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Lissu nabbed, police officers thwart rallies

By Guardian Reporter

POLICE in Karatu District, Arusha Region, have reported having arrested opposition Chadema Vice Chairman (Mainland) Tundu Lissu along with two other members of the party on allegations of conducting unauthorised rallies.

ACP Justine Masejo, the Arusha regional police commander, said in a statement yesterday that the leaders were arrested at a hotel in Karatu in connection with the party's drive of addressing the public on demands for a new constitution and on concerns over port operation issues.

Police had detained Lissu and three others for questioning over the holding of an unlawful assembly and preventing police from doing their work, said the RPC, indicating that further legal measures would be taken after interrogations and on completion of other procedures.

Elisa Mungure, the party's regional chairman, meanwhile said that the leaders were arrested at around 10 a.m. when officers from Karatu police station arrived at the hotel "with guns in their hands".

Some sources said the police officers demanded that hotel attendants show them Lissu's room which they then entered, "taking him away without telling him where they were going".

The other Chadema officials arrested include Women's Wing secretary general Catherine Ruge, national executive committee member Susan Kiwanga and Youth Council publicity secretary Twaha Mwaipaya, along with

personal security detail for the vice chairman.

Earlier reports said that Lissu arrived in Ngorongoro on Friday and conducted a rally at Ololosokwan village, but was barred by police the following day.

Lissu and his team were expected to hold other rallies in Loliondo and Ngorongoro but this effort collapsed as police intervened.

The fiery lawyer-politician then proceeded to address local pastoralists through mobile phone connected with loud speakers, before heading to Karatu for another rally.

In his twitter account, Chadema national Chairman Freeman Mbowe condemned the arrests, saying that unlawful arrests should not be entertained.

"This is oppression and unnecessary disturbance against our leaders, he said, intimating that prohibiting party leaders from engaging in peaceful public meetings was contrary to the law.

Elisa Mungure, the party's regional chairman, said that the leaders were arrested at around 10am when the officers from Karatu police station arrived at the hotel "with guns in their hands."



Afshan Khan (2nd-R), Canadian national appointed earlier this year by the UN Secretary General as Coordinator of the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement, chats with banana dealers at Kiwira market in Rungwe District, Mbeya Region, yesterday. She is on an assessment tour of the implementation of nutrition interventions at the community level in Tanzania. The movement is a country-driven initiative led by 65 countries and four Indian states united in their mission to end all forms of malnutrition by 2030. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

EAC, EABC list issues for integration

By Guardian Reporter

EAST African states have been urged to address persistent cross-border restrictions and high trading costs to ease doing business in the region.

A statement by the East African Community (EAC) secretariat and the East African Business Council (EABC) said that a 2023 report on the ease of doing business in the EAC zone was carried out by EABC as a consulting agency for the GIZ, the German international development agency.

EABC is an apex advocacy body of private sector associations in the region, lately assisting the GIZ programme on supporting East African integration, where the report tasked EAC states to enhance border posts efficiency.

That will facilitate trade processes, boosting the movement of goods and people, it said, similarly tasking regional states to expedite the implementation of EAC commitments like the single customs territory, the common external tariff and common

market commitments.

The partner states also need to work on infrastructure, especially transport and communications networks, the statement noted, highlighting interviews with private executives who suggested the need to address language barriers by translating official documents into French.

They also appealed to the various governments to establish sector-specific public-private dialogues to tackle trade and investment constraints more effectively, the

statement affirmed.

The main challenges to ease of doing business in the EAC is trade finance especially the availability of foreign currency, high interest rates and affordable bank loans, it further noted.

Receiving payments from governments for supplied goods and services, securing government tenders and obtaining tax refunds, tax appeals, rulings and customs valuation were

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TTCL, ESCOM ink 13.5bn/- broadband agreement

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

TANZANIA is set to connect neighboring Malawi to the National ICT Broadband Backbone (NICTBB) infrastructure following a 13.5bn/- project signed at the weekend.

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SELF-HELP SPIRIT LIVES ON: Residents of Losiai, Luhondo and Makelele villages in Pagwi ward, Kilindi District, pictured at the weekend carrying bricks meant for the construction of a primary school now in progress at Losiai. Photo: Correspondent Dege Masoli

Kwala park eyes 15trn/- turnover on completion

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

SINO Tan Industrial Park in Kwala, Coast Region, projects \$6bn (15trn/-) turnover annually when fully operational, the key investor has stated.

Janson Huang, the firm's board chairman, made this affirmation to a delegation of the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) visiting the site at the weekend to inspect its progress.

Completing park construction is billed at \$320m, with space for up to 200 industries creating 100,000 direct jobs and 500,000 short-term jobs for local residents, he said.

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Kwala park eyes 15trn/- turnover on completion

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Its annual turnover is projected at \$6bn annually, a revenue generating park attracting foreign direct investment estimated at \$3bn to \$6bn yearly, he said.

Seven industrial zones including agro-processing, building materials, pharmaceuticals, textiles, chemicals and an export processing zone are slated for allocation, he said. Construction started in May last year after the area was handed over by the government to the key investor, with completion of the work set for five years, he said.

"One year ago this area was a big forest with no road from the main road to Morogoro, but in one year there is a tarmac road to and some big buildings, he remarked.

In addition, the firm has been promoting the park in China and its neighboring countries, with many investors showing interest in locating investments, he stated, affirming that later this month this September advance teams for builders of four industries are expected to start work in the area. Next year advance teams for upwards of

15 to 20 industries are expected, with discussions having started with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology for setting up a vocational training college in the area, as training of professionals to work in the factories needs to be boosted, he said.

He expressing satisfaction for the CTI delegation tour, promising enhanced cooperation and CTI help to promote the area.

CTI director Leodegar Tenga praised Sino Tan for the industrial park decision, noting that it will greatly help attract investors from inside and outside Tanzania.

"This is a strategic area as an investor only comes with his machines and finds everything is in place, the buildings, offices, water, electricity," he said, urging investors to take advantage of the opportunity of investing in the area to reduce preliminary costs. Samuel Nyantahe, a former CTI chairman, said the park was well planned with 2,500 acres of land, making it easier for investors to start production instead of starting with setting up ancillary infrastructure.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has an audience at Zanzibar State House at the weekend with a CRDB Bank delegation in connection with the launch of the bank's Al Barakah Card Account run under Sharia law. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TTCL, ESCOM ink 13.5bn/- broadband agreement

FROM PAGE 1

Nape Nnauye, the Information, Communication and Information Technology minister, witnessed the signing between the Tanzania Telecommunications Co. Ltd (TTCL) and the Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi (ESCOM).

The minister applauded the TTCL board of directors and management for efforts in uplifting the country's communication sector and effectively managing the

NICTBB infrastructure.

He said Tanzania is geared at promoting the use of broadband communication technology infrastructure across the entire Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

The project signing is a milestone in enhancing broadband communication technology between the two countries, he said, praising ESCOM and its executive director Kamkwamba Kumwenda for efforts leading to the pact with TTCL.

The decision to connect with the NICTBB infrastructure would advancement modern communication services in both Tanzania and Malawi, he stated.

He emphasized the positive impact of broadband links on the overall development of the SADC region, noting that the link will be crucial in enhancing communications and fostering regional socio-economic growth.

Peter Ulanga, the TTCL chief executive officer, said

the TTCL board of directors and management team are working on strategic initiatives, ensuring efficient management of the NICTBB infrastructure.

"TTCL has played a pivotal role in connecting communities, promoting technological advancements and facilitating economic growth," he stated, saying this effort is firstly local and extends to neighboring countries.

Kunkuyu Kalongashwa, the Malawian Information and Digitisa-

tion minister, commended TTCL for its dedication and the positive impact it has made in the communication sector.

He stressed that such collaborations is crucial in fostering regional integration and economic prosperity.

As Tanzania looks toward a future of enhanced communication and technological advancements, TTCL's role as a catalyst for change and innovation remains pivotal in shaping the nation's digital landscape, he added.

EAC, EABC issue wish list for deep integration

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equally pressing issues, the statement affirmed.

The removal of trade restrictions by resolution of tariff and non-tariff barriers, plus trading across borders pose challenges, the secretariat indicated, saying the challenges encompass the recognition of professional qualifications and the mobility of workers across borders. There is also the need for application of harmonized EAC quality standards, the movement of temporary service providers and clearance of goods at the border, it said.

Partner states were also urged to establish a single currency to facilitate cross-border payments and trading, expediting the abolition of non-tariff barriers and remove limitations on the free movement of goods and persons.

It will also help to resolve tariff barriers tied to rules of origin, along with enabling the use of national identification cards as formal travel documents, it said.

The secretariat similarly appealed to states to fully implement the one network area via an EAC broadband infrastructure, facilitate joint regulatory units at border posts, along with liberalisation of air-transport, it said.

It similarly demanded the facilitation of mediation on political conflicts and tensions with emphasis on ensuring regional peace and security, plus reviewing the tax regime to provide for reduced tax burden and procedures for micro, small and medium enterprises, the statement added.



Ugandan Rotary Club zonal governor Ssemwanga Francisco (2nd-R) pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend presenting a birthing kit to an expectant mother at the maternal ward of the city's Mnazi Mmoja Hospital. Also at the event: National Assembly Deputy Speaker and Ilaia (Dar es Salaam) legislator Mussa Hassan Zungu, Rotary eClub of Masaki president Leena Kapadia, Ilaia Chief Medical Officer Dr Zaituni Hamza and various other officials. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Tanzania is among leading ESAAMLG nations for curbing money laundering'

By Guardian Correspondent, Botswana

TANZANIA has become among countries in Eastern and Southern Africa that have made great strides in curbing money laundering and trafficking in arms of mass destruction including sponsoring of terrorists.

Deputy finance minister Hamad Hassan Chande made the remarks at

the 23rd of Ministers and High officials from the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) held at Kasane town in Botswana.

Chande said Tanzania is in a good position especially in the issues of fighting terrorism, money laundering and trafficking in arms of mass destruction.

He said that the meeting was

convened to review ESAAMLG task plan and see how member states can reduce the organization's operation costs especially by adopting electronic system.

He added that the Council of Ministers has agreed to increase employment of youth who will assist in the ESAAMLG secretariat for BETTER ACHIEVEMENTS AND CALLED ON Tanzanians to grab the

available opportunities.

"It is my belief that Tanzanians will join up and become part of the employment opportunities as being within the organisation we shall learn a lot of things that will benefit our nation," he said.

The 23rd ESAAMLG meeting was attended by 17 member states and the next meeting is slated for Kenya.

President Mwinyi promises to work on recommendations issued by Commission

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has promised to work on the recommendations issued by the Commission formed to probe criminal justice in the country to help strengthen access to legal rights services.

Chaired by the former Chief Justice (CJ) Mohamed Othman Chande and his vice chair Ambassador Ombeni Sefue, the commission worked four months (February 1, to May 30, 2023) probing on ethical conduct systems in various institutions that deal with criminal justice.

Dr Mwinyi made the vow at the State House when the commission handed over the report to the President.

He said that the governments of both the United Republic of Tanzania and Zanzibar have received the report which carries recommendations on what should be done to address challenges and bring criminal justice transformation.

