of living temporarily or permanently outside the country, opening the doors to a better relationship with the Cuban exile community.

Women make up a majority of those seeking temporary residence abroad, while men are a majority among those who decide to live abroad permanently, revealed the report of the National Migration Survey (Enmig 2016-2017), published by the National Bureau of Statistics and Information (Onei) in January 2019.

The survey found that 59 percent of the men and 45 percent of the women who decided to live temporarily or permanently in another country did so "to improve their economic conditions."

In the case of women, "getting closer to or visiting family", "supporting or caring for family members" and "helping their family here" (35 percent) are the most important motives, while they were the main motives for only 21 percent of the men.

## Focusing on care

Researchers have called for more attention to be paid to the relationship between the feminization of migration and the burden of care.

In the case of Cuba, they say, migration itself often becomes a complementary strategy to face the problems associated with caregiving.

The economic crisis, the aging demographic and the emigration of young people and professionals are placing additional

obstacles on caregivers to provide food, buy medicines and manage supplies.

"I moved to Ecuador seven years ago," Betsy, a 38-year-old teacher, told IPS from the city of Guayaquil. "My two children were born here. My work makes it possible for me to send money, medicines and other products to Cuba to take care of my 80-year-old father, who has senile dementia. Otherwise, it would be very difficult for my older sister to provide adequate care for him."

In Cuba, 22.3 percent of the population is over 60 years of age, and by 2025 it is estimated that one in four of the island's residents will be an older adult.

The National Gender Equality Survey, published in 2019, showed that Cuban women spend an average of 14 hours more than men on unpaid work per week, which includes caring for the elderly, chronically ill and dependent persons, as well as helping children and adolescents with their homework.

For its part, the 2017 National Survey of Population Aging (Enep), whose data came out in 2020, showed that about 68 percent of those who provide care are women and most are over 50 years old.

In the case of needing care, more than 57 percent of the population over the age of 50 prefers to receive it from women, according to the study.

"I chose to stay and live in Canada almost two years ago," said Rocio from Halifax, the capital of the Canadian province of Nova Scotia. "It has been an ordeal, but I have no regrets. It's a way to help my 11-year-old son and my retired parents, who are taking care of him until we can be together again."

The 40-year-old translator, who lived in the eastern Cuban city of Holguín, told IPS that "with my salary, my son and I were living on a tight budget. I could hardly help my parents, whose pensions barely covered the household bills, medicines and the few foodstuffs they could afford. I am far away, I suffer from the separation, but every month I can send them money so that they can live more comfortably and eat better."

Increasingly young and female-dominated emigration is challenging national development plans on a sustainable basis.

"This situation calls for further research and public debate on the present and future impacts of demographic dynamics such as migration and aging as they relate to the social organization of caregiving on the island," argues Cuban sociologist Elaine Acosta.

In the opinion of Acosta, executive director of "Cuido60, Observatory of aging, care and rights", there is an urgent need "to accelerate and deepen structural reforms so that migration ceases to be a daily survival strategy and, at the same time, to obtain the necessary resources to implement appropriate and integrated social policies to face the current and future challenges of aging."



An elderly woman walks in Havana with the help of her companion. The National Survey on Population Aging showed that about 68 percent of caregivers in Cuba are women, and most of them are over 50 years old. At the same time, more than 57 percent of people over 50 prefer to be cared for by women. CREDIT: Jorge Luis Baños / IPS

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**RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

# Africa's green business opportunities abundant, research by UNEP finds

By Guardian Reporter

**A**FRICAS private sector can bolster its green agenda and drive increased GDP, higher income per capita, create tens of millions of jobs, and foster collaboration between governments, businesses and local communities.

This is according to a comprehensive study published by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

The Africa Environment Outlook for Business is launched as 54 African ministers of environment are gathered in Addis Ababa for the 19th session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN). It recommends businesses adopt a holistic approach anchored in profit, people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnerships.

Elizabeth Mrema (pictured) UNEP Deputy Executive Director, said: "This report shows that policymakers can create an enabling environment for investments that address the triple planetary crisis by adopting robust regulatory frameworks, investing in research, innovation, and education, as well as promoting public-private partnerships and fostering collaboration across governments, businesses and local communities."

The report showcases a range of success stories of green ventures today, as well as data on the potential for growth across sectors.

Transitioning to sustainable agriculture, which currently contributes about 17 per cent to sub-Saharan Africa's GDP. Embracing organic farming, precision agriculture, and agroforestry are some of the approaches that can enhance productivity while minimizing negative impacts on ecosystems and avoiding food insecurity

and biodiversity loss.

Digital technologies in agribusiness offer a US\$1 trillion market towards feeding the continent's growing population, estimated to reach 2.5 billion by 2050.

Combating soil erosion can have net benefits in nutrients - such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium - worth US\$62.4 billion annually.

Restoring nature can unlock a business value of \$10 trillion and create 395 million jobs by 2030.

Through research, innovation and managing aquatic ecosystems, the resilience of the blue economy - projected to generate US\$576 billion and 127 million jobs by 2063 - must be sustained in the face of overfishing, pollution, and climate change.

Marine and coastal tourism presents tremendous opportunities for sustainable development in Africa, with potential value-added of over \$100 billion by 2030.

Africa can become a trailblazer in renewable energy solutions, with abundant solar, wind, hydro, biomass, and geothermal resources that may contribute to a 6.4 per cent increase in GDP from 2021 to 2050. Ocean renewable energy is a vast untapped resource for Africa, with the potential to generate between 100 to 400 per cent of current global energy demand.

Businesses in the energy efficiency sector can provide products and services, such as lighting systems, smart buildings, and efficient industrial processes.

An annual funding gap in climate financing of \$213.4 billion offers innovative investors a chance to make an impact by building Africa's climate resilience.

Significant reserves of critical minerals like copper, graphite, lithium, molybdenum, nickel, zinc, bauxite,



cobalt, manganese, and platinum - handled responsibly - make Africa essential for electric vehicles, solar PV cell technology and wind turbines. 'Cool roof paint' can reflect up to 95 per cent of solar heat and the need for air conditioning; investments in clean cooking energy sources can support 900 million (resulting today in poor health and deforestation), and the African LED lighting market may almost double by 2028, reaching US\$5.49 billion.

Opportunities in promoting sanitation, tackling plastic waste, recycling infrastructure, sustainable packaging, e-waste collection and refurbishment.

In the agro-food industry, efficient supply chains and food waste reduc-

tion can enhance resource utilization while meeting growing food demand.

Plant-based proteins and food safety systems can further drive growth and sustainable practices.

The European Union-funded SWITCH Africa Green initiative and SwitchMed programmes, which exemplify the viability of turning to a circular economy in benefitting more than 3,000 MSMEs and eight sub-Saharan African countries in agriculture, integrated waste management, manufacturing, and tourism.

The fast-growing fashion and textiles sector in sub-Saharan Africa is valued at approximately \$31 billion and presents opportunities such as

sustainable material sourcing, recycling, ethical manufacturing, rental and sharing models, and consumer education.

The African automotive market is dominated by used vehicles, paving the way for businesses to thrive in vehicle recycling, remanufacturing, battery recycling, shared mobility solutions, repair and maintenance services, circular supply chain management, and training and skills development.

The financing gap for environmentally sound technologies (ESTs) must be addressed. In 2020, only \$6.07 billion flowed into the continent for ESTs, while the global exported technology value reached \$1.17 trillion.

A pipeline of 360 ongoing sustain-

able infrastructure projects worth \$100 billion in sectors - including energy, information and communications technology (ICT), logistics, mining and construction (as of 2022) and additional tentative projects in the same sectors valued at \$257 billion, demonstrates the continent's diverse investment opportunities in the transition to net zero emissions.

Despite immense potential, Africa utilizes only a fraction of its carbon credit capacity concentrated in only five countries, due to fragmented projects, a scarcity of large-scale developers, regulatory uncertainties, credibility concerns for certain credits and equitable value distribution.

Africa's untapped potential is estimated at approximately 2,400 metric tons of CO2 equivalent (MtCO2e) per annum. It could achieve an additional 400 MtCO2e yearly, valued at around US\$7 billion per year by 2030.

Initiatives such as the African Carbon Market Initiative (ACMI) and the Taskforce on Scaling Voluntary Carbon Markets (TSVCM) recommend regional and global actions to scale the supply and demand for high-integrity carbon credits.

The report notes unique challenges to many African economies, including limited investments, institutional capacity, scalability, high transaction costs, effect transportation, and access to - and affordability of electricity. Reducing upfront costs and promoting energy-efficient solutions, and innovative financing mechanisms must all be prioritized by policymakers.

"Africa faces not just incredible challenges on climate change, nature loss, and pollution, but has a uniquely dynamic economic landscape, youthful demographic, and opportunities for decarbonization, digital transformation and for leveraging an environmental, social and governance (ESG) framework for sustainability in the business sector," said Rose Mwebaza, UNEP Director and Regional Representative for Africa.

"With this new report, we hope to inspire African entrepreneurs and businesses, especially audacious first movers, to engage in green growth and contribute to sustainable development goals."

# ICRC sows seeds of hope for conflict-affected young farmers in Cameroon

YAOUNDE

BOUKARA Abba, a smallholder farmer in the Mozogo locality of Cameroon's Far North region, looked happily at his flourishing maize and okra which he planned to harvest next month.

It was a couple of minutes after midday as it drizzled on Abba's approximately three-hectare farm.

The 31-year-old is one of several young people who have found fortune in agriculture in the volatile region. Since 2014, a wide area of the region is suffering from the fighting between Boko Haram, the terrorist group, and government forces.

Many communities in the region have faced renewed violence in recent months. The armed conflict and worsening humanitarian crises have left the region's agriculture sector struggling as more than half of the displaced persons come from agricultural backgrounds.

Some of them were reported to have one meal a day with children and women suffering the most.

Thanks to an agricultural program by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), however, the displaced persons are now earning a living through farming.

"There was no one to give us seeds before the Red Cross arrived," said Abba who hosts 20 displaced people in his house.

So far this year, the ICRC initiative has assisted 26,000 displaced people, returnees and host communities with agricultural inputs and cash to increase their crop production, said ICRC agricultural engineer Nouratou Bouba Hadja.

"We assist them with maize, okra, sorghum and cowpea seeds. We give fertilizer to families affected by the conflict and in homes, young people are the most active in the production chain. When we identify a household, it is generally young people who work on the farm," said Hadja who had come to supervise Abba's farming activities. "The objective is to improve agricultural production of these vulnerable families and after the production, they can now eat and sell their products to take care of other needs such as health needs or the education of children. It is a revenue-generating activity for these families."

For Abba, the agricultural program has lifted young people out of poverty and unemployment. "Everything has changed. Production has increased. As a young man, we were unemployed. Today ICRC came (and helped us) and now we are living our lives," said the father of three.

For Gui Daidi who was displaced from Zeleved



village, there is never a question that his six children would have to get their hands dirty and learn how to grow their own food.

"The ICRC program has helped young people to stay away from crime and trouble. No other job could provide the same security as farming because people will always have to eat so there is always money to be made," said the 57-year-old who now lives in Mozogo with his family.

In Kerawa, a locality in the region that shares a porous border with Nigeria and is notorious for constant Boko Haram raids, Hadja Cherpou gets set to prepare the evening meal.

The 57-year-old fled to settle in Kerawa during the heat of the conflict to restart her life. She said that before now, the community leader and some good people in the locality were assisting her and

her 13 children with food and other daily needs. Now with the good harvest she got from the seeds and cash assistance, she is able to take care of her family. "My children and I now have enough to eat. Life is better now," she said.

"We had nothing. My children and grandchildren now feed well," said 54-year-old Wandala Hoda whose 22 children are now all farmers.

The agricultural partner-

ship between the Cameroonian government and ICRC has made farming profitable and cool for young people and the region safer, said Simplice Sadou, Far North regional chief of agriculture and rural development.

"Since this partnership started two years ago with ICRC, we've had a good quantity of quality seeds that are produced in the region," Sadou said. "Seed industry is very important. We have

many young people in the industry and this partnership has increased their capacity and today, in all the zones where the partnership is operational, there is an increase in revenue because of the quality of the seeds."

As the world commemorates International Youth Day on Aug. 12, young people affected by the armed conflict in the region now find a sense of purpose in the valuable farming skills they have brought to their new communities.

# BRICS expansion adds clout to bloc, but also imports new tensions

By Queenin Masuabi and Peter Fabricius

**A**DMITTING six new members to BRICS will add heft to the bloc's efforts to rebalance the global economic and political order. But it will also bring its own problems, including importing new tensions.

And, in particular, accepting Iran raises the prospects of souring relations with the US and the wider West.

The five BRICS leaders announced on Thursday after their 15th summit, in Johannesburg, that they would admit Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, Argentina, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates as full members on 1 January 2024. Twenty-two countries had formally applied for membership, and wrangling over which to admit delayed by a day the release of the summit declaration and the announcement of the new members.

At the BRICS outreach summit on Thursday, when the BRICS leaders were joined by about 60 other world leaders, they all agreed that the expansion of BRICS from five to 11 members would give it greater clout.

Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva said the addition of the six members would increase the combined GDP of the BRICS countries to 37% of global GDP in purchasing power parity terms and increase its share of the world population to 46%. He dismissed concerns that the bloc would become too unwieldy, saying its expanded membership would help it to find creative solutions to the problems facing the world.

Anil Sooklal, South Africa's chief diplomat or "Sherpa" on BRICS, said that taking on three oil-rich countries – Iran, Saudi Arabia and the UAE – would bring in a new part of the global economy which had not been represented and would further strengthen the bloc.

He dismissed concerns that admitting Iran could fundamentally alter the character of BRICS and antagonise the US and the West.

"Not at all. Iran has no problem with BRICS. It's the West that has imposed unilateral sanctions against BRICS," he added, referring to Western sanctions on Russia and Iran.