According to him, there has been a good relationship between the two governments where recently Zanzibar Anti-corruption and Economic Crimes Authority (ZAECA) and the Commission for National Coordination and Drug Control received capacity building training along with their counterparts from the mainland.

"Of course, it is absolutely important for the exchange of knowledge and experience, close cooperation," Dr Mwinyi said.

On the Court of Appeal implementing its duties in Zanzibar, Dr Mwinyi said they were working on the matter and praised the government of the United Republic for strengthening efforts in construction of the High Court in Zanzibar.



Exim Bank chief financial officer Shani Kinswaga (2nd-L) and the Zanzibar eGovernment Agency (eGaz) managing director Said Seif Said (C) display copies of a signed MoU on support for the Zanzibar Digital Government Strategy for the 2023 to 2027 period. Looking on include Exim Bank head of retail banking, Andrew Lyimo (L), and eGaz Legal Department head Haji Saleh (2nd R).

Silaa calls upon ministry officials to be responsible, serve people well

By Guardian Reporter

JERRY Silaa, the Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister, has called on staff and works in the ministry to make sure they serve well the people to enable them build their trust on their government

"We must build up discipline in the ministry by serving well the people, we must remember that here we are working for Tanzanians on behalf of President Samia Suluhu Hassan," he said.

Silaa was addressing ministry officials and other workers soon after launching the national centre for innovation on geographic reports, adding that not every person has a right but they have the responsibility to perform prudently at all times.

"You have the responsibility to stand by justice, every one of you must provide a de-

cision to any complaint submitted to them, and if a person is not supposed to be provided with a land plot, please tell him so in writing and why," he added.

According to the Silaa, his ministry at the moment is planning improvements that aim to attaining great achievements and called on them to be ready for the improvements.

"A person is pursuing his title deed for more than three months, this shows there is a 'question mark' somewhere, this surely is more than the issue of bureaucracy," he pointed out.

He told officials and other workers that despite his being told about many issues on the ministry, he still has the right to listen, saying he will spend the first 100 days to learn.

The meeting involved ministry officials, some from headquarters, regional Land officers and others from institutions under the ministry.

PM to grace this year's 'Waajiri Health Bonanza'

By Getrude Mbogo

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa is expected to grace this year's 'Waajiri Health Bonanza' set to take place on October 7 at the Leaders Club grounds in Dar es Salaam organised by the Employers Association of Tanzania (ATE).

Under the theme, "Promoting Mental Wellness for Better Performance at the Workplaces", the bonanza will be preceded by a two-day exhibition (One Stop Centre Exhibitions) of employers and stakeholders.

Speaking during the launching event in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, ATE's chief executive officer Suzanne Ndomba-Doran said the Waajiri Health Bonanza will bring together health institutions, employers and employees, social partners, insurance providers among others to discuss, share experience and develop strategies on how to improve mental wellness in the workplaces for better performance.

She thanked the International Labour Organization (ILO) and partners for their continued support of the important event.

Suzzane said the 2nd Waajiri Health Bonanza will enhance private Sector coordination in the national response to increase its mobilization and engagement in supporting Health and wellness programmes and prevention beyond the usual workplace to general community level and informal settings response, strengthen partnership and synergy among private sector coordination.

Specifically, the event aims at bringing together private companies and cooperates for engaging in various sports activities while showcasing best practices in promoting mental wellness in workplaces.

"It will also raise awareness on the importance of wellness and health programmes at workplaces, advocate for mental health and wellness in the workplace and share best practices in achieving mental wellness in the



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa

workplace," she noted.

The event will also facilitate the identification of private companies/

cooperates for partnership in supporting mental health and wellness in workplaces and advocating for the health and wellness agenda to private sector member's companies.

It will also provide a networking and learning opportunity among members on matters of health and wellness, provide an opportunity for members to access service from our partners and afford participants an opportunity to undergo medical checkups and consultations

"In this year's Bonanza, there will be various sports and games, showcasing of members' services as well as health checks and consultations from different health and insurance service providers. All Employers are encouraged to register their teams in these sports and games which will start on October 5 to 7 2023," she explained.

Suzzane noted that mental health is one of the neglected aspects at the workplace during planning and policy formulation that, in turn, affects job performance.

"Safe and healthy working environments are not only a fundamental right but are also more likely to minimize tension and conflicts at work and improve staff retention, work performance and productivity. Conversely, a lack of effective structures and support at work, especially for those living with mental health conditions, can affect a person's ability to enjoy their work and do their job well; it can undermine people's attendance at work and even stop people getting a job in the first place," she explained.

Willy Kibona from Confederation of Trade Unions (TUCTA) said health is a priority to workers and employers need to put in place robust strategies of making sure that their workers remain safe and healthy all the time.

He noted that mental health can have a big impact on the way we work and employees struggling with mental health may doubt their abilities, appear less confident, lose ability to make rational decisions and difficulties in managing working relation-

ships which in turn will affect work performance.

The Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OSHA)'s Coastal zone manager, George Charles said they have been conducting inspections at workplaces to ensure that workers are implementing their duties in a safe environment.

"Everyone has the right to work, and all workers have the right to a safe and healthy working environment. Work can be a protective factor for mental health, but it can also contribute to worsening mental health, we are working to ensure that employees get all the required services for good mental health," he said

He said much can be done to protect and promote mental health at work and support people with mental health conditions to participate fully and equitably in work.

Charles insisted for workers to have health committees which meet and discuss challenges and remind employers to address them.



Tanzania Marketing Science Association director Dr Emmanuel Chao (2nd-R) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam at the weekend on the 2023 Marketing Congress and Awards event to be held in the city this October. Others are event sponsors Sylvia Joseph (L) from Bramex agency and Gloria Malikita (R) and Iche Omar from Smartcodes. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

FAO, govt hand over 36 kiosks to food vendors at Kisutu market

By Getrude Mbogo

THE Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) in collaboration with the government have handed over 36 kiosks to food vendors at Kisutu market in Dar es Salaam to support them to increase value and efficiency on their activities.

This is part of the implementation of the European Union (EU) funded AGRI-CONNECT flagship programme which runs a national nutrition campaign to develop healthy eating habits in Tanzania based on locally available foods.

Speaking at the handing over event in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Africa, Abebe Haile-Gabriel said was pleasantly surprised to see actions being taken to promote healthier diets based on locally available foods.

He commended the European Union for their commitment to ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition, particularly through their invaluable support for the AGRI-CONNECT flagship programme. The kiosks were constructed and installed by the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO). "The traditional food market that we are launching today demonstrates how important it is to preserve the culinary knowledge passed down from generation to generation. The improved kiosks and the cooking kits will help to improve the availability of local, nutritious food," he said.

He urged traders and the food vendors to focus on selling or preparing meals by adhering to cleanliness, quality and fair price while providing customers with a prepared healthy, nutritious and affordable meals based on locally available foods.

Dr Haile-Gabriel, who soon after handing over the kiosks enjoyed local cuisine prepared by food vendors at the area said he was pleased to see actions being taken to promote healthier diets by using street food vendors to Seven foldable food carts had been brought at the Kisutu street food vendors' site to represent the 36 cost-effective and environmentally friendly sales outlet models provided by an EU funded AGRI-connect project to street food vendors.

"This event should have been the main highlight of the food systems summit to attract high-level dignitaries. They missed a lot," said Haile Gabriel referring to Africa's Food Systems Forum 2023 that ended in Dar es Salaam on Friday.

Dr Haile-Gabriel had asked the street food vendors whether the food prepared was safe, nutritious and affordable and the answers from the vendor were in affirmative. The latest report by the Food and Agriculture Organization and our partners on the state of food security and nutrition in the world found that there are around 269 million undernourished people in Africa, meaning people who are going hungry every day, and more than a billion Africans who cannot afford a healthy diet.

Head of Natural Resources at the EU Delegation in Tanzania, Lamine Diallo, said the event was part of a national campaign to promote traditional nutritious foods supported by AGRI-CONNECT and the European Union to help in reducing malnutrition rates in Tanzania. He said the joint initiative between the government of Tanzania, FAO and the EU aimed at making Tanzania food systems more resilient to external shocks and raise awareness of the close link between what is grown, what is grown and what is eaten.

"And sometimes we have to admit our elders were smarter than us as their food was much healthier. So we are here today, together with Agri-Thamani, FAO and the government through the ministry of agriculture to promote healthy food ... and to support street food vendors who are feeding Dar residents," he said. The campaign involves the media, schools, farmers, communities, street food vendors and musicians and hopefully the youth of this country. Together we can reach 32 million Tanzanians and maybe more," he said.

Matinyi, the Temeke District Commissioner said reports from the Ministry of Agriculture show Tanzania is food self-sufficient and exports the surplus neighbouring countries but it does not mean that every household has enough food to meet nutritional needs.

"So, despite our country being self-sufficient in food, we are still facing malnutrition where a third of children are stunted," he noted.

He said women who are also big wealth producers in various sectors and especially in agriculture have also been affected to a great extent. "This state of poor nutrition has caused deaths in children and in women, especially in pregnant mothers during childbirth. Another side effect is that children are affected mentally and thus produce a generation that has little contribution to the development of the country," he noted.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Serengeti Breweries Limited, a subsidiary of EABL/Diageo PLC, the fast-growing manufacturer and supplier of beer and imperial brand of spirits with three brewing plants in Tanzania, now invites eligible service providers to express their interest in providing the services listed below.

Interested service providers in respective areas are requested to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform them by submitting a description of resource capability, capacity, experience in the specific category and availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

1. Purchase of Spent Grain from Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Moshi sites.
2. Provision of Grain Management and Milling Services.
3. Provision of Premium Marketing Experiential Services.

Please note that this is not a Request for Proposals. After reviewing the letters of interest, a short list will be prepared and the short-listed firms will be invited to submit their proposals through a Request for Proposals (RFP).

This call for expression of interest does not amount to a commitment on the part of Serengeti Breweries Limited either financially or otherwise. Serengeti Breweries Limited reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the proposals received without any obligation to inform the concerned applicants of the grounds for acceptance or rejection.

SUBMISSION:

EOI can be submitted at the following address;
Serengeti Breweries Limited,
Plot 153 Haile Selassie Road, 3rd floor Exim Bank Building,
P. O. BOX 41080,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
Or via the below email addresses;
Annamary.Laurean@diageo.com
Richard.Atungoza@eabl.com

The closing date for this expression of interest is 5.00PM local time, 20th September 2023.



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Zhang Junle (L), general manager with China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) East Africa, pictured in Mwanza at the weekend briefing legislators and Chinese Ambassador Chen Mingjian (3rd-L, foreground) on progress in the execution of projects in Tanzania whose contractors are Chinese firms. This is at the site of the construction of Magufuli Bridge Project - in particular the Kigongo-Busisi Bridge, popularly known as the J.P. Magufuli Bridge. Photo: Correspondent Vitus Audax

Chinese envoy hails decades of China-Tanzania ties

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

TANZANIA - China relations have been described as an opportunity for economic development in various fields including farming, education, technology and infrastructures all aim to enhance individual's economic wellbeing.

The observation was made by the Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania,

Chen Mingjian soon after inspecting two big projects - the Kigongo-Busisi Magufuli Bridge and the construction of the Mwanza-Isaka Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) involving China's engineering firm - China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC).

The Ambassador said apart from other achievements made from China-Tanzania ties, China is still a big market for agriculture crops, hence

he added it is a great opportunity for Tanzanians to export horticultural products to earn foreign exchange.

"In fact we are good friends, Chinese investment in Tanzania is two and half times more than it was 10 years ago, and China has opened its doors to Tanzania products, in particular farm products, hence our friendship continues to get strong," he said.

Geoffrey Mwambia, MP and one

among good friends of China has said that the construction of the Magufuli Bridge is an important component in opening up Tanzania's economy as trade will be conducted all times, different from the case now using ferries.

He said the investment is huge done with the cooperation of CCECC as it will help Tanzania attain China's development status.

For his part, CCECC-Tanzania general manager Zhang Junle said the cooperation between the two countries continues getting to get strong through infrastructure projects, hence, he added, the Magufuli Bridge has now reached 78 per cent completion and that it will be fully completed in time.

He added that so far the erection of three main pillars has been complet-

ed as well as 806 horizontal beams and the bridge will connect Mwanza and Geita regions and neighbouring countries and will be of four lanes three km long.

"The project also involves 17 other sub-contractors including 20 distributors of construction equipment and materials while 1,200 local engineers and skilled workers employed," Junle explained.

He said building the nation of a robust sustainable economy cannot be attained if examination passes in maths will remain to be low or without having in place strategic plans. For his part, IAA principal, Dr Cairo Mwaitete said that global economic growth depends of maths experts.

He added that maths should be used to provide advice to the policy makers and political leaders to speed up the country's development.

'Low exam passes in maths due to shortage of teachers'

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Tanzania Maths Association (CHAAHITA) has said that the reason behind low examination passes is the shortage of maths teachers, including allocation of many subjects at schools.

This was revealed here at the weekend by the association Chairperson, Betinasia Manyama when addressing the 58th training for maths teachers held at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA).

She also called on maths teachers to tone down and not to come into class with canes, instead they should use alternative means to teach to ensure pupils like the subject. "For example you can find a school with more than 200 pupils but with less than four maths teachers, in this case we appeal to the government to increase the number of maths teachers and motivate those present.

"If the government wants to rescue the maths subject and the nation in general, it is clear that in Tanzania the number of maths teachers are small while the subjects are many," she said.

She said a total of 233 participants have been trained and the main aim of the Association is to empower teachers, pupils and

maths stakeholders in teaching the subject. She added that another Association's goal is to develop workshops and meetings on the maths subject at district and regional level as well as preparing national training and maths contests for both students and maths teachers.

Betinasia also commended the government for boosting the education sector including building of new schools, classrooms, supply of furniture, coordination in curricula improvement and the revamping of various schools' infrastructures. In his opening speech read on behalf of the Minister of State (PO-RALG), Arusha regional education officer, Abel Mtupwa said in recognition of the government's policy, the maths subject is the main pillar of industrial development of the country.

He said building the nation of a robust sustainable economy cannot be attained if examination passes in maths will remain to be low or without having in place strategic plans. For his part, IAA principal, Dr Cairo Mwaitete said that global economic growth depends of maths experts.

He added that maths should be used to provide advice to the policy makers and political leaders to speed up the country's development.

KOROSHO COOPERATIVE JOINT ENTERPRISE LIMITED (KCJE LTD)



TANGAZO LA ZABUNI

ZABUNI NA : KCJE/2023-2024/ZABUNI/03: USAMBAZAJI WA KUMPYUTA MPAKATO (LAPTOPS) 702.

11/09/2023

- "Korosho Cooperative Joint Enterprise Limited" ni Ushirika wa Mradi wa Pamoja chini ya Kifungu cha 33 cha Sheria ya Vyama vya Ushirika Na. 6 ya Mwaka 2013 pamoja na Kanuni zake za mwaka 2015.
- Kwa idhini ya "Korosho Cooperative Joint Enterprise Limited" Mwenyekiti, anatangaza Zabuni ya usambazaji wa kumpyuta mpakato (Laptops) 702.
- Aidha, Kampuni zenye sifa, vigezo na uwezo wa kusambaza kumpyuta mpakato, zinaombwa kuwasilisha maombi yao kwa kuzingatia sifa mahsusi za mahitaji yaliyoanishwa hapo chini kama ifuatavyo

SIFA ZA KUMPYUTA MPAKATO		
No	Features	Specifications
1.	Operating System	Genuine Microsoft Windows 10 (64 Bit)
2.	Processor	Inter® Core i3 or Above Generation and Above 12
3.	Memory	RAM 4GB or above
4.	Hard Disk Drivers	500 GB or Above
5.	Audio	Bang & Olufsen, dual speakers, Audio Boost with all installed drivers
6.	Communications/Wireless Audio	Integrated Network Card Local Area Network (LAN): 10/100/1000Mbps Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN): 802.11 ac Wireless LAN or latest USB 3.0 Connectivity, HDMI Ports, 2 Slots or More Mobile Broadband Module (Recommended)
7.	I/O Devices	Keyboard: Illuminated Backlit, Spill-resistant keyboard with drain Webcam: Yes
8.	Supplemental Items	Stereo headphones/ Microphone Combo CD/DVD, R/RW Drive: Internal or External Leather Case Mouse
9.	Display	14" (35.5 cm) diagonal FHD IPS BrightView micro-edge WLED - backlit (1920 X 1080)
10.	Software	Genuine Microsoft Office 365
11.	Minimum Warranty	12 Months

- Nyaraka za zabuni zinapatikana kwa malipo ya shilingi mia tano elfu tu (500,000/=) malipo hayo yapitie kwenye:-

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JINA LA AKAUNTI: KOROSHO COOPERATIVE JOINT ENTERPRISE LTD
BENKI: CRDB - TAWI LA MTWARA

- Mwombaji awe na uzoefu usiopungua miaka mitata (3).
- Mchakato wa zabuni hii utafanyika kwa njia shindani ya Kitaifa (NCT) kwa mujibu wa Kanuni za Ununuzi wa Umma ya mwaka 2013 na marekebisho yake ya 2016 na ni zabuni ya wazi kwa wazabuni wote wenye sifa stahiki.
- Wazabuni wote wanakaribishwa ofisi ya Katibu wa Mradi wa Pamoja (Korosho Cooperative Joint Enterprise Limited) iliyoipo Wilaya ya Mtwara Mtaa wa MADUKA MAKUBWA Jengo la Ushirika wa TANECU LTD Ghorofa ya Kwanza kwa ajili ya kuwasilisha maombi muda wa saa za kazi kuanzia saa mbili asubuhi (8:00hrs) hadi saa kumi na nusu jioni (16.30hrs) isipokuwa siku za Jumamosi na Jumapili pamoja na siku za siku kuu.
- Wazabuni wote wawasilishe zabuni zao katika Nakala tatu (nakala halisi moja, na nakala kivuli mbili) zikiwa zimefungwa kwa umakini na kuwekwa lakiri. Zabuni zote zitafunguliwa mara baada ya muda wa mwisho wa kuwasilisha. Tukio ambalo litakuwa la wazi kwa wazabuni na wawakilishi wa wazabuni watakoahudhuria.

Mwisho wa kupokea ni siku ya 02/10/2023 saa nne kamili asubuhi (10:00hrs) katika Ukumbi wa Mikutano wa TANECU LTD Mjini Mtwara. Maombi yatumwe kwa Anuani ifuatayo: -

Mwenyekiti,
Korosho Cooperative Joint Enterprise Limited,
S.L.P 660,
MTWARA

- Zabuni zote zitakazochelewa hazitafikiwa wakati wa tathmini bila kujali sababu zozote za kuchelewa.

- Zabuni zitakazotuma email, telegram au fax zabuni yake haitafunguliwa wala kufanyiwa kazi.

IMTOLEWA NA

MWENYEKITI
KOROSHO COOPERATIVE JOINT ENTERPRISE LTD
S.L.P 660,
MTWARA



Manyara regional commissioner Queen Sendiga (C) hugs Happy Amsi, a Standard Three pupil at Gidewari Primary School, where she was at the weekend to launch the construction of three classrooms. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

'Mozambique delegation has gained insightful TCRA's regulatory lessons'

By Guardian Reporter

A delegation from Mozambique's National Communications Institute (INCM) has made a three-day study tour to Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) in a move aimed at bolstering their understanding of the intricacies of communication sector regulation.

The visit, which took place from September 4 to 6, this year allowed the delegation to gain valuable insights into various aspects of communication regulation.

A statement availed to the media yesterday stated that the Mozambican delegation, comprising prominent figures in the INCM, arrived in Tanzania to explore a range of topics, from licensing to the management of telecommunications and internet services, and the efficient allocation of resources within a communication regulatory framework.

This knowledge exchange sought to empower INCM in its role as a key regulator of Mozambique's communication sector.

Upon their arrival at TCRA's headquarters in Dar es Salaam, the delegation was received by Modestus Ndunguru, the Director of Legal Services, who welcomed them on behalf of the Director General Dr Jabiri Bakari.

The visit marked a significant step toward strengthening collaboration and knowledge sharing between the two regulatory bodies.

Throughout their three-day tour, the Mozambican delegation had the opportunity to delve into various facets of communication regulation. They learned about the authority's extensive collaboration efforts with domestic, regional, and international organizations and stakeholders, all aimed at ensuring the supervision and management of communication services meet the highest standards.

The visiting team was also introduced to TCRA's robust cyber-security framework, which plays a pivotal role in safeguarding communication infrastructure. The TCRA managed Tanzania Computer Emergency Response Team (TZ-CERT) demonstrated how it actively manages and regulates cyber security matters, ensuring security of communication networks and data in the country.

Helena Fernandes, executive board member of INCM and leader of the delegation, expressed her gratitude at the conclusion of the study tour.

She commended TCRA for its warm welcome and the comprehensive insights shared during the visit. "We are deeply thankful to TCRA for their cordial welcome and for facilitating this valuable study tour. The knowledge and experiences gained here will undoubtedly benefit our efforts in Mozambique's communication sector regulation," Fernandes said.

Man hospitalised allegedly in attack by step children

By Guardian Correspondent, Lindi

SALEHE Rashid Lihanzi (47), resident of Makangaga village, Kiranjeranje Ward in Kilwa District, Lindi Region has been admitted to the region's hospital for treatment of wounds sustained after he was allegedly attacked by machetes by his step children.

The incident happened at his farm as he was guarding crops against destructive animals recently.

Lihanzi named his attackers being Ally Halfan and his young brother Hassan Mbulula who followed him at his farm allegedly wielding machetes and sticks.

He said the reason for their action was his demand for them to return items they took from his house including a wooden bed, window curtains and other items.

Lihanzi said from hospital bed that after they took away the items he reported the matter to his wife, Ashura Abdallah and mother in law Zaria Omari telling them to request the children to bring back the items.

He said despite the children pledging to return the items but on the fateful day they followed him at his farm and attacked him with machetes and sticks.

Lihanzi further said after the incident that left him lying on the ground they went to the village executive's office and reported that they attacked their step father because he was frequently beating their mother.