"BRICS doesn't recognise unilateral sanctions. Iran will add value, so will Saudi Arabia and the UAE."

Li Kexin, the Chinese director-general of international economic affairs, also dismissed these concerns, insisting that BRICS was not an anti-Western alliance and that the expansion did not change that. "We are not seeking confrontation," he insisted.

He was asked, though, if accepting Iran as a new member would not heighten tensions with the US, which has a hostile relationship with Tehran. Li recalled that China had recently mediated a reconcilia-



South African President Cyril Ramaphosa (far right), with fellow BRICS leaders President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (third from right) and President of China Xi Jinping (second from right) pose for a photo with delegates, including the six nations invited to join the BRICS group, Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, during the closing day of the BRICS Summit at the Sandton Convention Centre on 24 August 2023. (Photo: Per-Anders Pettersson / Getty Images)

tion between Iran and its regional rival Saudi Arabia.

"Happily, they both joined BRICS together," he added, saying that BRICS could now become a platform for continuing to improve relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

### Potential tension

However, Gustavo de Carvalho, a senior researcher on Russia-Africa ties at the South African Institute of International Relations, cautioned that the expanded membership could import some problems.

He noted that Lula had championed Brazil's neighbour Argentina, which currently, like Brazil, has a progressive government. However, he warned that either a centre-right or a far-right party in Argentina was favoured to win the elections in October and this could usher in an anti-BRICS government.

Despite China's brokering of a reconciliation deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia, he said, there were still considerable tensions between them.

He believed that admitting Egypt and Ethiopia could import the tensions between the two countries over Ethiopia's construction of the giant Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile, which Cairo says could endanger its vital water supply.

De Carvalho said relations between Iran and Argentina remained strained by suspicions that Iran had been behind a major terrorist attack on a Jewish centre in Buenos Aires in 1994.

Nevertheless, he added that BRICS was already an organisation of five countries with very different interests and that China and India had continuing border disputes which had recently flared into warfare.

De Carvalho said he believed Russia had sponsored Iran's admission not only for ideological or geopolitical reasons, but for economic reasons as it sought new markets in the Middle East and Africa to replace those lost in Europe because of sanctions against its invasion of Ukraine.

He said South Africa had backed Egypt and Ethiopia to get another African country into the bloc.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE were probably backed by China and India, respectively, though he added there was probably wide consensus on admitting the rich oil states, not least because they would boost the bloc's economic heft and make the move towards trading in local currencies – rather than the US dollar – more viable.

### Criteria for membership

Sooklal said the guiding principles for the selection of additional member states had been finalised by heads of state only on Tuesday.

These included that countries should have a substantial population, should be from the Global South and be in good standing in their regions. They also sought to have a fair geographic representation, coupled with diversity.

"I think it is a good mix because it is one of the guiding principles. We admitted a country – Argentina – from Latin America, two from Africa, Egypt and Ethiopia, and three from Western Asia. We are looking to develop the criteria for partner countries, and ministers have been tasked to formulate criteria," he said.

Li disclosed that until the last minute, the five BRICS leaders had only intended to admit new members as BRICS partners. But they had then realised they had to take the candidates more seriously and admit them as full members. He said the BRICS foreign ministers had been tasked with establishing partnerships with the others in the list of 22 that had formally applied for membership but had not been granted it this week.

Sooklal said even with 11 countries, the expanded BRICS was a small group out of the totality of the Global South.

"The door is not shut on the other members who have not been admitted. So we now have to work on

modalities of how we go about partner countries and make a determination on when a further expansion will be appropriate."

There has been much speculation about whether BRICS would change its name and some tongue-twisting new acronyms have been proposed on social media.

But Sooklal said he did not think the name would change – or at most would change to BRICS-Plus. He noted that the G77 + China had not changed its name even though it now had 120 members.

"The name BRICS has become a global brand in terms of championing the Global South. So we are confident the term BRICS will remain."

Sooklal explained that it was important the six new members fully embraced all dimensions of BRICS cooperation and fully grasped how BRICS functioned. He believed the differences between the countries would not be a stumbling block for the forum.

"We are not saying BRICS must be a homogeneous entity – the global community is not homogeneous. Yes, there are differences, but we are not bringing those into the BRICS group; we are mature enough to bracket those," he said.

Many were surprised by Indonesia's exclusion from the expansion while Ethiopia was asked to join the grouping instead.

Daily Maverick understands that the BRICS leaders could not reach a consensus about inviting Indonesia, with one country refusing to back this move.

Ethiopia and Egypt were endorsed by South Africa. Daily Maverick understands that the inclusion of Ethiopia was because South Africa did not only want to include a country from North Africa while it also felt that Egypt was perceived as a Middle Eastern country. **DM**



South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi shake hands next to Foreign Minister of Russia Sergei Lavrov during the Friends of BRICS Leaders dialogue at the 15th BRICS Summit, in Johannesburg, South Africa, 24 August 2023. EPA-EFE/KIM LUBBROOK

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

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MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

# BUSINESS

## Government works on medical equipment, drugs imports taxes

By Guardian Reporter

The government has said it is currently working to solve the taxation challenge facing hospitals and companies when they are importing medical equipment and human drugs.

Dr. Godwin Mollel, deputy Minister of health said in Dar es Salaam yesterday while opening the second international exhibition of medicine and laboratories that involved more than 100 companies from inside and outside the country that the government has started taking actions including meeting relevant authorities.

"I have heard your concerns that you are being highly taxed when you import medical devices and medicines. Sometimes you argue with the relevant authorities (TRA) about those devices that some are not medical devices, which causes tax to be levied at the port of entry," said Dr. Mollel.

Dr. Mollel said the government recognizes the importance of companies that produce and sell medical devices and medicines in the country, which are important in economic development and welfare of the people, so it will work together in helping them.

He said that in order to ensure that there is equality, justice and to eliminate grievances in the health sector, he will hold a meeting with the leaders of the Medical Store Department (MSD), Ministry of Finance and Min-

istry of Health to resolve all existing problems.

Dr. Mollel said: "The government is aware of the challenges they face. So we will go to solve them because you contribute a lot to the improve health facilities in this country".

The Deputy Ambassador of India in the country, Manoj Vernan said that the exhibition is a continuation of the cooperation between Tanzania and India that has lasted for more than 50 years.

He said medical devices and medicines produced by companies from India are for the benefit of the people of Tanzania in helping the delivery of health services.

"Indian hospitals have a relationship with Tanzanian hospitals in providing treatment and training. This partnership was established by the founders of these countries," said Vernan.

President of the Tanzania Pharmacists Association (TPS), Fadhil Hezekiah said the aim of the exhibition is to attract investors to build pharmaceutical factories in the country.

He said drug importers in the country are facing various problems, including taxation of equipment, medical equipment and drugs produced in the country as more expensive than those from abroad, as well as the absence of indicative prices for medical equipment and drugs.



Dr. Godwin Mollel, deputy Minister of health

## 'Business leaders have pledged to accelerate digital transformation'

By Henry Mwangonde

**B**USINESS leaders have pledged to increase innovative and collaborative efforts geared towards accelerating digital transformation in the country.

Their commitment is in line with addressing regulatory frameworks, data sovereignty, and mind-set, the factors that they identified as impediments to faster digital integration.

They made the commitment during a recent dialogue session facilitated by the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOrt).

The discussions focused on 'Digital Transformation through Innovation and Collaboration', engaging stakeholders from the Public and Private Sectors.

The pace of digital transformation across the world has accelerated, and a new era of opportunities and challenges has emerged after disruptions in the global market shaped how countries reimagine possibilities.

Minister for Information, Communication, and Information Technology, Nape Nnauye, emphasized the government's commitment to fostering an environment where innovation thrives and collaboration with the business community is enhanced in order to support socio-economic development.

"Technology is just a tool; the real power lies in how we wield it, and it is in this wielding that the principles of innovation and collaboration take centre stage," said Nnauye.

Tanzania has certainly come a long way in the use of technology, as indicated in the GovTech Maturity Index (GTMI) 2022 report which placed the country at 26th position in the globe with effective use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in delivering public services (up from the 90th position in 2021).

In the realm of digital advancement, where the government has a key facilitator role to play and the Private Sector is instrumental in innovating and executing transformative initiatives, the importance of smart Public Private Partnerships cannot be overstated.

Tanzania's digital land-



Minister for Information, Communication, and Information Technology, Nape Nnauye

scape is being molded by various elements, including the broadening of network coverage, introduction of high-speed internet services, and increasing integration of mobile money technologies.

Vodacom Tanzania is demonstrating a strong commitment to bolstering technological investments within the country.

This could be attested to initiatives such as a digital accelerator program tailored to support tech startups, Vodacom is resolute in its mission to leverage technology to transform lives.

"The journey to digital transformation cannot be walked alone. Public-private partnerships are pivotal. These collaborations can bridge the digital divide and enhance delivery," said Vodacom Tanzania Managing Director Philip Besimire.

In Africa, a continent often underestimated, a striking testament to its digital potential is its mobile usage, 72 percent of its vibrant population uses mobile phones regularly.

On the other hand, MIC Tanzania Ltd (Tigo) remains actively engaged in conducting diverse campaigns aimed at fostering a digital culture among its customer base.

The canvas on which

Tanzania's digital future is being painted may only have initial sketches for now, but industry captains in multiple sectors are inspired to contribute to its evolving composition.

The world today finds itself on the verge of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), where technology has a significant impact on every aspect of life.

This extends beyond business operations, fundamentally altering societal dynamics and reshaping the contours of national economies.

In Africa, digitisation is making a notable impact, particularly through the avenue of mobile technology, by driving significant strides in financial inclusion.

While financial institutions have traditionally taken established products and translated them into digital offerings, there is ample room for improvement across the board.

Financial institutions are in a strong position to analyse customer behavior and understand underlying needs to enhance digital services.

A good example is Azania Bank Ltd's strategic partnerships, which aim to elevate digital financial services, ultimately bridging gaps and providing ef-

ficient banking solutions to the financially underserved demographic.

Similarly, Stanbic Bank Tanzania, has acknowledged the role of digital services as a catalyst for its business operations, progressively evolving into an entity that harnesses digital resources to enhance cost management practices.

The bank's Head of Corporate and investment banking, Manzi Rwegasira, said client needs and expectations are constantly changing.

"Clients are looking for individualized service and solutions. In order to remain relevant to customers, digital transformation is inevitable," he said.

"At Stanbic Bank, we are collaborating with various partners to ensure that our products and services are innovative and relevant so as to cater to the changing needs of our customers."

Edwin Bruno - CEO at Smart Africa Group (SAG), advocated for starting with a shared vision of collaboration and clearly delineating how each partner could contribute value to the partnership.

Bruno said strategic partnerships with mobile networks and financial institutions facilitate seamless digital payments, empowering each participant

to assume an important role in materialising the collective vision.

As part of the evening's discussions, business leaders agreed that Tanzania's journey toward digital transformation through collaboration is undeniably promising.

However, they said there's a prevailing consensus that their current progress still falls short of where they want to be.

Recognizing the gap in terms of appreciation for technological innovations, Harish Bhatt - Managing Director of Soft-Tech Consultants Ltd, called out for the limited usage of data analytics by the private sector.

Bhatt stressed the latent potential for leveraging data analytics by categorising data based on behavioural patterns instead of demographic factors.

This strategic approach, he emphasized, holds the capability to predict consumer needs and generate invaluable insights.

"Embracing technology and digital transformation is not just about adopting new tools—it's about forging the future of business."

"At Soft-Tech Consultants, we believe in not only navigating the digital landscape but mastering it, but ensuring that every leap forward becomes a strategic advantage for our partners."

This assumption hinges on the premise that end users will furnish accurate data for effective utilisation, requiring a foundational level of trust.

Zuweina Farah, external affairs and Vodacom Foundation director, identified factors like regulatory frameworks, data sovereignty, and mindset as elements impeding faster digital integration.

She recommended integrating design-thinking skills into the education system to ensure that startup innovations align with societal needs, ensuring their sustainability.

George Mulamula, CEO of Technovate underscored the necessity for a shift in mindset away from replicating existing norms and towards innovating solutions that hold pertinent market value.

## Tea farmers to start processing their leaves through cooperatives

By Beatrice Philemon

Tea farmers will start to process their produces through their cooperatives, thanks to the new programme planned by the Tanzania Tea Board (TTB).

Nganga Mkonya, TTB economist said this recently at the just ended Afro World Afri Food 2023 International conference, exhibition and awards took place at the Diamond Jubilee which was attended by local and foreign participants.

"To start with, smallholder tea grower in Sakale village, Koregwe district, Tanga Region have already installed small scale processing factory with the capacity to produce 15.6 metric tons of tea leaves per annum with the support from Care International and TBT as pilot project," he said.

The main goal is to promote value addition to tea leaves at high quality in order to meet both local and international markets standards.

TBT is also sensitizing co-

operative societies across the country) to establish investment fund through Tanzania Smallholder Tea Growers Cooperative Union (TASTGCU) that will assist them to build 20 small scale tea processing factories in 14 district councils where the crop is cultivated.

He said the government has also planned to purchase and install of small scale machines for processing specialty tea in 14 districts.

Elaborating on the major efforts that are undertaken by the board to promote the tea production, he said TBT is sensitizing smallholder tea growers in all growing areas to set up irrigation farming system in their farms to enable them operate their farming activities more effectively during the draught season in order to cope with the climate change.

Also the government has plans for constructing of irrigation channels in tea farms as a way of sufficing the raw material (green leaf tea) re-



quirements, especially during the draught season (June to October).

In a bid to help farmers reduce transport cost, the government has been able to establish Dar es Salaam Online Tea Auction to address the high transportation costs to

Mombasa Tea Auction.

The online auction will be located at Mivinjeni area in Temeke Municipal Council and will be supervised by Dar es Salaam Based Company-Bravo Group Ltd.