He after they left, his step mother, Zaria Omari arrived at the farm and requested her to go to report the incident to his brothers who promptly arrived with other people and took him to Kiranjeranje dispensary, but due serious wounds he was referred to Lindi Sokoine regional hospital.

He said later the police arrived at the hospital and recorded his statement.

The hospital doctor in charge, Dr Alexander Makalla said the condition of the patient was improving as the wounds sustained were serious and he lost a lot of blood.

For his part, Lindi Regional Police Commander, Pili Mande confirmed the incident, saying they were still investigating the matter and steps will be taken accordingly.



Ugandan Rotary Club zonal governor Ssemwanga Francisco (in suit) and Nikki Aggarwal (to his right) of Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam join pupils of Mtakuja Primary School of the city's Kunduchi Mtongani suburb during late last week's handing over by the club of 100 desks to the school. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

AfDB inaugurates \$1bn fund to boost access to climate finance for Africa's youth

By Special Correspondent

ALMOST \$1 billion will be disbursed by the African Development Bank (AfDB) to young entrepreneurs to help tackle climate change on the continent, AfDB President Akinwumi Adesina announced, noting that failing to invest in

the youths will hurt Africa.

In an effort to combat climate change, the AfDB and the Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA) have pledged \$996.6 million to encourage young entrepreneurs throughout the continent. GCA is a global organization that prioritises quickening climate change solutions.

"The capital infusion will empower young entrepreneurs across Africa. It's an exciting step towards economic growth," according to the AfDB's statement.

Youth investment is essential to promoting prosperity and stability on the continent, said Adesina, who was

speaking at the Africa Youth Climate Assembly. The AfDB will also provide additional financing, totalling \$4 million to boost the GCA-affiliated YouthADAPT, a joint initiative between the bank and GCA.

YouthADAPT invites young entrepreneurs and micro, small, and medium

enterprises in Africa to submit innovative solutions and business ideas that have the potential to drive climate change adaptation and resilience across the continent.

Despite producing only 4% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, Africa suffers disproportionately from

climate change. This issue jeopardises the welfare and advancement of people on the continent. Many African countries rely heavily on industries that are vulnerable to climate change, such as energy, tourism, water resources, and agriculture, as the cornerstones of their economic development and survival.

EQUITY BANK TANZANIA LIMITED



REVIEW OF BANK FEES AND CHARGES WITH EFFECT FROM OCTOBER YEAR 2023

All Charges are VAT Inclusive									
SN	PRODUCT/SERVICE	Previous Rate		New Rate		Previous Rate		New Rate	
		TZS	OTHER CURRENCIES (USD, EUR, GBP, KES)	TZS	OTHER CURRENCIES (USD, EUR, GBP, KES)	TZS	OTHER CURRENCIES (USD, EUR, GBP, KES)	TZS	OTHER CURRENCIES (USD, EUR, GBP, KES)
1	Accounts Opening Balances	Previous Rate		New Rate		Previous Rate		New Rate	
	Personal Account	FREE	50	20,000	No Changes				
2	Minimum Balance Requirements	Previous Rate		New Rate		Previous Rate		New Rate	
	Personal Account	2,000	10	No Changes	USD 10, EUR 10 & GBP 10, KES - 1,000				
	Business account - Current	50,000	50	No Changes	USD 50, EUR 50 & GBP 50, KES - 5,000				
3	Cash Withdrawal over the counter	Previous Rate		New Rate		Previous Rate		New Rate	
	Retail - Over the Counter Cash withdrawal	Amount	Rate	Amount	Rate	Amount	Rate	Amount	Rate
		0-5M	4,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5	0-5M	5,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5
		0-10M	4,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5	Above 5-10M	6,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5
		Above 10M	TZS 4,000 plus 0.05% of the amount in excess of 10M with a limit of TZS 170,000	0.5% of the amount, with a limit of USD 500	Above 10M	TZS 6,000 plus 0.05% of the amount in excess of 10M with a limit of TZS 170,000	Above \$ 1,000	0.5% of the amount	
	Corporate over the Counter Cash withdrawal	0-5M	5,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5	0-5M	6,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5
		0-10M	5,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5	Above 5-10M	7,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5
		Above 10M	TZS 5,000 plus 0.05% of the amount in excess of 10M with a limit of TZS 170,000	0.5% of the amount, with a limit of USD 500	Above 10M	7,000 plus 0.05% of the amount in excess of 10M with a limit of TZS 170,000	Above \$ 1,000	0.5% of the amount	
	Inter-Branch Cash Withdrawal - Retail	0-5M	4,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5	0-5M	5,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5
		0-10M	4,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5	Above 5-10M	6,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5
		Above 10M	TZS 4,000 plus 0.05% of the amount in excess of 10M with a limit of TZS 170,000	0.5% of the amount, with a limit of USD 500	Above 10M	TZS 6,000 plus 0.05% of the amount in excess of 10M with a limit of TZS 170,000	Above \$ 1,000	0.5% of the amount	
	Inter-Branch Cash Withdrawal - Supreme	TZS 30,000 plus normal cash withdrawal (as per new rates)		Below \$ 1,000	\$5	0-5M	5,000	Below \$ 1,000	\$5
				Above \$ 1,000	0.5% of the amount, with a limit of USD 500	Above 5-10M	6,000	Above \$ 1,000	0.5% of the amount
4	Other Transactions Fees & Charges	Previous Rate		New Rate		Previous Rate		New Rate	
	Internal salary processing fees	2000	Tzs Equivalent	3000	Tzs Equivalent				

SN	PRODUCT/SERVICE	Previous Rate	Previous Rate	New Rate	New Rate
5	Alternate Banking channels services				
	Visa card Balance Enquiry (other local banks ATM)	600	N/A	900	N/A
	Visa card Withdrawal (other local banks ATM)	4,000	N/A	4,500	N/A
	Visa card Withdrawal (international banks ATM/Banks outside the country ATM)	USD Equivalent	5	10,000 + 1% of the amount	TZS Equivalent
	Quarterly VISA Debit Card Fee	N/A	N/A	3,500	TZS Equivalent
	Cash Back cash withdrawal	1,000	N/A	N/A	1
	ATM withdrawal - Gold Debit Cards Daily Limit	N/A	N/A	4,000,000	N/A
	ATM withdrawal - World Debit Cards Daily Limit	N/A	N/A	8,000,000	N/A
	ATM withdrawal - Gold Credit Cards Daily Limit	N/A	N/A	4,000,000	N/A
	ATM withdrawal - World Credit Cards Daily Limit	N/A	N/A	8,000,000	N/A
6	E-commerce	Previous Rate	Previous Rate	New Rate	New Rate
	Debit Cards (daily limit)	N/A	N/A	10,000,000	N/A
	Prepaid Cards (daily limit)	N/A	N/A	10,000,000	N/A
7	ATM'S Withdrawal on Us - EBL ATMs	Previous Rate	Previous Rate	New Rate	New Rate
	TZS 1000 - 10,000	1,200	N/A	400	N/A
	TZS 10,001 - 100,000	1,200	N/A	1,000	N/A
	TZS 100,001 - 200,000	1,200	N/A	1,400	N/A
	TZS 200,001 - 400,000	1,200	N/A	1,600	N/A
8	Equity Mobile	Previous Rate	Previous Rate	New Rate	New Rate
	Equity Mobile Balance Enquiries (App)	350	N/A	Free	N/A
	Equity Mobile Mvi statement	300	N/A	350	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 1,000- TZS 9,999)	3,000	N/A	400	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 10,000- TZS 19,999)	3,000	N/A	1,200	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 20,000- TZS 29,999)	3,000	N/A	2,000	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 30,000- TZS 49,999)	3,000	N/A	3,500	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 50,000- TZS 99,999)	3,000	N/A	4,500	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 100,000- TZS 199,999)	4,000	N/A	6,300	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 200,000- TZS 299,999)	5,000	N/A	7,200	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 300,000- TZS 399,999)	5,000	N/A	7,600	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 400,000- TZS 499,999)	5,000	N/A	8,500	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 500,000- TZS 699,999)	7,000	N/A	10,000	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 700,000- TZS 799,999)	7,000	N/A	10,000	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 800,000- TZS 899,999)	7,000	N/A	10,500	N/A
	Equity Mobile funds transfers (Bank to Mobile) (TZS 900,000- TZS 2,000,000)	10,000	N/A	11,500	N/A
9	Agency Banking	Previous Rate	Previous Rate	New Rate	New Rate
	Balance Inquiry	150	N/A	300	N/A
	Equity Mobile Balance Enquiries (App)	350	N/A	Free	N/A

NOTICE TO OUR CUSTOMER AND GENERAL PUBLIC

Dear Customer, Equity will make changes to the existing tariff with effect from 01 October 2023. Despite these changes, Equity bank services remain affordable to our esteemed customers and as always we are focused on our objective of transforming the lives and livelihood of our customers.

Equity bank has increased Agency Banking outreach, improved both Equity Mobile and internet banking platforms to ensure that banking services are accessible and at the same time giving our customers the choice on accessing banking services.



Health minister and Tanga Urban legislator Ummu Mwalimu (L, foreground) and Oryx Gas eastern zone marketing manager Shabani Fundi present a gas cylinder to one of scores of food vendors in Tanga city at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Cybersecurity and digital forensic expert calls for sustainable public awareness programmes

By Guardian Reporter

CYBERSECURITY and digital forensics expert, Yusuph Kileo has called for sustainable public awareness programmes on cybercrimes to make people avoid cyber-attacks. "As we approach the cybersecurity awareness month in October, governments in Africa through ministry responsible need to create the awareness for people to use the information communication technology in the proper way," Kileo said over the weekend when briefing journalists on the matter.

The country may also take advantage of international events like 'Cyber security awareness month' and 'Data privacy day' to run a national level awareness programmes.

The previous cyber-attacks in many of African countries should serve as a wakeup call, he said.

It is hoped though that all African countries will enact cybercrime legislation.

However, the continent needs to put a strong and workable institutional framework first so as to be fully involved in the war against global cybercrime.

"The cyber security policy and effective cybersecurity awareness for any country especially, those who have embarked on ICT development is very important," Kileo added.

The policy protects information and builds the capability to prevent

cyber-attacks through developing cyber security skill sets, cyber crisis management, critical infrastructure protection, public and private partnership security issues and other related policy issues.

The general objective of the cyber security policy is to make the country safe on the cyber space, by taking care of different aspects, including strengthening regulatory control, promotion of research and developments and securing the critical infrastructure.

The document can be updated and changed to suit the advance in technology and counter new cyber-attack techniques, he said.

The computer security incident response team in Tanzania is a dedicated technical team with the responsibility of coordinating response to cyber security incidents at the national level and cooperate with regional and international entities involved in the management of cyber security incidents.

The learning institutions need to include the cyber security in their curriculum to enable lawyers, advocates, regulators, IT professionals, policy makers, managers and other people involved in security to be able to combat the cyber security in their organizations.

It is through security awareness programmes that organizations can develop, grow and maintain the culture for their employees, vendors, and suppliers.

Ummu hands over gas cylinders, stoves to women entrepreneurs

By Guardian Reporter

HEALTH Minister Ummu Mwalimu has handed over gas cylinders and 150 stoves to 450 women's entrepreneurs in Tanga City.