Tanzania has big potential to penetrate in international

market because of the agro-ecological zone it has - that is equatorial regional to lead in this market.

Currently Tanzania has 30,000 smallholder tea growers who mostly depend on tea farming as the source of income, employment and

household earnings.

Among those 80 percent are in Southern Highlands in Njombe, Iringa, Mbeya and the remained farmers are in Northern Highland -Tanga Region, Kagera and Mara Regions.

In Tanzania, tea is one of

the most important cash crops that help Tanzania to obtain foreign currency and 80 percent of tea produced in Tanzania is exported in overseas because of its uniqueness.

He called on investors from USA, Africa, Europe and Asia continents to come in Tanzania to invest in tea farming and processing.

Highlighting on tea trade, he said in 2021, a total of 26, 550,260 Kg of tea that is equal to 13 percent were exported and sold within the country.

Among those, a total of 3,393,176 Kg of tea were sold within the country, 8, 585,570 Kg were exported through Mombasa Tea Auction while the remained 14,571,514 Kg of tea were exported direct in other countries.

Also in 2020, a total of 26, 730,090 Kg of tea that is equivalent to 17 percent were also exported and sold within the country.

Among those, 4, 607,592 kg of tea were sold in Tanzania, 8,627,096 kg of tea exported through Mombasa Auction and 13,495,402 Kg of tea were exported directly in other countries.

# AI, SMEs to drive rapid growth of communications platform

By Guardian Correspondent, Nairobi

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and small to mid-sized enterprises (SMEs) are projected to play a significant role in driving rapid growth of the communications platform-as-a-service (CPaaS) market in the next seven years, global cloud communications company Infobip has said.

The "CPaaS Growth Outlook 2023" report shows that the global market for cloud-based communication platforms is poised to surge, reaching US\$100 billion by 2030. This forecast marks a substantial increase from the current valuation of US\$20 billion.

"We're seeing CPaaS technology helping organizations of all sizes with an efficient way to reach, communicate and retain their customers via very efficient tools. The fast-moving pace of the world driven by digital transformation is leading Tanzanian businesses to be more agile, flexible and scalable by meeting the customer where they are," said Infobip Key Account Executive Duncan

Mochama.

The report by CPaaS Acceleration Alliance (CPaaSAA) in collaboration with influential analysts and key industry players, suggests that in the next three years, about 90 percent of global enterprises will strategically harness CPaaS as a vital IT skill set.

CPaaS is a cloud communication platforms as a service that empowers organisations and developers to seamlessly integrate communication functionalities into their applications.

Through Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) and software development kits (SDKs), these platforms offer the ability to seamlessly embed voice, video, chat, and messaging into applications and services.

The versatility of CPaaS permits businesses to effectively utilise various communication channels such as SMS, voice, or popular messaging apps like WhatsApp, Viber, and Messenger. This adaptability facilitates the adoption of new communication channels in line with shifting customer preferences.

Examples of CPaaS-driven mes-



Infobip Key Account Executive Duncan Mochama

sages include order confirmations, shipping updates, marketing communications, appointment reminders, password reset notifications, notifications for new device account

logins, voice authentication among others. These SMS messages can be either scheduled or triggered.

"AI seamlessly integrates with CPaaS due to its maturity. Speech

recognition, chatbots, and image recognition have achieved remarkable accuracy levels, enabling crucial workflows via phone, chat, and messaging," Mochama added.

Mochama highlights the growing trend of AI-powered chatbots serving customer and agent support needs, in addition to workflow automation that employs AI to detect and address potentially risky or non-compliant scenarios.

Mochama says that unlike in the past, now the customers want to feel valued by being heard.

"Customers are seeking personalized messages, motivating businesses to tackle this challenge by adopting technologies like CPaaS. With Internet Penetration across the region coupled with ease of access to features and smart mobile phones, personalized experience to end users is no longer an option in all verticals (BFSI, Travel and Hospitality, E-Commerce and Retail, Healthcare)," said Mr Mochama.

## Artificial Intelligence

The fusion of AI and CPaaS can streamline processes such as gener-

ating automatic post-call transcripts, which are then stored in customer records. This enhancement optimizes agent productivity between calls.

Insights from the "Infobip Messaging Trends 2022" report revealed that majority of customers - 68 percent - want to do business or buy from fintech companies that offer messaging-based communication. Forecasts indicate the fintech market is poised for nearly a twofold expansion by 2027.

Covid-19 Pandemic Acceleration of Digitalization

The Covid-19 pandemic, according to the report, expedited existing trends in mobility and digitalization for numerous companies, largely facilitated by CPaaS communication channels, connectivity, and automation. A notable example is the surge in popularity of telemedicine services, where patients access medical consultations remotely through video and messaging.

In recent years, in-app communication has increased in popularity, leading to a reduction in traditional telephone SMS and voice call traffic.

## Mchengerwa unveils Rufiji's investment opportunities



Minister of natural resources and tourism Mohammed Mchengerwa (R) and CRDB Bank chief commercial officer Boma Raballa (2nd L) open curtains to officially inaugurate CRDB Bank's Rufiji branch yesterday. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter, Rufiji

The Minister of natural resources and tourism has unveiled investment opportunities available in Rufiji district of which require investors interests, both locals and foreigner.

He mentioned available investment opportunities as forests, tourism, fishing, agriculture and social services.

"The district has 6,500 square kilometer

of forest reserve which require investments in tourism and hospitality," the minister said during the launch of CRDB Bank branch in Rufiji.

The minister said as an old district with improved infrastructure and social services delivery, Rufiji is also located on the strategic area of Indian Ocean coast, Rufiji has arable land for agriculture including cashew nuts, sugar cane sesame and other commercial crops.

He said the district has 300,000 hectare of land allocated for agricultural activities under irrigation system from River Rufiji, one of the largest water bodies in Tanzania mainland.

He revealed that the new sugar processing plant is expected to be constructed in the district, which will increase the demands for sugarcane.

"The decision by the government to build the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project

(JNHPP) has brought many incentives that will boost investments in the district, which will benefit not only local communities, but also investors who are willing to invest in our district," he said.

"Despite of being the oldest district, Rufiji has been closed for a long time due to lack of financial services, but the establishment of CRDB Bank branch, will now benefit different groups of the community. This has been my long time banker, so I urge my fellow citizen to start using their services. CRDB Bank has also imbeju programme which is specifically targeting youths and women, which are important in our community."

Speaking during the launch of the branch, Boma Raballa, chief commercial officer, CRDB Bank, said the bank has positioned to ensure the delivery of banking services also facilitates investments in both local and foreign investors.

"Our bank yesterday obtained an approval from the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) to float green bond which will enable us to raise 780bn/- from both local and foreign investors. The planned funds will be invested in green social projects and we believe Rufiji is one of the areas suitable for such investments," he said.

He called for Rufiji residents to use the bank for both individual and business purposes not only through the physical branch, but also agents as well as other digital channels.

"Many people believe that bank is a place of depositing and withdrawing cash, but the truth is this is a place where you can get investment advisory, which is rarely used by many people. Through our CRDB Bank Foundation, we facilitate investments among women and youths through giving them seed capital and financing at affordable requirements," he said.

## China attracts global investors to shore up market

BEIJING

China's securities regulator convened a meeting with some of the world's biggest asset managers on Friday, its latest attempt to shore up confidence after a record stretch of outflows by foreign funds.

Fang Xinghai, a vice chairman of the China Securities Regulatory Commission, hosted the meeting in place in Hong Kong, people familiar with the matter said, asking not to be identified discussing private information.

Fidelity International Ltd. and Goldman Sachs Group Inc. are among those invited, one of the people said.

China has long relied on large domestic investors to support markets during volatile times, but is now stepping up efforts to influence some of the biggest global funds.

The meeting came two days after a seminar with some of China's largest institutional investors where the regulator urged the state pension fund, large banks and insurers to increase stock investments.

Global funds have been fleeing the mainland market, offloading almost \$11 billion in a thirteen-day run of withdrawals through Wednesday, the longest since Bloomberg began tracking the data in 2016.

China's economy is struggling to regain momentum following years of Covid restrictions, a housing slump and a crackdown on the country's private sector.

Separately, regulators unveiled a further easing of its mortgage policies on Friday to revive its residential property market.

The CSI 300 Index of shares in Shanghai and Shenzhen dropped 0.4 percent on Friday, extending its slump this month to 7.6 percent and keeping it as one of the world's worst performers this year.

A top Chinese hedge fund has blamed foreign investors for sinking the stock market. Li Bei, founder of Shanghai Banxia Investment Management Center, said in an article posted on social media platform WeChat that overseas investors have stirred up market volatility and, "taken together, they are a bunch of aimless flies."

That said, foreign funds have accounted for just around 6 percent of the total onshore turnover this year. Overall, they own less than 4 percent of total A-shares outstanding, according to a report this month from China International Capital Corp.

The CSRC didn't respond to a fax seeking comment. Fidelity and Goldman declined to comment.

Beijing officials have been on the offensive over the past months in trying to reassure investors of the strength of the economy and their openness to foreign investors. A Politburo statement in July promising more support sparked an initial rally that quickly faded away as economic data continue to disappoint and stimulus fails to impress.

China has taken a series of steps to boost investor confidence recently, including guiding mutual funds to buy their own products, encouraging companies to step up share buybacks, and asking mutual funds to avoid dumping stocks. That has achieved little so far, with the CSI 300 Index now hovering near its lowest since November.

## Kilolo district collects 88.1pc of revenue targets

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Kilolo

Kilolo District council collected total revenue amounting to 4.1bn/- during the financial year 2022/2023, which is equivalent to 88.1 percent of the targeted 4.8bn/-.

The Kilolo District Council Planning Officer Lucas Daudi, who represented the District Executive Director (DED) Laini Kamendu said during the financial year 2022/23, the district council was authorized to collect, receive and spend 49.1bn/- for paying staff salaries, other expenses and the implementation of development projects.

Until June 30, 2023 a total of 41.63bn/- have been received equal to 88.4 percent, of which the council's internal revenue budget is 4.8bn/-, but so far, 4.1bn/- have been collected, explained Daudi.

He said the success resulted from cooperation between councilors, executives and the use of electronic tax collection machines, close monitoring and creating revenue monitoring teams formed at the council level.



In another step, the council has started to install CCTV cameras on barriers and gates to monitor revenue collections on food crops and forests products, to prevent the loss and leakage of revenue.

The district commissioner Peres Magiri has therefore congratulated the district council authority for collecting 4.1bn/- revenue, but directed the council to take

legal action against employees who were involved with the loss of 175mn/-.

"I would like to take this opportunity to direct that we cooperate in uncovering who were involved in a loss of income through various sources including through Point of Sales (PoS), so all those involved in the loss should be taken legal action..." said Magiri.

DC Magiri mentioned the areas where the cameras have already been installed as Ndiwili on the border between Kilolo and Iringa districts and Ruaha-Mbuyuni, bordering Kilolo and Morogoro districts respectively.

"If we install these cameras and then they are tempered with especially to the young people who are in charge of the gates, we ask them to be very careful because they may find themselves in trouble," he said. He added that the council needs to collect sufficient funds in order to implement various development plans and projects.

Kilolo District Council Chairperson Anna Msolla said the district council is expected to take legal actions against women, youth and people with special needs groups who have failed to repay their loans they borrowed from allocated a special district fund as required by the government.

Msolla emphasized that for groups that will fail to repay their loans by 30/09/23, legal action will be taken including being brought to the court.

# Teachers doubt Civics subject replacement

By Francis Kajubi

Civics professional teachers for primary and secondary schools are skeptical of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology decision of replacing the subject with a new one.

The final draft of the 2023 revised curriculum and the 2014 education policy 2023 edition suggest for the replacement of the subject.

The final draft of the 2023 curriculum suggests that Civics shall be replaced by the new subject known as History of Tanzania and Ethics which according to experienced teachers and education stakeholders will hold back efforts towards grooming responsible citizens from school.

Gratian Mukoba, former president of the Tanzania Teachers Union (TTU) said in an exclusive interview earlier this week in Dar es Salaam that he doesn't see the new proposed subject embracing civic education but historic events from the colonial rule to date.

"I don't see the new subject setting a proper civic education to be taught to students at all levels. Civics is most important in creating a responsible community. It is the subject that teaches people's responsibility to their nation and basic rights they should demand from the government," said Mukoba.

According to him, social issues such as the implication of corruption in the country's economy, democracy, rule of law, and human rights are a must for children and youth to learn from the

grassroots stage of their education.

"You cannot build a nation of civilized and responsible people by only teaching past events which most of them have no relevance in today's lifestyle," he defended.

Mukoba who started teaching Civics, History and English subjects in secondary schools in 1981 to his retirement in 2017, said Civics is one of the oldest subjects taught since colonial rule.

However, he said the subject was replaced by the Politics subject in 1965. He said after Tanzania had adopted the Bill of Rights in its 1984 constitution and the multiparty system in 1992, the subject resumed again in primary and secondary schools in 1994.

He further pointed out that the curriculum doesn't identify how the national constitution for instance will be taught.

Willbrod Kimaro, a specialized Civics teacher at Kigamboni (Navy) secondary school in Dar es Salaam said that he is aware that once the revised policy is approved by the commissioner for education and the Tanzania Institute of Education (TIE), all Form one students will have to start learning the new History of Tanzania and Ethics subject.

"I have seen the drafted new curriculum but I don't see if it entails topics related to Civics but the country's history and the creation of patriotic and ethical people. I do hope that there will be short term training courses for teachers before the adoption of the subject in the syllabus," said Kimaro.

Kimaro is worried that from his experience of more than ten years as a secondary teacher, most of the changes that are made in the education sector take years to stabilize and therefore affect students' learning.

HakiElimu's Education Technical Advisor Dr. Wilberforce Meena argued that the new curriculum puts more emphasis on ethical issues than civic education.

For example, he said, the proposed syllabus of the new subject in the curriculum indicates that students will have to learn about ethics before and during colonial rule (1890-1960), after colonialism (1961-1966), ethics during Arusha Declaration 1967-1985, and ethics during rebellion period 1986 to date.

Dr. Meena said the proposed syllabus from the new curriculum doesn't embrace critical issues which are supposed to be taught in the Civics subject such as democracy, good governance, social justice, responsibilities and rights.

According to him, the issues that he highlighted are of great importance towards realizing the global citizenship goal that tar-



Ministry of Education, Science and Technology permanent secretary, Prof Carolyne Nombo

gets at promoting global citizenship in sustainable development to allow individuals to embrace their social responsibility to act for the benefit of all societies, not just their own.

He defended that the concept of global citizenship is embedded in the Sustainable Development Goals though SDG 4: Ensuring Inclusive and quality education for all and promoting lifelong learning, which includes global citizenship as one of its targets.

Dr. Meena also blamed the accomplishment of the

curriculum before the revised policy was approved and adopted. He said that the review of the policy was ad hoc with political influence rather than academic reasons.

"Once you have developed the policy, you can introduce the new curriculum, and then develop a syllabus, teachers' guideline manual, prepare new enough textbooks and specialized teachers," he said.

The education expert further expressed his doubt on the availability of required resources once the curriculum is brought

to implementation.

His worries are defined in terms of availability of textbooks, teaching manuals and trained teachers who will teach the new subject.

"Experience shows that the ministry of education has been so fast in initiating new ideas but sluggish in creating an environment for implementation," said Dr. Meena.

Prof. Carolyne Nombo, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, without mentioning the exact amount, said the ministry has in 2023/24 allocated a specific budget for publishing textbooks and training the current Civics teachers on how to teach the new subject.

"There is no need to be worried about this transformation. The ministry and its regulatory bodies are well prepared. The process of writing and publishing textbooks for the History of Tanzania and Ethics is well organized and we are just waiting for the approval of the proposed new curriculum," said Prof. Nombo.

She asserted that the implementation of the new curriculum will be observed in phases. The

first phase will cover pre-primary, standard one, standard three, Form one and Form five. Orientation of teachers to master the new subject is a priority to be done in person and through the Learning Management System.

"If the curriculum and the policy are approved, its implementation will start in January 2024 for the mentioned levels of learning. Students in the remaining levels of standard two, four, and six, form two, three, four and six will continue with the current curriculum and syllabus as preparations are made for them to adopt the new curriculum," asserted Prof. Nombo.

Dr. Aneth Komba, Director General Tanzania Institute of Education (TIE) said that his office is ready to publish textbooks and prepare manuals as soon as the curriculum is approved.

She said that as it is for the Civic subject, the new subject will also affect divisions acquired by students if they don't pass in their national exams.

"With publication of textbooks the institute is firmly encouraging the use of soft copy. In making this

initiative a reality the institution is engaging three mobile companies to initiate a zero rate on access to online learning materials. We are still negotiating with them and hoping for a good conclusion," said Dr. Komba.

According to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology budget passed by the National Assembly in June this year, education minister Prof Adolph Mkenya said that in the financial year 2023/24 the ministry will organize information and communication technology (ICT) training sessions for 4,500 secondary school teachers from 1,300 government schools countrywide.

The ministry will train 1,300 teachers on competence based teaching on different subjects. The ministry has plans to register 560 new primary and secondary schools.

Of these schools 20 are pre-primary, 380 are pre and primary of which 250 are government owned and 130 are private owned. He said the government will register new 165 secondary schools of which 135 are government owned and 30 are private owned.

# DRC seeks to regain control of copper and cobalt assets

KINSHASA

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) wants to buy back some of the country's prized copper and cobalt deposits, as the government tries to gain more control of crucial green metals.

The assets are some of those owned by Eurasian Resources Group, a Kazakh-backed miner and major cobalt producer with dozens of DRC mining and exploration permits. The government and state-owned miner Gecamines say ERG has been too slow to develop them – and Gecamines in June told ERG it wants to take some over, according to a July letter seen by Bloomberg that was sent by the office of Congolese President Felix Tshisekedi to ERG's shareholders.

The offer didn't include ERG's key Metalkol copper and cobalt tailings project or its Frontier copper mine, and no price was mentioned in the letter.

It's the latest attempt by the DRC and Gecamines to regain control of vast deposits of minerals used in things like electric-vehicle batteries. Despite supplying about 75% of the world's cobalt and being a major copper producer, most DRC mines are foreign-owned. Relations between the state and miners have also been strained by issues over environmental damage and a lack of local investment.

ERG didn't confirm that Gecamines had made an offer to buy its assets or whether it's interested in selling any. Talks "are ongoing between ERG and representatives or certain of its affiliates in the DRC, with the objective of maintaining mutually beneficial partnerships," it said in a statement this month.

Gecamines executives and President Tshisekedi's office declined to comment. Congo's mining ministry didn't respond to multiple messages requesting comment.

Gecamines has already tried to take control of one of ERG's undeveloped copper and cobalt assets. In a February letter seen by Bloomberg, it told ERG's Africa Resources DRC Sarl subsidiary that it was cancelling its undeveloped Swanmines joint venture and demanded the return of the permit for the Kalukundi concession due to a lack of development.



ITV PGM SCHEDULE			
<b>SATURDAY 8 July</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Habari za saa
10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 ITV Top Ten	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera
12:00 Jungu Kuu	12:30 Habari za saa	13:00 Mye Zaidi	13:40 Art and Lifestyle
13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Art and Lifestyle	14:15 Soap rpt: Slay Queen	14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto wetu	17:00 Music: The Base	18:00 DW: Afrimax
18:15 Kipindi maalum: Brela	19:00 Aya ya jami	19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipindi maalum: Tatu Mzuka	21:15 Slay Queen	21:40 Art and Lifestyle	22:10 ITV Top 10
22:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo	23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:30 Al Jazeera	
<b>SUNDAY 9 July</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt
11:50 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	15:00 Mwangaza	16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt
17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Mabatiko ya wiki
18:30 Mabatiko ya wiki	19:30 Igizo: Slay Queen	20:00 Habari	21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko
21:10 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Jackpot	21:45 Mye Zaidi
22:20 Bongo movie	22:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:20 Al Jazeera	
<b>MONDAY 10 July</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 Habari	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:00 Mwangaza	16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Mabatiko ya wiki	19:30 Igizo: Slay Queen	20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:10 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Jackpot
22:20 Bongo movie	22:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:20 Al Jazeera	
<b>TUESDAY 11 July</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 Habari	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:00 Mwangaza	16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Mabatiko ya wiki	19:30 Igizo: Slay Queen	20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:10 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Jackpot
22:20 Bongo movie	22:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:20 Al Jazeera	
<b>WEDNESDAY 12 July</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 Habari	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:00 Mwangaza	16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Mabatiko ya wiki	19:30 Igizo: Slay Queen	20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:10 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Jackpot
22:20 Bongo movie	22:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:20 Al Jazeera	
<b>THURSDAY 13 July</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 Habari	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:00 Mwangaza	16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Mabatiko ya wiki	19:30 Igizo: Slay Queen	20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:10 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Jackpot
22:20 Bongo movie	22:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:20 Al Jazeera	
<b>FRIDAY 14 July</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 Habari	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:00 Mwangaza	16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Mabatiko ya wiki	19:30 Igizo: Slay Queen	20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:10 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Jackpot
22:20 Bongo movie	22:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:20 Al Jazeera	
<b>SATURDAY 15 July</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 Habari	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:00 Mwangaza	16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu
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21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:10 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa	21:45 Jackpot
22:20 Bongo movie	22:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:20 Al Jazeera	
<b>SUNDAY 16 July</b>	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 Habari	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
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## WORLD

## Xi talks with Modi on ties

BEIJING/JOHANNESBURG

A Foreign Ministry spokesperson confirmed on Thursday that Chinese President Xi Jinping talked with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the latter's request on Wednesday.

Xi also met with leaders of Iran, the Republic of the Congo, Malawi and Namibia on the sidelines of the 15th BRICS Summit.

Xi returned to China on Friday after attending the summit and paying a state visit to South Africa.

According to the spokesperson, Xi and Modi had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on current China-India relations and other questions of shared interest.

Xi stressed that improving China-India relations serves the common interests of the two countries and peoples, and is also conducive to peace, stability and development of the world and the region.

The two sides should bear in mind the overall interests of their bilateral relations and handle properly the border issue so as to jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border region, Xi said.

## Cooperation with Iran

During the meeting with Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi on the sidelines of the summit, Xi said that China stands ready to strengthen cooperation with Iran on BRICS and other multilateral platforms, so as to push for healthy and robust development of multilateralism.

Xi congratulated Iran on becoming a member of BRICS, stressing that it is a historic event that the BRICS summit, with joint efforts of all parties, has made the decision to expand.

All the new members are countries with important influence, Xi said, expressing confidence that they will have a major impact on the world.

Xi said since Raisi's successful visit to China in February this year, the two countries' departments have wasted no time to implement the consensus reached between the two leaders, which has achieved positive results.

Xi said he is glad that with the joint efforts of China, Iran and Saudi Arabia, Iran and Saudi Arabia have achieved reconciliation, which promoted security and stability in the Middle East.

China is ready to consolidate its friendship with Iran, deepen mutual trust, continue to support each other on issues concerning respective core interests and push for more progress in China-Iran comprehensive strategic partnership, Xi

added.

For his part, Raisi said Iran highly appreciates and thanks China for supporting Iran in becoming a full member of BRICS, which will provide fresh momentum for the development of Iran-China relations.

He said this is conducive to strengthening coordination between the two countries on multilateral platforms, and will also help better advance the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative proposed by President Xi.

Raisi expressed gratitude for Xi's important role in promoting dialogue and reconciliation between Iran and Saudi Arabia, adding that the expansion of BRICS shows that unilateralism is going downhill.

Iran's determination to deepen the Iran-China comprehensive strategic partnership is unwavering, Raisi said, adding that Iran stands ready to make joint efforts with China to further enhance the comprehensive strategic cooperation between the two countries and actively advance the Belt and Road cooperation.

## Safeguarding national independence

In another meeting with President of the Republic of the Congo Denis Sassou Nguesso, Xi said China will, as always, firmly support the country in safeguarding its national independence and opposing foreign interference.

Calling Sassou Nguesso an old friend and good friend of the Chinese people, Xi pointed out that the sound development of bilateral relations is inseparable from the fact that Sassou Nguesso attaches great importance to and sticks to friendship with China.

He expressed thanks to the Congolese side for its firm support on issues concerning China's core interests, noting that China will, as always, support the Republic of the Congo in playing a bigger role in international and regional affairs.

Noting that next year marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Xi said China is ready to make joint plans and hold grand celebrations with the Congolese side.

China is willing to maintain close exchanges, enhance political mutual trust and deepen practical cooperation with the Congolese side, so as to push for more achievements in their comprehensive strategic partnership of cooperation.

For his part, Sassou Nguesso said Xi's successful state visit to the Republic of the



This combo photo shows Chinese President Xi Jinping (left) and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. (PHOTOS / AP AND XINHUA)

Congo in 2013 remains fresh in his memory, adding that Chinese enterprises have undertaken many national construction projects in the African country, and friendship and cooperation with China are important factors for the country's continuous development.

Expressing his thanks to China for its valuable support and assistance to his country, Sassou Nguesso said that he is highly looking forward to the 60th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations next year, which he hopes that both sides will take as an opportunity to push for greater development of bilateral relations.

The Republic of the Congo stands ready to deepen communication and coordination with China in international affairs, and jointly safeguard the interests of developing countries, he added.

## Exploring a development path

While meeting with his Malawian counterpart, Lazarus Chakwera on Thursday, the Chinese leader said China supports Malawi in exploring a development path suited to its national conditions, and stands ready to continuously offer whatever help China can to the country in its socio-economic development.

Xi said he appreciates Chakwera for upholding the one-China principle since taking office.

It is hoped that China and Malawi can continuously support each other on issues concerning their respective core interests and major concerns, push for new results in practical cooperation between the two countries, and promote ever-new development of bilateral relations, he said.

China is willing to strengthen solidarity and cooperation with Malawi and other developing countries, and advance the development of the international order in a more equal and just direction, he said.

For his part, Chakwera noted that China is always the first to lend a helping hand to Malawi when the latter faces difficulties, adding that during his recent visit to China, he was not only warmly received, but also truly felt that China is Malawi's true friend, brother and partner.

Malawi firmly adheres to the one-China policy, he said, adding that the Belt and Road Initiative proposed by Xi is conducive to the common development of developing countries.

Chakwera added that Malawi is willing to continuously deepen friendship and cooperation with China.

## Cooperation in clean energy

Meanwhile, Xi met with his Namibian counterpart, Hage Geingob, saying that China stands ready to strengthen cooperation with Namibia in various fields, including in clean energy, and will encourage Chinese enterprises to invest in Namibia.

Xi said President Geingob is an old friend of the Chinese people, who has deep affection for China. The Chinese side greatly appreciates the president's firm support for China's position on issues of core interests, and his delivering justice and speaking out for righteousness in international affairs.

Xi pointed out that China and Africa share similar historical experiences and hard struggle, adding that China insists on equality and mutual respect between big and small countries.

The Communist Party of

China has led the Chinese people to successfully build socialism with Chinese characteristics, while at the same time taking efforts to push forward the building of a community with a shared future for mankind, Xi said.

Through proposing a series of initiatives such as the Belt and Road cooperation, Xi said, China offers opportunities to developing countries to realize joint development and prosperity, and fights for more equal rights for developing nations.

For his part, Geingob said Namibia and China enjoy long-term friendship. China is an all-weather friend, and even more so a friend who can count on when in difficulty. The Namibian side is deeply grateful to China's firm support in the various causes of fighting for national independence and emancipation as well as national development.