Speaking yesterday in Tanga while handing over the gas cylinders that have been donated by Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited in collaboration with Coca-Cola, the minister commended stakeholders for providing the cook-

ing kits to women entrepreneurs in the city.

She used the opportunity to inform city residents on the government plans to ensure more people use clean energy sources. She said the government recognize appreciates the contribution of women in the country's economy as well as decision-making at various levels.

"We thank all the stakeholders for their support that is geared to enable

women entrepreneurs use clean energy sources in cooking, thus saving them from diseases that would have been caused by the use of dirty energy sources. These women have not only received LPG starter kits but also 140 crates of Coca-Cola and tables," she added.

Mwalimu added: "It is our belief that with the use of gas we are going to save our forests by reducing the use of firewood and charcoal. May I call upon

women to use the donated equipment to further improve their businesses."

Speaking on behalf of OGTL director, the company's marketing manager for the eastern zone, Shaban Fundi said the donation is a continuation of the firm's campaign to promote the use of clean energy sources. He said they aim to help President Samia Suluhu Hassan achieve her target of ensuring 80 percent of Tanzanians use clean energy sources by 2032.

He said following the firm's campaign, more people are now using gas in cooking, insisting they will continue supporting the government so that a good number of Tanzanians including those in rural areas stop using firewood and charcoal.

"Using clean energy sources protects people from diseases that are associated with inheriting smoke," he said, adding the company also provides education to people on proper usage

of gas in cooking.

Fundi noted that in collaboration with Coca-Cola they have so far provided over 2000 gas cylinders to more than 5000 entrepreneurs across the country.

Meanwhile, OGTL has provided 300 gas cylinders to health workers in Siha constituency, Kilimanjaro Region. The donation follows a request from Deputy Health Minister, Dr Godwin Mollé.

Police advise married couples about accessing partners' mobile phones

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

HEAD of Police Gender Desk for Njombe Region, ACP Wilfred Willa has appealed to the community, especially married couples to stop the habit of accessing their partner's mobile phones in order to avoid adverse effects that can happen including murder and marriage breakup.

Speaking at one of his education campaigns in Ngalanga area in Njombe Town, Willa said one among the causes of conflicts in marriages is to engage in unnecessary perusal of partner's cell phones, the practices that can break up marriages' violence, suicides and the increase of children brought up by families of one person.

He said the education is the continuance of education provision against gender-based violence (GBV) in order to have loving

communities with moral ethics. "All this, including misleading customs are among issues that we cream at every day and this is among the main causes of murders in Njombe Region," he said.

Njombe residents appreciate the education given and pledged to work on it and become good ambassadors to spread moral ethics for the benefit of the present and future generations.

For her part, Jovina Twewe, Njombe resident said the education provided helps to remind ourselves to abandon bad behaviour, and if a married couple cannot settle their issues amicably it is better to divorce in peace.

Njombe Region is among regions which of recent has been facing with an increase of gender based violence and child abuse including murders and rape.



Police officers from various stations and departments pose for a group photo during a 'welfare visit' to Makao ya Watoto Children's home at Kurasini in Dar es Salaam. They donated foodstuffs for use by children cared for at the orphanage. Photo: Carlos Banda

By Getrude Mbagi

LGAs urged to set special areas for businesses to store veggies

LOCAL government authorities have been advised to consider identifying areas whereby spaces can be put up to help farmers and traders in vegetables store their products.

This, according to stakeholders, will greatly help tackle the challenge of post-harvest loss.

Director General for the World Vegetable Centre, Dr Marco Wopereis made the call in Dar es Salaam at the just ended Africa Food Systems Forum-2023 under the title 'Innovative technologies to reduce post-harvest loss'.

Dr Wopereis who was among the panelists during the session was keen to note that inputs from municipalities was critical taking into account that aggregation needs space, therefore local governments could help to identify such areas.

"One important aspect to note is that vegetables have easier perishability, therefore a lot of efforts can be made...if earlier decisions are not made everything may be lost," said Dr Wopereis.

This has become a core requirement for participation in many global value chains, taking into account that fruits and vegetables are important components of a healthy diet, and their sufficient daily consumption could help prevent major diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases and certain cancers.

He singled out that organizational innovation was key to helping farmers produce what they can sell rather than trying to sell what they happen to produce.

"One thing we are working on is aggrega-

tion centres so that farmers together can have a space where they can store, sort, clean, and label their products. Perhaps an area whereby they can temporarily store their vegetables in cold areas and market, the whole trick is to harmonize production and marketing to reduce post-harvest losses," stressed the DG.

He cited the case of leafy vegetables whereas if the harvest does not go through to the consumer on the same day it may end up being lost.

Thus, with cold storage, the vegetables may last for a day but not for much longer, indicating that producers have to know where they can market the product after harvesting

He pinpointed some of the best practices from Asia consisting of wholesale markets ac-

quiring rental space whereby traders can store their vegetables and sell them in the coming day rather than just giving them up to rot.

Besides, the wholesale markets were places where farmers could sleep at affordable prices so that they could sell their unfinished vegetables the next day.

Dr Wopereis also revealed that the beauty of vegetables is so powerful and obtains massive opportunities ranging from selling fresh vegetables to drying and grinding the leafy for future storage and use.

He said Africa including Tanzania can explore the potential by looking for the market and demand for dried leafy vegetables.

"Our goal is to realize the potential of vegetables for healthier lives and more resilient

livelihoods...you cannot say that vegetables are healthy if they are full of pesticides.

The center's role is mainly to ensure vegetables are produced safely and locally in particular for every consumer so there is a need to think of bringing varieties that are resistant to pests and diseases.

This recognition of the importance of routine consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables, together with a marked increase in the year-round availability has contributed to the substantial increase in consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables over the past decades.

Attributed to the distinctive favourable tropical climate, Tanzania has for decades maintained a peerless status at the national and regional level with regard to the quality of agricultural farm produce such as fresh fruits and vegetables.

Dar youth want African leaders to embrace eco-friendly projects

By Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIAN youth have urged African heads of state to ensure that investment requirements, policies and procedures encourage eco-friendly projects so as to protect nature and fight climate change.

They made the call yesterday when speaking at the meeting that provided a room for them to widely discuss the effects of climate change and they were speaking as the leaders met at the Africa Climate Summit and Africa Climate Week2023 conducted from September 4 to 8, this year in Kenya's Capital Nairobi.

Ebenezer Mathew, United Nations youth delegate-Tanzania, said they have decided to raise their voice and call for actions to the African leaders because climate change is now putting the health and well-being, nutrition, education, development, survival and future of youth and children at risk.

"If heads of state will not take this issue seriously, it's the children and young people of today who will face the worst effects of climate change," he said.

The young people call for comprehensive support, encompassing financial, moral, and knowledge-based assistance to advance their innovations, inventions, and solutions.

Being aware that climate financing plays a pivotal role in both mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change, they emphasize the importance of implementing agreements and resolutions established during the 27th Conference of Parties in Egypt.

"Our call for climate justice and resilience is resolute key and ongoing until every nation and each developed country meets its pledges. Instead of engaging in the blame game, we seek empowerment to actively contribute to addressing this global challenge, he said.

The youth also call for African leaders to commit to leverage indigenous knowledge and practices in response to climate change in Africa.

Tanzanian youths recognise that all youths and children in Africa recog-

nise the value of incorporating local indigenous knowledge and practices into Climate Change strategies and practices.

Traditional methods hold insights into sustainable agriculture, resource management and adaptation.

"We call for African leaders to uphold this fact for the integration of indigenous wisdom into climate action plans, respecting local traditions," he said.

Salha Aziz, director of Binti Salha Foundation said that youth and children have the potential to hold decision-makers accountable but they lack knowledge and skills on how to engage as well as limited space for participation.

"For this reason, capacity building in Africa should also focus on expanding climate education tailored to the African context, empowering youth and children with knowledge about climate change, its impacts, and solutions is paramount," she said.

"This includes integrating climate-related topics into school curricula and organising community outreach initiatives, as well as bringing forth awareness; to children in all contexts with inclusivity," she said.

African leaders must explore institutional policy gaps and green products market barriers within financial systems to promote green financing and subsequent investments into strategic sectors," she added.

She explained: "Green jobs for youth and reduced unemployment need policy actions to address institutional barriers to green finance. Creating green jobs in sectors such as renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and conservation is essential for addressing unemployment and advancing climate resilience."

African leaders should invest in these areas to benefit both the economy and the environment, but more importantly, the transition to a green economy should be Africanised including revising government policies; laws, incentives, and subsidies, to suit our continent's pace of development and resilience building.

The young people also urge African leaders to respect the principles of human rights, principle of intergenerational equity and to make decisions that respond to the needs and priorities of African people.

"The leaders also need to emphasize strengthening local resilience, because of the fact that vulnerable communities in Africa require targeted efforts to build resilience through climate-smart agriculture, disaster preparedness, and community-based adaptation projects."

These measures safeguard not only livelihoods and ecosystems but also shed light on youth prosperity in the context of climate change and children's welfare to their full potential in adulthood.

The principles of locally-led adaptation must be respected. It is important to pursue climate actions that consider both present and future generations.

Failure to take climate actions today could jeopardize the welfare of tomorrow's generation of which the current generation is best placed to take preventive climate actions.

Furthermore, they call upon the support and promotion of collaboration, knowledge sharing, and youth empowerment in climate change leadership.

"As Africans, we have good practices to curb the effects of climate change, but we have differences as well in acting on the responses, therefore, African youth seek partnerships within the continent to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and access resources for effective climate action," she said.

This will increase ownership of our own climate change adaptation initiatives, and therefore inspire youth and children to play a leading role in climate in the continent, and request opportunities for leadership development, capacity-building, and meaningful engagement in climate policy decisions.

The youth also said their active involvement is key to driving positive change in the fight against climate change impacts.

Support needy children in society, Tanzanians advised

By Carlos Banda

TANZANIANS have been urged to develop a culture of supporting and protecting children facing various challenges in their areas so as to help secure their future and the nation's workforce.

Alumni of the Tanzania Police School's G5 class made the call at the weekend during their visit at an orphanage at Kurasini in Dar es Salaam where they donated an assortment of food items as part of the commemoration of 13 years in service as policemen and women.

Speaking to journalists on behalf of other police officers in attendance at the children's home, Tanzania Police Force officer (Railway Division), Inspector Anna Mwano said far from donating the food supplies to the children's home, it is paramount to address the challenges facing young children in the society by showing support.

"My call to the society is to keep on giving, to keep on supporting children because children need our support especially those facing hardships.

Some have no knowledge about their parents or relatives. Hence, we should show them love and protect them as well. We need to protect them. For parents who are out there, when we allow challenges in our families, the ones to face the most effects are the children, not the parents alone," said Insp. Anna.

She added: "We should make sure we solve our problems amicably for the benefit of our children because these are our next generation. We need to protect them and ensure we adhere to their rights, because we know they have their rights as well. We must adhere to their rights."