He said as a leader of a global major country, President Xi has led the Chinese people to achieve remarkable accomplishments, and treats African leaders with equality and humility, which is very touching.

The Namibian side has been greatly inspired by the thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics, and is exploring a modernization path with Namibian characteristics, Geingob noted.

Namibia firmly supports China, welcomes Chinese enterprises to invest and cooperate in Namibia and stands ready to work with China to push for greater development of bilateral relations, he added.

Xinhua

## G20: Delhi police to ramp up security, impose restrictions ahead of mega summit

New Delhi

WITH the 18th Heads of State and Government Summit of the G20 (Group of 20), scheduled to begin next month in the national capital under India's presidency, Delhi police authorities are busy making special arrangements to ensure smooth vehicular movement during the arrival of the high-profile delegates, including heads of states for the mega event.

SS Yadav, Special CP, Traffic addressed the media on Friday and said that the restrictions on vehicular movements will be imposed from the night of September 7.

"Another major restriction will be imposed on commercial vehicles", SS Yadav added.

However, there will be leeway for ambulances or vehicles carrying essential goods, he stated.

"There will be no restriction on the movement of ambulances, medical services or the people who are needing medical assistance coming by whatsoever mode of transport...", said the Special CP.

Adding further, he said, "We are establishing a special ambulance assistance control room which will have a dedicated helpdesk".

The G20 Summit is slated to take place on September 9-10 at the state-of-the-art Bharat Mandapam Convention Centre at Pragati Maidan.

Special CP Yadav, "We will be issuing a detailed traffic advisory which will give you information about various types of modes of transportation available. The main summit venue is in New Delhi so there will be restrictions in the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) area. It will be a controlled zone in which authorised vehicles or visitors will be allowed".

"In a controlled zone, metro services will be allowed throughout", he added.

The Special CP of the traffic unit also said that a virtual helpdesk will be launched in order to assist the delegates or tourists.

"We will have a virtual help desk for all the users who are visiting Delhi as delegates, tourists as well as citizens of Delhi and other outsiders...We will provide information about various services including transportation services...", he stated.

Earlier on Wednesday, the Delhi police authorities announced that a detailed traffic plan had been chalked out with necessary arrangements to ensure smooth vehicular movement in the national capital during the event.

Many heads of state and diplomats including US President Joe Biden, Chinese Premier Xi Jinping, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and French President Emmanuel Macron are expected to be attending the G20 Leaders' Summit.

The 18th G20 Heads of State and Government Summit in Delhi will be a culmination of all the G20 processes and meetings held throughout the year among ministers, senior officials, and civil society.

ANI

## Justice department sues SpaceX, alleges discrimination in hiring process

WASHINGTON

THE United States Justice Department has filed a lawsuit against Tesla Chief Executive Officer Elon Musk's SpaceX for allegedly discriminating in hiring the people, CNN reported.

The lawsuit claimed that SpaceX, from September 2018 to May 2022, aircraft had discouraged the asylees and refugees from applying and refused to hire or consider them because of their citizenship. This falls under the violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA)," according to an August 24 DOJ news release.

It further claimed that SpaceX, in its job listings, has posted that only green card holders and United States citizens could work at the company because of federal export control laws.

As per CNN, there are specific laws in the US - such as the International Traffic in Arms Regulations - that apply to companies manufacturing spacecraft and rockets and limit foreign nationals from accessing key information about the vehicles for national security reasons.

But the new lawsuit states that regulations such as ITAR do not prevent SpaceX from hiring refugees, whose "permission to live and work in the United States does not expire, and they stand on equal footing with US citizens," according to the DOJ.

SpaceX launched the most powerful rocket ever built. Its impact is still felt in this Texas community

"Our investigation found that SpaceX failed to fairly consider or hire asylees and refugees because of their citizenship status and imposed what amounted to a ban on their hire regardless of their qualification, in violation of federal law," said Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division in a statement.

Clarke added that the DOJ's investigation found recruiters at the company "actively discouraged asylees and refugees from seeking work opportunities at the company."

The suit also alleges that SpaceX "failed to fairly consider" applications submitted to the company by refugees, according to CNN.

ANI

## Trump's mug shot released after booking at Georgia jail

ATLANTA

DONALD Trump's mug shot was released on Thursday evening after he was booked at an Atlanta jail on more than a dozen felony charges as part of a wide-ranging criminal case stemming from the former US president's attempts to overturn his 2020 election defeat in Georgia.

An unsmiling Trump - inmate no P01135809, according to Fulton County Jail records - was captured glaring at the camera in the mug shot. The image represented yet another extraordinary moment for Trump, who did not have to submit to a photograph when making appear-

ances in his three other criminal cases.

He wasted little time trying to turn it to his advantage, posting it on X, the site formerly known as Twitter, as well as his own social media site, Truth Social. His campaign website featured the mug shot along with a message from Trump defending his actions and asking for donations.

The X post appeared to be Trump's first on the site since his account was banned after a mob of his supporters stormed the US Capitol on Jan 6, 2021. X owner Elon Musk reinstated Trump's account late last year.

Trump spent only about 20 minutes at the jail before heading back to his New Jersey golf club. Before boarding his private plane at Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson airport, he repeated his claim that the prosecution - along with the others he faces - is politically motivated. "What has taken place here is a travesty of jus-

tice," he told reporters. "I did nothing wrong, and everybody knows it."

Trump, 77, already has entered uncharted territory as the first former US president to face criminal charges, even as he mounts another campaign for the White House next year.

Far from damaging his candidacy for the Republican Party nomination, however, the four cases filed against him have only bolstered his standing. He holds a commanding polling lead in the Republican race to challenge Democratic President Joe Biden in the November 2024 election.

Dozens of supporters, waving Trump banners and American flags, jostled for a glimpse as Trump arrived at the jail.



Among the Trump backers gathered outside was Georgia US Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene, one of the former president's most loyal congressional allies.

Lyle Rayworth, 49, who is in the aviation industry in the Atlanta area, had been waiting near the jailhouse for 10 hours, since early on Thursday.

"Yeah, I'm hoping he sees me waving the flags, showing support," Rayworth said as he awaited Trump's arrival. "He needs us."

The image is certain to be circulated widely by Trump's foes and supporters alike. A more popular image than the Mona Lisa?

"We want to put it on a T-shirt. It will go worldwide. It will be a more popular image than the Mona Lisa," said Laura Loomer, 30, a Republican former congressional candidate who mingled with other Trump support-

ers outside the jail on Thursday morning.

Judge Scott McAfee set a trial date of Oct 23 for one of Trump's 18 co-defendants, attorney Kenneth Chesebro, after Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis proposed that date in response to Chesebro's request for a speedy trial. The judge's order said the schedule does not yet apply to Trump or any of the other defendants.

Eleven of his co-defendants already have been booked, according to authorities. Some, like Rudolph Giuliani, the former New York mayor, were stone-faced in their mug shots, while others, such as lawyer Jenna Ellis, smiled for the camera.

DISCHARGING nuclear-contaminated wastewater from its crippled Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean on Aug. 24, Japan has labeled itself as an "environmental polluter."

Despite the strong opposition and doubts both domestically and internationally, and with obvious and widespread risks, Japan still prioritizes its self-interests over the long-term wellbeing of humanity. It only reveals the country's extreme selfishness and irresponsibility.

This sets a terrible precedent. It might be hard for people to believe at the beginning that this is happening in a country that had long claimed to

## Japan bears permanent mark of 'environmental polluter' from today on

champion environmental protection and food safety and had previously succeeded in promoting those positive images of itself. But now, they have no choice but to agree that Japan's eco-friendly image in the past was all hype.

If the country can make the world "share" nuclear-contaminated wastewater, what problems with Japanese products can't it gloss over and then peddle to others?

To implement the discharge plan, Japan launched various public relation campaigns, flooding media with

claims about the water's so-called safety to drown out public worries. The country established an 80-billion-yen (about \$547 million) special fund to subsidize the fishing industry in Fukushima to silence dissent and made excuses at the NATO Summit, the ASEAN-plus foreign ministers' meetings, the Eastern Caribbean Ministerial Meeting on Fisheries and Sustainable Use of Living Marine Resources and on other occasions. Even as the International Atomic Energy Agency clarified its report was not an endorsement, Japan still mud-

died the waters.

Once discharged, radionuclides in the water will quickly spread, inflicting different types of biological damage. Japan disregards the importance of the environment and ecology, and its reckless dumping poses grave threats to marine life, ecological chains, and human health. Japan's actions epitomize irresponsible ocean pollution and environmental destruction.

Bad deeds inevitably backfire. Japan's arrogance has drawn strong international condemnation and will

definitely be taken countermeasures by impacted nations. The discharge will also cause lasting reputational damage for the country.

Trust and respect are the most valuable things. Japan's ocean discharge aligns with the country's strategic ambitions. It will generate short-term economic gains and faits accomplis, but Japanese leaders prioritizing quick wins will pay heavier costs.

Japan assumes established facts will force acceptance, but from Aug. 24, 2023 on, it bears a permanent

mark of disgrace. The ecological, political, and economic fallout will accumulate globally. Governments, including those adopting appeasement, will face intensifying public opposition. Businesses reliant on oceans and water will demand compensation for major losses from Japan. The wastewater will become the most pressing, severe, and prolonged topic for international environmental protection organizations.

Every drop of nuclear-contaminated water flowing from Japan to international waters will bring endless accountability to Japan.



## BRICS expansion, single currency: What Lavrov told reporters at press conference

JOHANNESBURG



THE reason for the “explosive growth” of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) is that the countries that want to get closer to the association understand the underlying causes of the processes taking place in the international arena, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov (pictured) told reporters.

All BRICS member countries should make a decision to expand the association with new members, who believe in multipolarity and the need for fairer international relations. Also, BRICS wants economic relations between member states to be independent of the West, so the association plans to work on the formation of an alternative payment system.

TASS has gathered Lavrov's main statements.

### On BRICS trade

A single BRICS currency is out of the question now. The member countries want to find ways to ensure mutual trade and economic projects so as not to depend on the system controlled by the US and its allies.

The West has proven “its ability, its willingness to actively abuse its status as an issuer of reserve currencies to achieve political goals in violation of all the rules of the free market, international trade and the World Trade Organization.”

BRICS plan to take steps “to facilitate the use of national currencies, but most importantly to create an alternative payment system.”

BRICS finance ministers will form a group for the next summit in Kazan on the formation of an alternative payment system.

### On BRICS expansion

The discussion about BRICS expansion was intense. “I can't say that it was done without problems, but in general each country was focused on making a decision to accept new members.”

The criteria in the discussion of BRICS expansion were, first of all, “the weight, authority, importance of this or that candidate country for membership and, of course, its position in the international arena.”

All member states are in favor of enriching the organization with like-minded people. Among them are countries that believe in multipolarity, the need for more democratic and fairer international relations, and insist on increasing the role of the Global South in the mechanisms of global governance. “In this regard, the six countries whose names were announced today fully meet these criteria.”

The reason for the “explosive growth” of the BRICS “is due to those countries that would like to join the group of five that are coming to understand the root causes of those processes currently underway in the international arena, which have laid bare to what extent the West is stubbornly determined to preserve its hegemony at any cost.”

All BRICS countries are in favor of keeping the name, which has already become a trademark. “It will emphasize the continuity of all our work.”

Russia will not wait until January 1, 2024, but as the future chair of BRICS will start contacts with new members, “we will help them get into the business.”

### On US hegemony

Washington's hegemonic mindset is global, and everyone “understands that the US is pursuing the goal not just of punishing Russia, using the Ukrainian Nazi regime (as its proxy).”

This has been very vividly demonstrated recently in Africa. The US is literally “dictating” its will to African countries. For example, the US has adopted a strategy for countries south of the Sahara-Sahel zone. “For African countries, this is yet another insult. It means that their sovereign right to choose their partners is simply being ignored.”

The West is demanding that African countries accept invitations to events in which it is interested and refuse meetings involving Russia. “While many [countries] may not find it easy to take the heat of such pressure alone, they (countries applying for membership – TASS) see in BRICS a group of allies and the foundation of that very multipolar world that all of us should now dedicate ourselves to bringing into being.”

In the BRICS, everything is fair and equality is guaranteed for all. This is the difference between the BRICS and the G7 and other Western-centered structures. In the G7, everyone listens to the US.

Speaking of fairness and democratization, “we cannot tolerate the fact that of the 15 members of the Security Council, six are from the US camp and are completely subordinated to its will. Therefore, the inclusion of Germany and Japan among the permanent members of the UN Security Council cannot even be discussed – it would only increase the injustice.” “Whereas more than a third of the current composition represents the countries of the so-called golden billion. And the remaining eight billion are, of course, generally underrepresented.”

### On Russia

“No idea when the West will turn to common sense.” Western leaders, led by Washington, are pushing the American agenda to the detriment of themselves, their economies and their citizens.

“They (Westerners) say: ‘We must defeat Russia on the battlefield, inflict a strategic defeat on it on the battlefield’. Well, then we will do our work on the battlefield, rather than diplomatically,” the top diplomat pointed out.

“They understand but cannot express what we are fighting for there, for their security, for the interests of people who want to speak Russian, to educate their children in Russian, to enjoy the fruits of Russian culture on the lands that their ancestors have developed for centuries.”

Russia is always open to talks, but “we will not respond to boorish ultimatums, blackmail and threats against us with calls for talks.”