Assistant Inspector of Police, Ally Kuweka said: "We are here to commemorate 13 years of serving in the



Asma Mwinyi Foundation representative Abdulrazak Issa (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting sanitary pads to the head teacher of Dar es Salaam's Airport Primary School for use by students at the school. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

police force. The specific date for the anniversary had already passed however we have decided to do some activities today with regards to the nature of duties.

He added: "This donation is from all the members of the police force nationwide. So, we agreed to have Dar es Salaam as a point of representing our colleagues who had contributed to make this donation a success."

"This act aims to support the caretakers of the children in this orphanage because it is not an easy task. Hence, they need to be encouraged. These children need to go to school for studies, they need treatment. Therefore, if other members of the society show up to support them it will be a good deed before GOD," said Kuweka.

Expressing her gratitude for the police officers' visit and donation, the orphanage Welfare Officer, Farida Ismail thanked the officers for the support and called upon the society to continue supporting the children at the centre and other areas.



Tanzania Health Promotion Support

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Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) is an indigenous NGO established under nongovernmental organization act No 24 of 2002 in 2011. THPS works in partnership with the Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Community Development Gender Elderly and Special Groups; Regional Administration and Local Governments (PORALG), Ministry of Health in Zanzibar and Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) with a goal of ensuring accessible high-quality health care and social welfare services to all Tanzanians; through strengthening of health and community systems.

THPS is implementing the USAID funded Police and Prison Activity- Cetology of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 98.001 awarded in August 12, 2020 through the funding opportunity announcement number 72062120-RFA 00003 in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA). The Activity focuses on providing quality comprehensive HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis prevention, care, and treatment support services to the police and prisons staff, their families, prisoners and surrounding communities in Tanzania.

In FY24, the GOT under the leadership of the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups and Ministry of Community Development and Gender in Zanzibar; in collaboration with stakeholders through the Together for Girls (TfG) partnership and through funding from the US Presidents Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)/US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will conduct the second national Violence against Children and Youth Survey (VACS 24). THPS will work with National Bureau of Statistic (NBS) and Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) to conduct the survey. The results of the survey will inform national policies, laws, and programs to prevent violence. Hence, THPS is seeking experienced, dynamic and qualified Candidates for the below positions.

Position:	Chief of Party (COP)
Reports to:	THPS Director of Programs (DoP)
Position Location:	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Overall Job Function

The Chief of Party (COP) will serve as the primary technical and managerial lead for the USAID Police and Prisons Activity program in Tanzania which focuses on providing quality comprehensive HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis prevention, care, and treatment support services to the police and prisons staff, their families, prisoners and surrounding communities. The Chief of Party, will provide leadership and coordination in strategic planning, program development and management, and overseeing the implementation and evaluation of all activities related to this program in Tanzania; while ensuring that project resources are used as planned

Specific Responsibilities and Duties:

- Provide overall strategic, technical leadership and coordination in planning, implementation, and evaluation of all activities under USAID Police and Prisons Activity project in Tanzania.
- Ensure quality and timeliness of work and the completion of the activity within budget.
- Maintain oversight responsibilities for all field-related technical & management issues
- Serve as the programs chief project and technical representative with USAID, MoHA including, Tanzania Police Force and Tanzania Prisons Services, MOH in mainland and Zanzibar, and other national/international agencies, institutions, and stakeholders.
- Communicate in a timely fashion with THPS Director of Programs and senior management team (SMT) and USAID on the coordination of activities and regarding status/ problems associated with activities and propose solutions.
- Supervise and manage all program staff and consultants working on this activity.
- Provide programmatic and technical direction, lead annual work plan development, as well as completion of required reports.
- Present Activity progress in quarterly USAID-TZ joint program management meetings (JPM)
- Oversee the planning, monitoring, management and control systems to ensure informed decision-making and implementation of project activities.
- Oversee monitoring of project activities and ensure incorporation of lessons learned into ongoing activity tasks.
- Ensure performance against targets. Take corrective action where necessary.
- Coordinate and plan meetings with USAID, MoHA, and other partners at national and sub-national level.
- Ensure project financial systems and controls comply with generally accepted accounting practices and USG standards and GOT.
- Ensure compliance with THPS and USAID policies, rules and regulations.
- Lead development and implementation of sustainability plans and ensure continuous engagement of local government authorities (R/CHMTs) in supportive supervisions.
- Advocate for resource allocations to police and prison facilities by the local government authorities.
- Communicate regularly with THPS Executive team, sharing information in a timely manner.
- Accuracy and timely submission of all quarterly/ annual reporting requirements
- Supervise the development, implementation and reporting of evaluation and performance management including mid- and end-term project evaluation

Qualifications and Experience

- M.D. with minimum of Master's Degree in public health, health education, or health management field.
- 10+ years of program and/or project management experience in the area of HIV/AIDS and TB
- Excellent oral, written, and interpersonal skills.
- Previous work experience managing PEPFAR USAID-funded projects.
- Good interpersonal and people management skills, a team player, demonstrated ability to work effectively and harmoniously with other project staff, host country counterparts, USAID, consultants, donors, and international organizations.
- Able to travel domestically to project sites as needed.
- Must be a citizen of Tanzania

Position:	Senior Data Manager
Reports to:	VACS Project Director
Position Location:	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Overall Job Function

Reporting to the VACS Project Director, the VACS senior data manager will ensure quality data of high standard are collected, analyzed and reported. The VACS senior data manager is responsible for in-country management, storage, and security of data, as well as other technical aspects of the population-based surveys conducted on tablets. S/he will work to ensure delivery of clean, high-quality survey data and troubleshoot possible ICT challenges during data collection. Together with the ICT manager, senior data manager will ensure good storage and maintenance of tablets in the entire duration of the survey; He/she will collaborate with NBS, OCGS and CDC/DVP in preparing and using tablets for data collection and troubleshoot any challenges with the local server. The VACS senior data manager will be responsible in assisting with technical issues, receiving/downloading the data files, verifying validity of files, downloading raw data on a weekly basis and sending them to CDC/DVP, processing the files to generate reports as necessary, and analysing data reports to respond accordingly.

Specific Responsibilities and Duties:

- Develop and implement procedures for effective data management, formulation of techniques for quality data collection, devises and implements efficient and secure procedures for data handling and analysis, establishes data sharing rules, and supports others in the daily use of data systems.
- Collaborate with the NBS, OCGS and CDC/DVP in preparing, testing, and using tablets for data collection and troubleshoot any challenges with the local server.
- Responsible for the reception, monitoring, de-duplication, and transfer of data to the CDC server during the period of data collection.
- Troubleshoot platform-level technology issues that may arise with tablets.
- Help identify and resolve potential connection issues with mobile operators using mobile data devices.

- Help identify and resolve potential connection issues within the survey team (e.g., from tablets to a group router, etc.).
- In collaboration with CDC, NIDC and other keep partner with help troubleshoot database.
- Provide remote technical assistance by phone or through remote access of tablets used during survey.
- Provide in-person technical support on an ad-hoc basis for field teams.
- Coordinate replacement of damaged or lost equipment.
- Report and send damaged equipment for repair.
- Control and maintain an active inventory of tablets and other ICT equipment.
- Help troubleshoot any software and connectivity issues with tablets and server.
- Assess system performance and make recommendations for software, hardware, and data storage improvements.
- Ensure digital databases and archives are protected from security breaches and data losses.
- Ability to conduct advanced statistical analysis using survey data through use of analysis packages such as SPSS, Stata, RDS etc.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Masters Degree in Computer Science, Engineering, Statistics, Mathematics, Management, Technical, Science, Economics, Health,
- Minimum of five (5) years of related experience managing and working directly with health informatics applications and databases from large research studies.
- Demonstrated experience in conducting data quality checks and producing data collection monitoring reports.
- Demonstrated experience in using and troubleshooting electronic data collection tools, especially tablets.
- Competence in cloud-based data storage service offerings.
- Good understanding of TCP/IP protocol suite.

Preferred experience and other skills:

- Demonstrated experience in providing remote assistance (e.g., from a central office location) to public health teams working in the field.
- Demonstrated and successful experience managing large, population-based survey data.
- Demonstrated experience in resolving IP-level connection issues, IPv4 sub-netting, etc.
- Demonstrated experience in working with mobile telecommunications technologies (GSM, 3G/4G, etc.), mainly in disconnected mode.
- Strong writing and verbal communication skills.
- Data Management/Analysis and Programming experience using survey data.
- Demonstrated experience working with servers and willing to learn ODK Central data server.
- Demonstrated experience in managing geospatial data.

Position:	VACS ICT Data Manager
Reports to:	Senior Data Manager
Position Location:	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Overall Job Function

The VACS ICT Data Manager is responsible to ensure good storage and maintenance of tablets in the entire duration of the survey. S/he will be expected to participate in the VACS training to assist and organize the handling and use of the tablets and other equipment. Once the training phase is completed, the ICT manager will organize the handling and distribution of the tablets to the teams before they head to their corresponding areas of work. Once data collection starts, the ICT manager will be responsible for the daily monitoring of teams and data. The monitoring phase includes contacting the teams daily, assisting them with any needs or technical issues, receiving/downloading the data files, verifying validity of files, downloading raw data on a weekly basis and sending them to DVP, processing the files to generate reports as necessary, analysing data reports to respond accordingly, and contacting field teams if needed. Upon completion of the data collection phase, together with the senior data manager, the ICT manager will be responsible for compiling and verifying all expected data have been received and checked, participating in data cleaning, collecting and cleaning the tablets to ensure no data from field work remains on them, and preparing tablets and other equipment to be sent back to designated location, if applicable, based on the standard procedure to be provided.

Specific Responsibilities and Duties:

- Ensure that tablets arrive and are set up for the training.
- Ensure good storage and maintenance of tablets for the entire duration of the survey.
- Develop techniques for quality data collection to ensure adequacy, accuracy, and legitimacy of data.
- Devise and implement efficient and secure procedures for data handling and analysis with attention to all technical aspects.
- Conduct training to data collection team to be able to perform data collection independently and effectively.
- Make sure that data collection procedures are in line with all relevant rules and guidelines.
- Develop data collection and management SOP.
- In collaboration with Survey Coordinator, ensure data collection team are following established guidelines and SOP for data collection.
- Establish data sharing agreement with external stakeholders etc.
- Conduct daily data quality control checks with the help from Senior Data Manager
- Assist with reports and data extraction when needed.
- Provide periodic data collection progress update.
- Provide data collection update to VACS technical working groups.
- Monitor and analyses information and data systems and evaluate their performance to discover ways of enhancing them.
- Troubleshoot data-related problems and authorize maintenance or modifications.
- Regularly monitor and evaluate information and data systems that could affect analytical results.
- Attend meetings on data management and security and facilitate consensus on data architecture plan.
- Manage data duplication, missing data, and inconsistent data.
- Develop data queries and manage queries resolution.
- Participate in data analysis, reporting and dissemination workshops and meetings.
- Perform other related duties as directed.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in computer science, Information Technology, Informatics, Engineering, or related field.
- Minimum of two (2) years of related experience managing and working directly with health informatics applications and databases from large research studies.
- Demonstrated experience conducting data quality checks and producing data collection monitoring reports.
- Demonstrated experience in using and troubleshooting electronic data collection tools, especially tablets.
- Basic understanding of cloud-based data storage service offerings.
- Basic understanding of TCP/IP protocol suite.

Preferred experience and other skills:

- Data Management/Analysis and Programming experience.
- Experience programming and troubleshooting ODK program.
- Experience working with servers and willing to learn ODK Central data server.
- Computer/Android tablet troubleshooting experience.
- Some experience in managing geospatial data.
- Strong writing and verbal communication skills.

How to apply:

Interested applicants should send their application cover letter one page maximum and CV four pages maximum to recruitment@thps.or.tz by 17th September 2023 with a subject line example Chief of Party USAID Police and Prison Activity. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. Please do not attach any certificates when submitting online.

THPS is an equal opportunity employer; women, people living with HIV/AIDS and people living with disability are encouraged to apply.

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Handing citizenships to 3,000 long-term immigrants positive

CITIZENSHIP certificates have lately been presented to 3,319 migrants who can't legally be deported, delivered at a colourful ceremony in the Zanzibar State House.

Handing the new status to the migrants, Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi said that control of migration is crucial to protect national borders to ensure peace and security. Laying accent on the dangers of ease of access into the country for undocumented migrants, he said that care is taken by governments around the world, to observe migration, citizenship regulations.

The president was of the view that immigration law has not been reviewed for a long time, in which case it is relevant to look at the legislation to enhance the country's ability to face various challenges encountered.

He was of the view that such challenges are likely to be faced by citizens and visitors to the country as well. This affirmation appears to point at the need to ease access to becoming a citizen, on condition that the rules are followed and not abused by migrants.

Providing citizenship to people who have been living here for more than 50 years was a vital accomplishment, the president noted, highlighting the fact that they originate from neighboring countries like Burundi, the Comoros, Mozambique and Rwanda.

The move was to a certain extent reciprocal within the confines of the East African Community and the Southern Africa Development Community, as at midyear Kenyan President William Ruto issued citizenship to a so-called Pemba tribe. They have lived there for decades.

It means there is some kind of reckoning that these countries have been way

too hard on extending citizenship to those we basically recognize as brothers and sisters who for various reasons had to leave their countries.

Owing to fears of rebels operating from the other side of the border, extending citizenship has taken a slow pace, by the president's own admission. There are unending feuds even as we try to expand the EAC for instance, as it has more pronounced membership criteria than SADC, but expansion is taking place willy-nilly. At the moment discussions are being pursued with the Somali authorities to take that country closer to EAC membership, while the Al Shabaab threat is still a live wire.

Experience with DRC shows that when a country is integrated, internal balances change in favour of stability, and partner states are encouraged to increase efforts as the new status pushes greater action away from divisive politics to trade and other opportunities. Somalia may soon gain entry as well.

The president congratulated the new citizens for attaining the status of being recognized as Tanzania citizens after satisfying all requirements according to Tanzanian laws. Incidentally, this was an issue that as the ruling party candidate in the 2020 polls he had pledged to sort it out, and he has done it.

This pledge reflects a new spirit of welcoming others instead of being fearful of their other connections, even after 50 years. In the DRC those who fled Rwanda in 1994 are still recognized as Rwandese and a factor in the power play in that country, and M-23 is erected to keep them at bay. Making the two groups Congolese citizens leaves them as Hutu and Tutsi tribal elements lacking a state to capture - or to defend.

Drawbacks in Africa's food systems awaiting agribusiness to be accepted

AFTER three days of fruitful and deep exchanges, African leaders are intent on doing something about a range of problems centres on agriculture.

The focus of the conference was food systems, but there was no mistaking of the role that the youth bulge was hanging over the discussions, despite that the matter was more extensively explored in an earlier conference.

There is always a problem of how harmony can be attained, as each conference or discussion adopts key solutions.

A noteworthy result of the three day Africa food systems summit was that leaders pledged robust agro-sector actions, taking account of the fact that reliable data shows that over 280m people are on the verge of starvation in the continent.

Africa has more than its fair share of hunger and poverty, despite that it definitely has more than its fair share of arable land, on account of major differences in social organisation. Ukraine, a patch of land that can be filled into more than half of African states with as much land to spare, is our wheat hope.

Pledges that participating heads of state made were somewhat broad in character, like adopting robust strategies to transform agriculture, strengthening food systems and, at some points, pointing at the need to boost intra-Africa trade systems.

Addressing the youth event at the summit, President Samia Suluhu Hasaan elaborated on the overall focus on the conference, namely a youth-centred strategy with increased programming, technology delivery and close support to this group. The convergence with food issues per se was tight.

This proximity of themes brings up comfort in terms of inclusion, and it is likely that the conference was more sensitive about inclusion than about the technical side, of feasibility of the strategy.

The idea on the whole was to boost production, incomes and strengthening food security, where results in one area affect the situation of other areas. Taking youths into agriculture boosts production, provides them with incomes and improved wider food security.

The problem lies with the sequence, as the youth approach doesn't change the wider food availability situation, much less the income poverty underlining the lack of access to food, even when grain abounds in shops, tubers in markets, etc.

Even in supposedly fish rich zones like the coastal areas of Tanzania, the level of consumption is admittedly poor, many families saved by sardine harvests, especially from fresh water sources. Substantial fish consumption is limited even without poverty being actually visible, like in consumption of cashews.

The youth focus in the food systems equation was finally a funding strategy. Africa has patchy land farmed traditionally but they can't parceled out for individual ownership to attract credit. That clears the way for agri-business, a theme has often taken its place among local agro-sector experts, but is limited to pure bank lending, not the land systems to facilitate it.

Yes, President Samia introduced the BBT (building back better) programme as commercial activity but agribusiness is a different matter, and admittedly that is what would make a difference. It would durably reduce the price of grain, and if it is replicated in livestock rearing and fishing, with rented areas for vast private fish farms, it raises consumption in a visible manner. African leaders wish it happens by uplifting peasants, youth.

“Africa has more than its fair share of hunger and poverty, despite that it definitely has more than its fair share of arable land, on account of major differences in social organisation. Ukraine, a patch of land that can be filled into more than half of African states

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More farmers in Tanzania ought to be linked to commodity exchange system

By Peter Nyanje

AT a time when availability of reliable markets offering competitive prices for their produce is listed as among the major challenges farmers in Tanzania are facing, only a handful of the farmers are aware that Tanzania Mercantile Exchange (TMX) is there to connect farmers to local as well as foreign buyers. Even worse, even fewer are using this platform to sell their produce.

The government ventured into the setting up of TMX way back in 2015, primarily after noting that lack of reliable markets was one of the major hurdles impeding the development of agriculture in the country.

After enacting a law to facilitate the operationalisation of the market, regulations for the law were enacted in 2016 before the putting in place of a trading floor started in 2017 and was completed in 2018. Since then, farmers using the facility as their market bear witness to its profitability.

TMX Chief Executive Officer Godfrey Malekano told journalists in Dar es Salaam recently that each of the roundabout 190,000 farmers who sold some 135,000 tonnes of their produce through TMX got an additional income averaging 2,000/- per kilo of the crops they sold.

"If these farmers had opted for the famous system of selling their produce through middlemen and agents, they would not have earned this much," noted Malekano, briefing journalists at a meeting organised by the Treasury Registrar as part of the implementation of its mission of publicising the achievements of state organisations under its arm.

TMX has clearly helped these farmers earn more from their sweat and toil - and this is one of reasons the government had decided to introduce this form of commodity trading.

TMX is an electronic trading system which brings together people willing to sell their commodities and traders looking for commodities to buy. Owing to its infancy, though, TMX is used in the country as a platform for farmers and buyers of agricultural products to meet and trade.

Malekano said that, over the years, TMX has facilitated the trading of various agricultural commodities, including maize, rice, cashewnuts, coffee, beans, pigeon peas and cocoa.

It has provided farmers, traders and other market participants with a centralised platform through which to buy and sell these commodities, making it easier for the government entities also to collect revenue from the formalised market.

As noted, TMX has played a decisive role in improving price discovery for agricultural commodities in Tanzania. By providing a transparent marketplace, it has enabled market partici-

pants to determine fair prices based on supply and demand dynamics as well as global market prices.

Malekano further explained that TMX has helped to improve the Warehouse Receipt System, "which is central to TMX trading as it enables storage of produce, making it possible for buyers to be assured of volume and quality of the produce at the time of buying".

The system also enables farmers to store their crops until the appropriate time for them to get fair prices. Farmers can also use the stored crops as collateral in accessing loans from banks and other financial institutions.

The CEO elaborated: "TMX has also introduced risk management tools to assist market participants in managing price volatility and reducing financial risks. Farmers are assured of fair prices while buyers are also assured of the quantity and quality of crops they buy, though there have been few incidents where quantity and quality of crops have been compromised."

He said TMX has expanded access to markets for farmers, especially small-scale producers and those operating from remote areas through electronic participation.

"By bringing together buyers and sellers on a single platform, the mode of operation has helped farmers to access a wider customer base both locally and globally as our trading system is electronic," he added, noting that the market has also afforded players greater opportunity to negotiate better prices for the produce offered.

TMX figures show that between 2019 and mid this year, a total of 135,103 tonnes of crops have been sold through the exchange, earning farmers a total of 287.98 billion/- - with coffee emerging as the crop dominating the market in terms of both volume sold and earnings.

In 2022 some 50,761 tonnes of crops were sold, out of which coffee accounted for 49,721 tonnes. In 2020 some 41,164 tonnes of crops were sold through TMX.

In terms of earnings, record income was recorded in 2022 where 112.19 billion/- was generated, followed by 2020 where sales worth 81.78 billion/- were made - both cases seeing coffee as the top sold crop bringing in 110.7 billion/- in 2022 and 77.52 billion in 2020.

In terms of additions to the prices, cocoa farmers benefited immensely by witnessing a price increase averaging 2,850 per kilo in 2022 compared with their colleagues who sold their produce through normal system. In 2020 the price with respect to cocoa jumped to 3,000 per kilo.

In that trading is done under formalised systems, Malekano said it is much easier than previously keeping records and providing market information to participants.

Through the TMX website, specifically the trading platform, market participants can access real-time information on prices, market trends and other relevant data, enabling them to make informed trading decisions.

Malekano stands fully convinced that TMX has made significant strides in promoting transparency and efficiency in commodity trading in Tanzania, having contributed to the growth of the agricultural sector generally, and specifically in facilitating market access for farmers and providing risk management tools to market participants.

TMX does not deal with agricultural produce only. Malekano said a variety of commodities can be sold and bought through the exchange: "In developed markets products such as electricity are also sold through commodity exchanges, but in Tanzania we have not reached that stage." He further noted that plans are under way to start selling minerals through TMX, adding: "We are currently consulting with various stakeholders and authorities in order to come up with an appropriate system to enable the trading of minerals through TMX."

He said the government's decision to establish mineral trading centres in every district will likely be an advantage to TMX in the process of establishing mineral trading.

"But we must think about other things as well because this market will involve many people from outside Tanzania. We must put in place systems to safeguard both parties involved in the trade," he said.

He argued that commodity exchange firms like TMX are among the tools which can be used to push intra-Africa trade. He however warned that the hurdles such as non-tariff barriers should be addressed first in order to enable the commodity exchange to operate at full potential if it is to drive trade between and among African countries.