Agencies

## Prime Minister's address after the successful landing of Chandrayan-3 on Moon via video conferencing

My dear family members,

WHEN we see such a history being made before our eyes, life becomes blessed. Such historical events become the eternal consciousness of a nation's life. This moment is unforgettable. This moment is unprecedented. This moment is the victory cry of a developed India. This moment is the triumph of the new India. This moment is about crossing the ocean of difficulties. This moment is about walking on the path of victory. This moment holds the capability of 1.4 billion heartbeats. This moment signifies new energy, new belief, and new consciousness in India. This moment is the call of India's ascending destiny. The first light of success in the dawn of the ‘Amrit Kaal’ has showered this year. We took a pledge on Earth, and we fulfilled it on the Moon. And our scientific colleagues also said, “India is now on the moon.” Today, we have witnessed the new flight of New India in space.

Friends,

I am currently in South Africa to participate in the BRICS Summit. However, like every countryman, my heart was also focussed on the Chandrayaan Mission. As a new history unfolds, every Indian is immersed in celebration, and festivities have begun in every household. From my heart, I am also connected with my fellow countrymen and my family members with enthusiasm. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Team Chandrayaan, ISRO, and all the scientists of the country who have worked tirelessly for years for this moment. I also congratulate 140 crore countrymen for this wonderful moment filled with enthusiasm, excitement, joy and emotion!

My family members,

Through the hard work and talent of our scientists, In-



dia has reached the South Pole of the Moon where no other country in the world has ever reached. From today onwards, the myths associated with the Moon will change, narratives will change, and even proverbs for the new generation will change. In India, we refer to the Earth as our mother and the Moon as our ‘Mama’ (maternal uncle). It used to be said that “Chanda Mama is quite far away.” Now a day will come when children will say, “Chanda Mama is just a ‘tour’ away.”

Friends,

On this joyous occasion, I would like to address all the people of the world, the people of every country, and re-

gion. India's successful moon mission is not India's alone. This is a year in which the world is witnessing India's G-20 presidency. Our approach of ‘One Earth, One Family, One Future’ is resonating across the globe. This human-centric approach that we represent has been welcomed universally. Our moon mission is also based on the same human-centric approach. Therefore, this success belongs to all of humanity. And it will help moon missions by other countries in the future. I am confident that all countries in the world, including those from the Global South, are capable of achieving such feats. We can all aspire for the moon and beyond.

My family members,

This achievement of the Chandrayaan Mission will propel India's journey beyond the Moon's orbit. We will test the limits of our solar system and continue working to realize the infinite possibilities of the universe for humanity. We have set many big and ambitious goals for the future. Soon, ISRO will launch the ‘Aditya L-1’ mission for in-depth study of the Sun. Following that, Venus is also on ISRO's agenda. Through the Gaganyaan mission, the country is diligently preparing for its first human spaceflight mission. India is repeatedly proving that the sky is not the limit.

Friends,

Science and technology are the foundation of a bright future for our nation. Therefore, the country will remember this day forever. This day will inspire all of us to move towards a brighter future. This day will show us the path to fulfilling our resolutions. This day symbolizes how victory is achieved by taking lessons from defeat. Once again, heartfelt congratulations to all the scientists of the country and best wishes for future missions!

Thank you very much.

## To build high-quality China-South Africa community with a shared future

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said China and South Africa should be strategic partners of high-level mutual trust, development partners for common progress, friendly partners of deep mutual understanding and goodwill, as well as global partners that safeguard justice.

President Xi made the remarks when holding talks with his South African counterpart President Ramaphosa during a state visit to South Africa on Aug. 22 local time.

What he said charts the course and provides guidance for further developing China-South Africa ties, which is an intangible but enormously meaningful gift.

Comradeship and brotherhood are inherent to the bilateral relationship. The special bond of “camaraderie + brotherhood” between the two countries has traversed a long span of time and defied the obstacles of mountains and oceans.

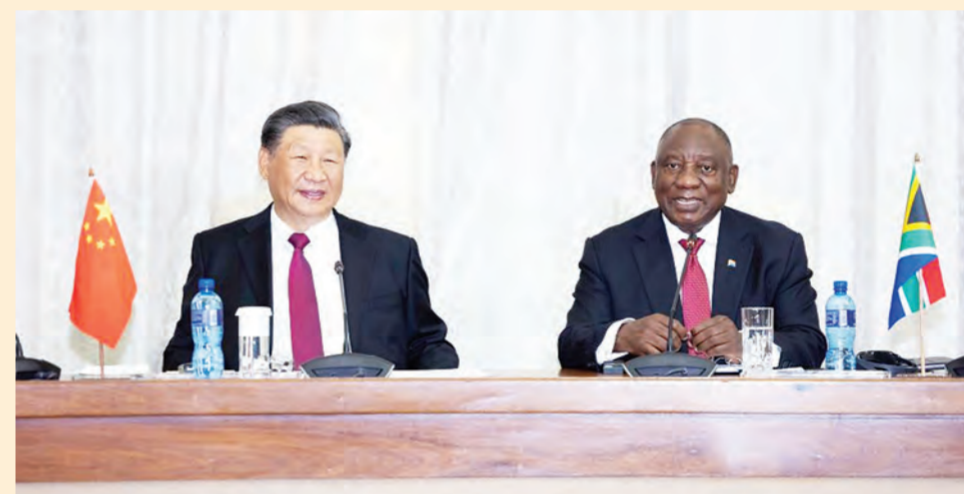
“Each of my visits to South Africa gave me new impressions. But the deepest is invariably the brotherly sentiments we have toward each other,” Xi said in a signed article published on South African media.

Ramaphosa described China as a sincere brother, friend and partner of his country, saying that China has provided valuable support to South Africa in its struggle for national independence and liberation as well as its national development. He also mentioned China's timely support for his country during the COVID pandemic.

During this visit, the two sides reaffirmed their respect and support for each other's sustainable social-economic development paths and just transitions. South Africa pledged continuous support for China on issues concerning its core interests and major concerns. China reiterated its respect and support for South Africa's efforts to safeguard its national interests and social economic development and to better the livelihoods of its citizens. This fully demonstrates that China and South Africa are strategic partners of high-level mutual trust.

Mutual benefit and win-win results are the hallmark of China-South Africa cooperation. South Africa was the first African country to sign the Belt and Road cooperation document with China. It has been China's biggest trading partner in Africa for 13 years in a row, as well as one of the African countries with the largest stock of Chinese investment.

Xi said that with a focus



Chinese President Xi Jinping, who is paying a state visit to South Africa, holds talks with South African President Cyril Ramaphosa in Pretoria, South Africa, Aug. 22, 2023. Xinhua

on Belt and Road cooperation, implementation of the nine programs of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation as well as the 10-Year Strategic Program of Cooperation, the two sides need to consolidate cooperation in areas of strength and foster new growth points for cooperation.

Close ties between the two peoples are a vivid example of amity between the two countries. Xi said the two countries should strengthen exchange and cooperation on vocational education and youth employment, ramp up cooperation on tourism, and support closer technological cooperation and joint research by scientific research institutions and businesses.

The two presidents witnessed the signing of bilateral cooperation documents in areas such as the Belt and Road Initiative, new energy and electricity, agricultural products, special economic

zones and industrial parks, blue economy, science and technology innovation, and higher education.

As development partners making progress together and friendly partners enjoying mutual understanding, China and South Africa will deliver greater benefits to both peoples.

The China-South Africa relationship has gone beyond the bilateral scope and carries increasingly important global influence. The world has entered a new period of turbulence and transformation. China and South Africa, as natural members of the Global South, should all the more work together.

China and South Africa agreed to continue supporting the development of BRICS in all three pillars of cooperation and to collaborate with all BRICS members to deepen practical cooperation in various fields and achieve progress in terms of BRICS

membership expansion.

The two sides agreed to enhance cooperation in international affairs and multilateral institutions, jointly uphold the UN-centered global system, an equitable international order underpinned by international law, and the basic norms governing international relations, based on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, including to uphold the rights and interests of developing countries jointly and respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The two countries' collaboration in the multilateral arena fully demonstrates their determination to be global partners with a commitment to justice. They will definitely make new contributions to building a more just and equitable global governance system.

The China-South Africa relationship is standing at a new historical starting point. To carry forward the friendship, deepen cooperation, and strengthen coordination is a common aspiration of both countries, as well as a call of the times.

Under the guidance of the two heads of state, the China-South Africa comprehensive strategic partnership will definitely be lifted to new heights and contribute more strength to China-Africa cooperation, South-South cooperation, and to building a China-Africa community with a shared future in the new era and a community with a shared future for mankind.

People's Daily

## Emirates cabin crew numbers cross 20,000 and counting

DUBAI

THEY say the journey is just as important as the destination and Emirates couldn't agree more. At the heart of its customer journey are exceptional cabin crew who deliver the airline's signature in-flight experience at 38,000 feet.

Emirates' cabin crew team recently crossed a milestone and are now 20,000-strong, as the airline continues to recruit cabin crew globally to meet its planned growth trajectory.

Since 2022, the airline has hosted recruitment events in 340 cities across 6 continents - truly reflecting the diversity of its cabin crew team and the destinations it serves.

The instantly recognisable Emirates cabin crew uniform has undergone four transformations in three decades, including a design by the legendary Spanish designer Paco Rabanne in 1997. The airline has consistently kept the iconic beige, and the subtle modern tweaks have stayed true

to the elegant and classic style the uniform has echoed over the years.

### Loving the flying - Emirates' long serving crew

Two cabin crew who've worn most of these uniform variations include the airline's longest serving cabin crew - a male Emirati purser who joined in 1987, and the longest serving female cabin crew, who joined the airline in 1994.

Moosa Mubarak, Emirati Purser and Emirates' longest serving cabin crew, said: 'I've flown as Emirates' cabin crew for 36 years on over 3,500 flights. Even now, after all these years, I'm always keen and excited to start my duty onboard. Mentoring my crew colleagues and serving as an ambassador for Emirates and my country is what I am most proud of. I have had a long and successful career, incredible experiences and have made mind-blowing memories doing exactly what I love.'

Emirates cabin crew team, now 20,000 strong

In a diverse team representing over 140 nationalities with 130 languages spoken, and an office with views from 38,000 feet and different cities each week, the allure and ever-changing nature of the job continues to nurture and challenge Emirates' cabin crew to reach their full potential.

Many crew have long been a part of Emirates' growth story with over 4,000 crew serving between 5-9 years; close to 3,000 serving between 10-14 years; over 1,500 crew serving 15-19 years; and some 400 crew members having crossed the milestone of 20 years of service. Three crew members have been with the airline for more than 30 years.

Career progression opportunities for cabin crew include upgrading to a higher cabin, becoming a cabin supervisor, trainer or purser. Today the airline has over 1,100 pursers who have moved through the ranks from junior cabin crew, after successfully completing rigorous training and assessments.

Cabin crew also have access to the latest training programmes, LinkedIn courses and the opportunity to apply for internal vacancies throughout the Emirates Group.

### Seeking global talent

Revvig up for its next growth phase, the airline will host global recruitment events covering hundreds of cities all year round.

Emirates' cabin crew truly embody a cosmopolitan lifestyle as they're based in Dubai, a vibrant city home to 200 nationalities, and renowned for its hotels, restaurants, food scene, leisure activities and for being one of the safest cities in the world.

Emirates offers cabin crew a competitive, tax-free salary and flying pay, eligibility for profit share, hotel stay, layover expenses, concessional travel and cargo, annual leave, annual leave ticket, furnished accommodation, transportation to and from work, excellent medical, life and dental insurance coverage, laun-

dry services and other benefits. Emirates cabin crew can also benefit from the airline's deeply discounted tickets for friends and family. With Dubai's unique geographical position and the airline's network of over 130 destinations, creating memories with loved ones is simply a plane ride away.

All new cabin crew undergo an intense 8 weeks of training in the highest standards of hospitality, safety and service delivery in Emirates' state-of-the-art facility in Dubai. Not to mention the invaluable transferable life skills gained by working with a diverse crew community while experiencing new destinations and cultures across the Emirates network.

For aspiring cabin crew, the opportunity to join Emirates is one recruitment event away. To learn more about the requirements, benefits, training programme, global recruitment events calendar and to apply, visit Emirates cabin crew careers. Agencies

# Soccer has no permanent success

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

**F**OOTBALL clubs do not possess permanent success. Daily efforts ought to be in place so that the outfits remain at the top and conduct their activities with the same and, perhaps, greater success.

Yanga won Mainland Tanzania's NBC Premier League top honour for two years in a row, apart from reaching the final of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup.

Winning the top honour in every tournament the Jangwani Street club participated in is not something to be trifled with at all.

With common sense, an individual can see what Yanga needs more to win the top honour in either the CAF inter-club showdowns.

Lifting a continental show-down's title would be the greatest success, a proof of what the club has achieved in the last two seasons.

The success achieved after four difficult seasons the side had endured can, in one way or another, be the source of limping and finally losing everything.

Lagging can come about via ignoring any advice given by fans - doing things out of habit.

For Tanzania's football, Yanga's collapse cannot happen on a very large scale as it is difficult for the squad to finish the season below the top three positions in the league.

The signs, however, show that tremendous success can affect the Jangwani Street club which is currently taking part in this season's CAF Champions League's preliminary round.

Yanga is participating in this season's premier continental showpiece's preliminary round given the club crashed out of the same stage in 2022/23 having suffered a 2-1 aggregate loss to Al Hilal Omdurman.

The shortcomings, which were in view in this season's 'Mwananchi Day' festival, might be a sign that Yanga might falter after enjoying success in the past two seasons.

Even though there were entrance fees for the festival, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, the venue's gates were opened for people to enter for free.

It was a clear sign that there was no good, new strategy aiming at encouraging fans to turn up at the venue to watch their club and improvements made to it.

It seems that the outfit's information department did not have an effective strategy other than social activities undertaken by the club's members and supporters found in various parts of the country during the



Tanzania's Yanga midfielder, Mudathir Yahya (L), blocks Djibouti's ASAS Djibouti Télécom player when the clubs met in the first leg of a 2023/24 CAF Champions League First Preliminary Round at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Yanga cruised to a 2-0 win over ASAS Djibouti Télécom. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

'Mwananchi Week'.