Malekano also noted that plans are under way to start trading in livestock through TMX, elaborating: "After the conclusion of studies conducted in Arusha Region, preparations have been made by the relevant ministry to connect livestock auctions to TMX in order to enable livestock keepers to access the market." He added that it was crucial to conduct awareness campaigns among livestock keepers in order to keep them abreast with basic requirements for the exchange to run

profitably.

Despite these achievements, it has not been all smooth sailing for TMX, the most daunting challenges including lack of awareness among farmers and other participants on the operations of the exchange.

This has led to limited participation, so TMX faces challenges in attracting a wider range of effective market participants. Many farmers and traders in rural areas do not have access to the internet or lack the necessary skills to use online platforms for trading.

This limits the potential number of participants and reduces the liquidity of the exchange. Inadequate infrastructure and limited internet connectivity in rural areas pose challenges to the smooth functioning of TMX.

For farmers to be able to sell their produce through the exchange, they must first store their crops in registered warehouses. There are few such facilities in the country, which makes it impossible for many farmers to participate in the business.

"In areas where there are no registered warehouses farmers cannot participate in trading. Warehouses are crucial facilities as it is through them that buyers are assured of presence of crops, their quantity as well as quality," noted Malekano.

Another challenge TMX is facing is the absence of standardised quality and grading systems for commodities. This creates difficulties in pricing and trading commodities based on their quality, leading to inefficiencies in the exchange.

Having a limited range of commodities is yet another challenge. TMX for now primarily focuses on agricultural commodities such as maize, beans and rice. Agriculture is doubtless an important sector in Tanzania, but there is a need to diversify the range of tradable commodities to attract a broader range of participants and provide them with more trading options.

Malekano noted that, to address these challenges, the TMX management and the relevant stakeholders need to focus more on increasing awareness and understanding of the exchange, improving infrastructure and connectivity in rural areas, establishing standardised quality and grading systems, diversifying the range of commodities, developing a robust regulatory framework and promoting financial inclusion among market participants.

"So far we are connected to seven banks and that has helped us to deal with the financial challenges though we would like many financial institutions to come on board," he noted.

*** Peter Nyanje is freelance journalist and media consultant based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached through pnyanje@gmail.com, +255 784 211716.**

Security of journalists in Tanzania: From fear to cautious optimism

By Songa wa Songa

THE 24 of March 2017 remains a significant date in the history of media and press freedom in Tanzania. A statement made by one powerful man on that day sent chills down the spines of media owners and journalists, triggering fear that led to prolonged censorship and even self-censorship.

Dateline: State House Dar es Salaam, event: swearing-in of Dr Harrison Mwakymbe as the new Information Minister who was appointed following the sacking of Nape Nnauye on 23 March after he ordered a probe into the reported raid on Clouds television station by then Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Paul Makonda, speaker: President John Magufuli.

"I would like to tell media owners - be careful, watch it. If you think you have that kind of freedom, (it is) not to that extent," Magufuli said.

His face and index finger spoke even louder in an event that was broadcast live on national television. He directed Mwakymbe to clamp down on media outlets that publish or broadcast material deemed to incite unrest, categorically stating that his government would not allow what he termed as "a few individuals" to destabilize the country.

After this statement, media houses, journalists and even vocal artists as well as activists started operating under fear of closure, harassment or incarceration for expressing themselves. It is editors' diaries that can tell how many stories were changed or removed in the last minute.

Apart from the statement, legal framework under Magufuli was unfriendly to press freedom and the freedom of expression. Rights activists criticized the 2015 Cybercrimes Act for restricting free expression online; the 2015 Statistics Act, which, until its amendment in June 2019, criminalized publishing statistics without government approval and blocked the publication and dissemination of independent research.

Also, the 2018 regulations to the Electronic and Postal Communications Act subjected bloggers to excessive licensing fees and the mother of them all - the 2016 Media Services Act, which gave government agencies broad power to censor and limit the independence of the media by creating stringent rules for journalists' accreditation and criminal liability.

In its report published in October 2019 with the title 'As Long as I am Quiet, I am Safe': Threats to Independent Media and Civil Society in Tanzania, Human Rights Watch gave this analysis:

"Since President John Magufuli came to power in 2015, Tanzania has seen a sharp backslide in respect for basic freedoms of association and expression, undermining both media freedoms and civil society. While some restrictive trends may have predated his term, they have intensified since he became president."

"Authorities have passed new legislation and enforced existing laws that repress independent re-



porting and restrict the work of media, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and political opposition groups. The president and other high-level officials have made hostile statements about rights issues, at times followed by en-

forcement actions cracking down on individuals and organizations seen as being critical of government policy."

Journalist Azory Gwanda who worked for Mwananchi Communications Limited has been a missing person since

November 2017. Gwanda who was reporting from Kibiti District, Coast Region, is believed to have been taken away while gathering news on reported extrajudicial killings in the area.

Gwanda's remains a bizarre, cold case to date. In May 2019, One Free Press Coalition listed this amongst the top '10 Most Urgent' cases. His family members and friends are still agonizing due to this lack of closure.

Let's move from Magufuli, his draconian laws and a cold case of a missing journalist. On 17 March 2021, Magufuli became the first President of Tanzania to die in office. On 19 March 2021, his deputy Samia Suluhu Hassan was sworn in as the sixth President and first female president of Tanzania.

Like Magufuli, President Samia also made a statement to media fraternity and did something about legal framework but in completely opposite direction. Since her ascension, she has repeatedly said that media play a critical role in the development of any country and Tanzania is no exception.

Day: 3 May 2022, dateline: Arusha, event: World Press Freedom Day, audience: editors, reporters, government officials, diplomats, donor agencies and media partners, speaker: President Samia.

"Let's come up with better and friendly laws and regulations that would protect journalists and open more space for the freedom of expression and the media," she said to rapturous applause and a standing ovation.

She directed the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology to collaborate with media stakeholders to review the Media Services Act of 2016 to enable journalists and media houses carry out their duties freely.

"Criticism helps us know what people are thinking, if we ban it we won't have that platform," she said, indicating that she has that thick skin that all politicians worth their salt should have.

In February this year, the Media Services Act, 2016 was brought before the Parliament in the form of proposed miscellaneous amendments. It was debated and endorsed with the harshest provisions scrapped off the book of statute.

This is a very good step that gives us optimism for a better future. Then why did I put cautious before optimism? I did so purposely because whereas I believe that President Samia means her encouraging words, I also recognize that she is a member of a political party and has a team of advisors who play a significant role in her presidency.

But one may argue that Magufuli had the same party and a team of advisors yet he did the many unpleasant things he did. This argument is valid. I believe the President, her party and the advisors know the right thing to do.

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African Economic Outlook: Tanzania among top performers

By Telesphor Magobe

TANZANIA is ranked a "good performer" in one of the four key macroeconomic indicators and a "fair performer" in three others in 2023-04, according to African Development Bank (AfDB) 2023 Economic Outlook (AEO).

AfDB ranked African economies in four key macroeconomic indicators - GDP growth, inflation, current account balance (trade records of goods and services of an economy with other economies of the world) and fiscal balance (the difference between government revenue and spending). Based on scores in these four key macroeconomic indicators, an economy is categorised as either a good, fair or weak performer.

Thus, an economy which has real GDP growth above 6 percent is ranked a good performer, 4-6 percent a fair performer, and below 4 percent a weak performer. An economy which has inflation below 5 percent is ranked a good performer, 5-9.9 percent a fair performer, and above 10 percent a weak performer.

An economy which has a current account surplus is a good performer, a deficit below 5 percent a fair performer, and above 5 percent a weak performer. An economy which has a fiscal surplus and deficit below 3 percent is a good performer, 3-5 percent a fair performer, and above 5 percent a weak performer. In all these, Tanzania has performed quite well as it is among the top nine performers out of the 54 surveyed African economies.

In the East African Community (EAC) trading market, Tanzania is ranked second out of the seven surveyed member countries. It is preceded by the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), but is ahead of Burundi, Kenya, South Sudan, Rwanda and Uganda.

Thus, according to AfDB, Tanzania is a good performer in inflation and a fair performer in GDP growth, current account balance and fiscal balance. It is also among the world's 10 fastest-growing economies in 2023-24. The EAC trading market too with a land area of 4.8 million square kilometres, with about 283.7 million citizens and a combined GDP of \$305.3 billion, is one of the fastest growing economic blocs in the world.

According to the 2023 AEO, growth in East Africa is projected to strengthen from about 4.4 per cent in 2022 to 5.1 per cent this year and 5.8 next year.

"With the exception of South Sudan, growth in all countries in this region is estimated to increase in 2023, with seven of the countries achieving 5 percent GDP growth or higher, driven by fairly diversified production structures and a decline in commodity prices. Many countries in East Africa are commodity importers, and lower prices would benefit their GDP growth. However, drought and insecurity remain, and may pose a chal-



AfDB Group President Dr Akinwumi Adesina says in relation to the 2023 AEO's outlook, despite significant headwinds, Africa has shown remarkable resilience evident in the projected consolidation of economic growth in the medium-term. Credit: AfDB

lenge to achieving the projected higher growth."

As regards the EAC trading market, the 2023 AEO ranks Rwanda as the top performer in GDP growth as its GDP growth is 7.8 percent, followed by the DRC (7.6 percent), Uganda (6.6 percent), Kenya and Tanzania (5.8 percent), Burundi (4.6) and South Sudan (2.1 percent). As regards inflation, Tanzania leads the EAC trading market in having the lowest inflation rate of 4.3 percent, followed by Uganda (6.3 percent), Rwanda (6.5 percent), Kenya (7.3 percent), Burundi (9.7 percent), the DRC (9.9 percent) and South Sudan (13.7 percent).

During the presentation of this year's estimates of government revenue and expenditure for the 2023/24 fiscal year in the National Assembly, Minister for Finance, Dr Mwigulu

Nchemba, said Tanzania's real GDP was estimated to grow by 5.2 percent in 2023 from 4.7 percent in 2022 and inflation was expected to remain in the single digit of an average of 3.0-7.0 percent in the medium-term. According to the minister, the first half of the fiscal year 2022/23, the world witnessed a new stage of economic recession, rising inflation, and a deficit of foreign currency (US dollar).

In another presentation on the economic survey 2022 report and the national annual development plan 2023/24, the minister said although economic growth for sub-Saharan countries dropped to an average of 3.9 percent compared to 4.8 percent in 2021, Tanzania registered the growth of 4.7 percent in 2022 compared to 4.9 percent in 2021

AfDB Group President, Dr Akinwumi Adesina, says in relation to the 2023 AEO's outlook despite significant headwinds, Africa has shown remarkable resilience, evident in the projected consolidation of economic growth in the medium-term.

"The outlook remains positive and stable, with a projected rebound to 4 per cent in 2023 and further consolidation to 4.3 per cent in 2024." The 2023 AEO shows that although Africa's growth in real GDP is projected to rebound to 4 per cent in 2023 and consolidate at 4.3 per cent in 2024, underpinning Africa's continued resilience to economic shocks, climate change, high global inflation, and persistent fragilities in supply chains may slow down growth.

Kazakhstan's transition: From a nuclear test site to leader in disarmament

By