There were moreover some indications that player recruitment was lagging, much as the squad's leaders said their main duty was to reinforce the team, not enter the market in search of high-profile signings.

So far squad reinforcement was not quite visible, given Yanga was seemingly struggling to replace key footballers-DR Congo's Fiston Mayele, Yannick Bangala, Djuma Shabani, and Tanzania's Feisal Salum.

In normal circumstances, the four footballers were supposed to continue being the mainstay of the team, while areas that showed shortcomings were to be strengthened.

Mayele's departure was not surprising, given he did well for the second season in a row and made his mark in Africa by emerging as the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup top goal scorer.

The same could be said of Salum, alias Fei Toto, who vowed not to continue turning out for Yanga, adding he will only be willing to serve the squad once its president, Hersi Said, leaves. The midfielder could have been replaced via the use of scouts.

It was as if Yanga's management was shocked by Salum's move and, instead, spent a lot of time to show that it had found an alternative.

His replacement may be more competent depending on

how the coach uses him, but it hardly diffuses the fact that the club was not prepared for the imminent departure.

The Congolese duo of Bangala and Djuma too did not leave abruptly. There were indications that the two may not be part of this season's team after they were given a few minutes on the pitch during the closing stages of the past season.

There was an expectation the two would not be part of the new team after the news alleged they demanded a better salary and asked to leave after talks on emoluments increase fell out.

While those four were not part of this new season's squad, there was the difficult task of convincing the club's fans that it has either built a strong squad or gone for sound reinforcements, which will impress the fanatics in such a way that they were expected to attend the 'Mwananchi Day' festival in big number.

Even if Salum, Mayele, Bangala, and Djuma were used to attract the supporters to the stadium, their presence convinced Yanga's fans that there would be entertainment if they went to the stadium.

Players of such caliber were needed instead of waiting for supporters to see the quality of players they hardly knew.

The new ones will attract followers later, not during the 'Mwananchi Day' festival.

Mayele hardly seemed to be a fan favourite when he was introduced to the Jangwani Street squad's fans for the first time.

Makambo, who was Yanga supporters' favourite before going to Guinea's Horoya, was the one who attracted many supporters before Mayele came to show his quality later.

The fact that Yanga's previous two seasons' success weakened the leaders was also seen in the statements presented by the officials.

When Yanga was a few weeks away from featuring in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup final, Said was interviewed by a radio station that was interested in Yanga's success.

In his answers to one of the questions about Yanga's success, the leader said: "Some members of the football fraternity are the ones who delayed us to achieve development."

He saw that the success achieved was brought by people from outside football, he forgot the great work done and facilitated a young man like him to occupy such a sensitive position like the president of a popular soccer outfit.

The president forgot that the said football fraternity members participated in building Yanga's headquarters and its other properties.

The leader has gone as far as promising to build a stadium at a place where great effort is needed to convince the government to agree to the plan.

Stadium construction for that matter is the main pillar of Said's four-year period, as a result, the leader is forgetting the important issue of club transformation that now needs to move to investment and purchase of ownership shares.

The quality of the team and the success that will be achieved this season can, to some extent, show that Yanga's leaders have not been carried away by the outfit's success. The leaders will have shown they invested their energy in improving important areas.

Simba SC reached the Group Stage of the CAF Champions League in 2019/20 and, the following season, it bowed out of the showpiece's First Preliminary Round having conceded a loss to unfancied UD Songo of Mozambique.

The Msimbazi Street club endured the same fate in the 2021/22 season, kissing the premier continental showpiece goodbye in the Second Preliminary Round after losing to seemingly modest opponents, Botswana's Jwaneng Galaxy FC.

There was hardly a single Simba SC fan to have dreamed that the season's Mainland Tanzania champions would be knocked out by the Botswana team after winning 2-0 in the first-leg tie, which took place in Gaborone.



Tanzanian footballer, Simon Msuva.

## Simon Msuva passes medicals at JS Kabylie

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's senior national soccer team's striker Simon Msuva has passed medicals at Algerian Premier League side JS Kabylie ahead of his pending two-year deal with the club.

Msuva turned into a free agent after the completion of his contract with Saudi Arabian side, Al-Qadisiyah.

Social media reports issued early this week had been linking him to a return to one of Tanzania's football giants- Simba SC, and Yanga.

The attacker was further alleged to have been pursued by some Algerian clubs including CS Constantine, CR Belouizdad, USM Algiers, and JS Kabylie.

The player and his agent have been quiet on the matter but some media reports said the former's father disclosed that, despite approaches by some top domestic clubs, his son will not sign for any domestic club.

Popular African football journalist, Micky Junior, mid this week reported that Msuva has passed medicals at JS Kabylie.

"Simon Msuva has passed his medicals ahead of the move to JS Kabylie," the journalist disclosed in his social media account's post that had Msuva pictured donning a black cap, a vest, and tracksuits attending to medicals.

On Wednesday, Junior also posted: "Simon Msuva has arrived in Algeria just as reported earlier. He will first conduct a medical test before penning a two-year deal to join JS Kabylie."

"Msuva has scored 19 goals in 76 appearances for the Tanzanian national team. He will become the 12th signing for the Algerian side," the

journalist stated in his post.

Junior earlier posted on Tuesday that Msuva confirmed to have been approached by Tanzania's football powerhouses but nothing has materialized.

According to the journalist, the attacker revealed he and his representatives do not think it is the right time for him to return home as they believe he is ready for a top football challenge.

"True, he has been approached by a Tanzanian club but nothing materialized. On the side of the player and his representative, they don't think it's time for him to return home yet," Junior pointed out.

"Msuva wants more and is ready to challenge himself at the top, he is set to travel to Algeria as JS Kabylie has presented their offer for him, Msuva is expected in Algeria this evening or tomorrow to hold talks and conclude the deal," he posted.

Wikipedia's yesterday post further showed Msuva as a JS Kabylie player. However, JK Kabylie did, in the past two days, not post anything regarding the signing of Msuva on its official Facebook page.

Msuva has enjoyed a good spell with Morocco's Difaâ Hassani d'El Jadida FC and Wydad Casablanca having scored 28 goals in 79 outings for the former and 10 goals in 37 appearances for the latter.

The goal-getter netted eight goals in 28 appearances at Al-Qadisiyah FC of Saudi Arabia and, at Yanga, Msuva scored 43 goals after playing 94 matches.

Msuva has also scored 19 goals in 76 appearances for Tanzania's national football squad, Taifa Stars.

## Mwila appeals for support for participation in 2023 Para Powerlifting World Cup

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's Para Powerlifter Yohana Mwila has sounded a desperate call for support as he continues the hunt for money that will help him and others realize their dream of competing in the 2023 Para Powerlifting World Cup to be held in Cairo in November.

The 2023 Para Powerlifting World Cup is scheduled for November 3-5 and will be used as qualifiers for the 2024 Paris Paralympics.

Tanzania will be represented by Mwila and female Powerlifter Selina Karimbe. The coach set to accompany the two athletes will be announced soon and they need US dollars 7905 to realize

their dream of taking part in championships.

Mwila said they are expected to arrive in Cairo on October 30 and depart on November 8.

He said air tickets for the trio's trip to and from Cairo amount to US dollars 3000, accommodation amounts to US dollars 140 per day which will be US dollars 4200 for three people and US dollars 75 for visa, adding up to US dollars 222 for the three people.

Mwila- also serving as Tanzania Para Powerlifters Association (TPPA) secretary-general, made the plea for financial backing during an interview held in Dar es Salaam recently.

The development has come about after the Tanza-



Tanzania's Para Powerlifter, Yohana Mwila, is pictured featuring in a past training in Dar es Salaam, preparing for the 2022 Commonwealth Games that took place in Birmingham, England from July 28 to August 8.

nia Paralympic Committee (TPC) announced that Para Powerlifting and Para-athletics will not be part of the disciplines making the maiden Africa Paralympic Games slated for September 3-13 in Ghana.

The committee said the Local Organizing Committee in Ghana communicated to them that the two disciplines will not be part of the Games because some venues that were designed to host Powerlifting and Para-athletics have not been completed.

Mwila said the athletes, in conjunction with TPC, have approached several companies with proposals for both long and short-term deals.

"We are leaving no stone unturned in our quest to make this trip a reality, we are requesting well-wishers to come to our rescue," the athlete noted.

"We are representing the country and as flag carriers, we need support to make the nation proud," he said.

In the 2022 Common-

wealth Games in Birmingham, England the Para Powerlifter settled for eighth place in the mixed weight category.

One of the conditions for him to compete in the 2024 Paralympic Games in Paris is he must take part in any international event recognized by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC).

He already missed the Dubai Qualifiers which took place last Sunday, therefore, the Para Powerlifting World Cup is his last hope.

Mwila's call for support has also come after the government recently said it is not sure if Tanzania's Para athletes will compete in the Ghana showdown that will serve as qualifiers for the 2024 Paris Paralympics.

Najaha Bakari, NSC Information Officer, said the government has not secured funds for athletes' trip to the Games, and she appealed for support from the corporate World and other stakeholders.

"To be honest I cannot say if our Paralympic athletes will travel to Ghana to compete in the African Paralympic Games, I have stated so as currently we don't have funds," the official stated.

"Due to lack of funds, I can't say who will represent the country in the Ghana Games but, once the funds are available, we will see who will go to Ghana," she said.

This is the first time that Africa is hosting Paralympic Games and Tanzania was to

be represented by athletes from six disciplines- namely Para athletics, Para Powerlifting, wheelchair basketball, amputee football, wheelchair tennis, and sitting volleyball.

Vincent Kaduma, TPC acting secretary-general, announced that Para athletics and Para Powerlifting events will not be part of the African Paralympic Games because IPC officials who inspected the venues set to host the Games deemed the facilities not ready to host the Games.

Kaduma lamented that the African Paralympic Games were the best opportunity for Tanzania's Para athletes to earn qualification for the 2024 Paris Paralympics and described the miss as a wasted opportunity.

## Spanish FA president Luis Rubiales to step down after kissing Jenni Hermoso at Women's World Cup

MADRID

SPANISH Football Association president Luis Rubiales was set to step down later yesterday after heavy criticism of his behaviour at the World Cup final in Sydney on Sunday, according to reports in Spain.

Rubiales's expected resignation will come one day after Fifa opened disciplinary proceedings against the 46-year-old, who grabbed his crotch in celebration of Spain's victory over England, then kissed Spain midfielder Jenni Hermoso on the lips during the trophy celebration.

Rubiales, who has been head of the Spanish FA since 2018, on Thursday informed colleagues that he will leave the post on Friday, when the organisation holds a general meeting, according to newspaper El Pais.

Players, politicians and the media have spent the week pushing for Rubiales's resignation. Several professional clubs have issued statements saying he should step down, including Atletico Madrid.

Fifa said in a statement issued on Thursday afternoon: "The Fifa disciplinary committee informed Luis Rubiales, president of the Spanish Football Association, today that it is opening disciplinary proceedings against him based on the events that occurred during the final of the Fifa Women's World Cup on August 20, 2023."

Fifa's statement added: "The events may constitute violations of article 13 paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Fifa Disciplinary Code.

"Fifa reiterates its unwavering commitment to respecting the integrity of all individuals and strongly condemns any behaviour to the contrary."

The sections of the disciplinary code referenced in the Fifa statement cover "offensive behaviour and violations of the principles of fair play".

The code cites examples of behaviour which could lead to disciplinary measures being taken, including "insulting a natural or legal person in any way, especially by using offensive gestures, signs or language" and "behaving in a way that brings the sport of football and/or Fifa into disrepute".

Rubiales initially called the kissing issue "nonsense", but then issued an apology via video on Monday for the Hermoso kiss. Spanish prime minister Pedro Sanchez described the apology as "insufficient".

The Spanish FA has called an extraordinary general assembly on Friday in response to the matter, while confirming it has opened internal proceedings.

THE TELEGRAPH

## Juventus back with a new outlook and new ambition

MILAN

JUVENTUS are back in the Serie A title discussion as they prepare to host Bologna on Sunday, a punchy new style of play in place for a club looking to bounce back from last season's disasters.

Massimiliano Allegri's side, like Italy's three other big boys, impressed on opening day as they won 3-0 at Udinese and put on the sort of aggressive, attack-minded display not usually associated with the conservative coach.

Federico Chiesa hailed his team's "modern style of football" after blasting them into the lead after 108 seconds in Udine and finally showing signs that his injury problems might be behind him.

Allegri himself was more circumspect about the tactical changes, keener to highlight how Chiesa needs to be play up front.

"He has to score 14-16 goals this season... he is wasted on the wing," he said.

But there was something new about Juve's approach, an optimism which was lacking last season, even before their trials and tribulations in front of the sporting courts ended with a 10-point penalty and a one-season ban from European football.

Juve scored only 35 times from open play last term. Their matches were frequently stodgy affairs. An early exit from the Champions League and a January thumping at the hands Napoli underlined their limitations.

And while Chiesa said Juve's target is a return to Europe's top club competition, observers in Italy immediately made Juventus one of the title favourites.

With their principal rivals -- Milan and reigning champions Napoli -- all in transitional periods, Juve looked as hungry, and as capable, as they have since they broke the bank to sign Cristiano Ronaldo.

AC Milan will greet their home fans for the first time this season against Torino on Sunday, with the wind in their sails after their new additions made a positive start last weekend.

Christian Pulisic and Tijjani Reijnders, two of nine new faces, excelled at Bologna and there is hope on the red and black side of Milan that they can reach 20 league crowns before local rivals Inter.

AFP

# Liverpool's credentials face Newcastle test, Man U seek Premier League lift off

LONDON

LIVERPOOL's new-look midfield faces a stern examination as the Reds put their Premier League title aspirations to the test at Newcastle tomorrow, while Manchester United aim to kickstart their campaign against Nottingham Forest.

Title rivals Manchester City and Arsenal are two of only three sides with six points from their opening two games of the new campaign.

But it is Brighton who top the table after shrugging off the sales of key midfielders Alexis Mac Allister and Moises Caicedo to score eight goals in their opening two games.

AFP Sport looks at the best of the action from the Premier League this weekend:

- Klopp has his 'monster'

Liverpool's failure to beat Chelsea to Caicedo or Romeo Lavia has seen their transfer busi-



Jurgen Klopp

ness heavily criticised by many of their own fans.

The Reds instead landed 30-year-old Japan captain Wataru Endo as their replacement for the departed Fabinho and Jordan Henderson.

Endo, described by Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp as a "real monster", could make his first start at St James' Park in an early indica-

tor of who could rival City and Arsenal for the title.

Newcastle leapfrogged Liverpool into the top four last season despite the Reds winning both clashes between the sides.

The Magpies thrashed highly-fancied Aston Villa 5-1 at home on the opening weekend of the campaign, but were brought back down to earth by an inability to

match champions City in a 1-0 defeat at the Etihad Stadium.

Liverpool will have Mac Allister available after his red card on his home debut in a 3-1 win over Bournemouth was rescinded.

- Mout's absence a solution for Man Utd? -

Hope that United can challenge for their first league title in 11 years has already dwindled after a sloppy 2-0 defeat at Tottenham followed a woeful performance at home to Wolves, despite escaping with a 1-0 win on that occasion.

Erik ten Hag's men have suffered from a lack of cutting edge up front in the absence of new striker Rasmus Hojlund, out with a back injury.

The Dane misses the visit of Nottingham Forest on Saturday, but another injury to Mason Mount may simplify things for Ten Hag.

Fitting captain Bruno Fernandes and Mout, a close-season signing from Chelsea, into the same midfield has

proved problematic in the opening weeks of the season.

United lost just two of 25 games in which the trio of Fernandes, Cristian Eriksen and Casemiro started in midfield last season.

- Early season crisis clubs -

Two of the three clubs to lose their opening two games face off today when troubled Everton host Wolves at Goodison Park.

Everton have narrowly avoided the drop for the past two years and look set for another season of suffering, with Sean Dyche trying to patch the holes in his squad on a shoestring budget by Premier League standards.

The Toffees' troubles on the field have been compounded by the collapse of a deal this week for an American investment group to inject capital into the club for a 25 percent stake.

"It's just the way Everton's been for a number of months, years even," said Dyche. "It's our job

to change the story. It always starts on the pitch, with me and the team changing the rhetoric."

Wolves' own financial problems led to the departure of manager Julen Lopetegui who resigned on the eve of the season.

A dominant performance in Gary O'Neil's first game in charge went unrewarded at Old Trafford, but optimism from that display was wiped away in a 4-1 thrashing at home to Brighton last weekend.

**Fixtures (all times GMT)**

**Today**

Bournemouth v Tottenham (1130), Arsenal v Fulham, Brentford v Crystal Palace, Manchester United v Nottingham Forest, Everton v Wolves (all 1400), Brighton v West Ham (1630)

**Tomorrow**

Burnley v Aston Villa, Sheffield United v Manchester City (both 1300), Newcastle v Liverpool (1530)

AFP

## Why Manchester United are no longer big spenders in the transfer market

By Richard Jolly

ERIK ten Hag has an answer when asked if Manchester United are done in the summer transfer window. "Managers always want more," he said earlier this month. If it is a generalisation, it is also true in his case: he does tend to want more.

But there are reasons why United have not signed more and why they did not enter the bidding for either Declan Rice or Harry Kane, who commanded nine-figure price tags and, even if attainable, would have swallowed up much of their budget. United's summer spending so far comes to around £160m, and more than £175m if add-ons for Andre Onana, Mason Mount and Rasmus Hojlund are triggered. Over the course of ten Hag's reign, their expenditure extends to around £400m. It is not cheap, even for a club whose annual revenue should top £600m or in a division when many another is scarcely a pauper.

There are underlying issues that have limited United's purchasing power however. They were placed on a Financial Fair Play watchlist by Uefa last September (as were Chelsea, who appear to have very different interpretations of the rules to everyone else) and were fined this summer for breaching FFP over a four-year period.

They signalled an intent, and a need, to keep their net spend this summer to around £120m. At the moment, and despite the departures of Anthony Elanga, Matej Kovar, Alex Telles and Fred, they have exceeded that, even before



Erik ten Hag

factoring in the add-ons for their purchases. So when it is said that United need to sell before they can buy, it is based on those calculations.

Within that, there are several elements. The first is that United's budget was limited from the start after they overspent last summer: the end-of-window trolley dash meant £150m was splurged on Casemiro and Antony. And, like many another issue at Old Trafford, it comes back to the overpriced winger: at £86m, Antony cost perhaps twice his actual value. It was a reason why United could not afford Cody Gakpo in January; while another £40m or so could have altered their plans for this summer.

There is also the reality that United have paid considerably more than they would have hoped for each of their recent

Dutchman, have so far sold none; if he goes, there is the risk it is only on loan, just as Williams joined Ipswich on loan.

The enduring uncertainty about Dean Henderson, caused in part by injury, has hardly helped, especially as the goalkeeper looked one of United's more sellable assets outside the first team.

Then there are the cases of two who have attracted sizeable offers in Scott McTominay and Harry Maguire. The former captain's decision to reject West Ham could cost United £50m: the £30m transfer fee the Hammers offered for a player who instead could leave on a free transfer in 2025 and two years of wages at around £10m per season, even if that might have been offset by the cost of bringing in another defender.

McTominay also has admirers at West Ham but in looking for £40m, United may have priced him out of a move: West Ham's two midfield acquisitions, Edson Alvarez and James Ward-Prowse, came for around £30m apiece.

But it may also be a factor that ten Hag did not force out two who could

have bolstered his budget. The Dutchman has continually stressed that he sees each as a valuable squad member, that he wants two players for each position and that he would like Maguire to stay and fight for his place. Fair and honest as that may be, United may have been better served by selling one or both and raising revenue.

Sofyan Amrabat, arguably the outstanding defensive midfielder in the World Cup, looks an upgrade on McTominay. Fiorentina's Moroccan international has admirers at Old Trafford, and United's first two games of the campaign suggest there is a need to bring in someone to partner Casemiro.

And yet, if United's unconvincing start to another season does not bring a second late-August splurge and they stick to their £120m budget, if there are no significant sales, there is not much scope to strengthen. They can look trapped by parameters set by their recent past, the fees agreed and the deals not done. They are the big spenders struggling to become bigger spenders.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

There is an ACL epidemic in the Premier League – here is why

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Simba SC head coach, Roberto Oliveira. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBASC

## Simba SC leadership expresses optimism in Oliveira

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC leadership has expressed confidence in the club's head coach Roberto Oliveira 'Robertinho' much as there has been some level of dissatisfaction among supporters over the outfit's style of play in the past two NBC Premier League matches.

In the last two top-flight fixtures, Simba SC garnered a 4-2 victory over Mtwara Sugar and later defeated Dodoma Jiji FC 2-0.

A section of Simba SC supporters though has dejected the team's performance after conceding goals in the opening tie against Mtwara Sugar which took place at Manungu Stadium in Morogoro.

Simba SC thereafter struggled in the outfit's second game against Dodoma Jiji FC, making the former wait for the second half to score a brace and secure victory.

Ahmed Ally, Simba SC's Information and Communication Manager, admitted that they have yet to reach the pinnacle of good football despite winning their matches from the Community Shield to the Premier League.

Ally moreover revealed that there are complaints from the team's fans who need to see impressive showing in their matches even though the team is winning.

The official stated: "It is true that we have yet to reach the peak of our quality that is known to the fans but there are many basic reasons, one of which is the presence of many players."

"Eleven players are all new and it is not easy for that number of players to gel in a short time to get used to each other and play well as a team," the official pointed out.

"We are backing our technical bench under coach Robertinho and his assistants and players for a great job. It is a short time but they have fought for Simba SC and now we have six points and six goals," Ally noted.

The Information and Communication Manager also stated unity between the fans, technical bench, players, and leaders is all the team needs to continue winning- believing that nothing can fail.

The Guardian is aware Oliveira has asked Simba SC's leadership to sign another defensive midfielder following difficulties in exercising rotation for the position.

During the 2023/24 Community Shield, Sadio Kanoute and Mzimiru Yassin made the starting line-up as Fabrice Ngoma replaced either of the starting midfielders. Currently, Ngoma is a starter as the other midfielders alternate.

Domestic defensive midfielders- Abdallah Hamis and Nassoro Kapama- are yet to convince the tactician so they can get playing time.

Should Simba SC go for a foreign defensive midfielder, the squad will have to get rid of one foreign player to accommodate the new signing.

The new signing- Ivorian Aubin Kramo- is yet to feature in any of the competitive games for the team, which will have a tough task to deal with to meet the coaches' demand.

## Cedric Kaze confident performance will bolster Namungo FC



Namungo FC's head coach, Cedric Kaze. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NAMUNGO FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AFTER failing to claim victory as Namungo FC head coach, Cedric Kaze insists he has still been pleased with his team's performance and improvements in the opening two games of the NBC Premier League season.

The performance is leaving him certain it is only a matter of time before the results begin to follow.

The outfit, nicknamed 'Southern Killers', was on top for much of the game

against JKT Tanzania of possession in the and enjoyed large spells opposition's half.

Namungo FC was unable to convert that into points as a first-half goalkeeping howler by Jonathan Nahimana condemned them to a disappointing 1-0 home loss to the army-owned club in the opening match of the season at Majaliwa Stadium in Lindi.

Although Kaze's side did get a point last week, it was a similar story as it looked like the better team, but could not get the win they deserved in a 1-1 draw with Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

Kaze believes that there are improvements in each game and the challenge has come as a result of implementing changes from a counter-attacking side to a more possession-based one.

The former Yanga assistant coach is certain the process will take time but the results will come as his squad adjusts and settles in the new system.

Kaze pointed out: "In general, we have not started well in the Premier League but, from the first game against JKT Tanzania towards the second

game against Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, I have seen big improvements in terms of possession, timing of pressing and chances created."

"Against Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, it's unlucky that we didn't score, but if you look at the analysis, we managed about seven shots on target and had four one-on-one chances with the goalkeeper," the Burundian said.

"The crucial thing is the process we are working on, changing the team from a side that plays low blocks and relies on the counter-attack and transitions to one that is offensive, that can possess the ball and go forward and back. It's a long process," Kaze revealed.

The international break will give Kaze more time to work on his squad as they try to overturn a dreadful start to the NBC Premier League season.

They will have a month-long break until their next game against the newly promoted side, Mashujaa FC of Kigoma.

## National pool table team enters camp for Africa Championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S national pool table team entered camp in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday to prepare for the All Africa Pool Association (AAPA) Championships scheduled for October in South Africa.

The squad's manager Patrick Nyangusi said the provisional team- which is made up of 17 players- is camping at Snipers Club, Mwenge under head coach Dennis Lungu.

He said Lungu will select eight best-performing players set to travel to South Africa for the continental showdown.

Nyangusi urged the players to work hard in the training camp so they can earn selection for the national team.

"The camp has 18 provisional players but the coach will trim them to eight, for now, all players in the camp have a chance to represent the country in the championships, what is needed is hard work, discipline, and dedication," he said.

Lungu echoed the team manager's remarks, saying that he would only select players who meet his requirements including dedication, ability, hard work, and discipline.

"Players who will make my final squad are only those who are hardworking, dedicated, disciplined, and show the ability to perform, I will only select players that I am sure will deliver in South Africa," he said.

Players in the camp are Seif Hamadi, Festo Yohana, Isaya Paul, Abdallah Hussein, Mus-

sa Mkwega, Innocent Sammy, Melkizedeck Amadeus, Norbeth Kobelo, and Jackson Steven.

Charles Venance, Anthon Thomas, Said Jumanne, Abdallah Miraji, Abubakar Salum, Abdul Said Kiande, Baraka Jackson, and Yasin Athuman are the other performers.

Pool table is a game now gaining popularity in the country as recently many people patronized the Nane Nane Championships which had Dar es Salaam outfit, Tip Top Club, lifting the title.

Some of the participating players in the showdown, held in Dar es Salaam, came from clubs and others were individuals.

Tip Top Club beat fellow Dar es Salaam outfit, Vegas Club from Sinza suburbs, 13-6 to win the top honour.

The champion took home prize money of 500,000/- and gold medals while the runner-up, Vegas Club, was awarded 100,000/- and silver medals.

Snipers Club of Mwenge, Dar es Salaam finished third, having garnered a 13-6 win over Waturuki Club of Temeke and pocketed 50,000/-.

This is the fourth time that the Nane Nane Pool Tournament has taken place, it was organized by Safi Point

Company. The tournament's men's individuals category final saw Abdul Kiande from Tip Top Club clinch the top honour after defeating Festo Yohana 7-6.

The category's champion, Kiande, was awarded a gold medal and 500,000/- while second-placed Yohana took home the silver medal and 100,000/-.

Michael Machellah, a Safi Point Company official, said Seif Hamad from Tip Top Club finished third after beating Abdallah Hussein from Snipers Club 7-6 and the former was awarded 50,000/-.

In the women's category, Jackline Tido from Dodoma

beat Judith Machafuko from Vegas Club 7-4 in the final and was awarded 300,000/- and a gold medal while the runner-up, Judith, was awarded 100,000/- and a silver medal.

Machellah appealed to the corporate world to sponsor pool tournaments in the country saying the sport is growing tremendously thus attracting many people.

Meanwhile, this year's edition of the Nyerere Day Open Pool tournament will be held in Dodoma from September 13-15.

The tournament is organized by Safi Point in cooperation with the National Pool Association.



Dar es Salaam youngsters are pictured showcasing their football skills at Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park's venue recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

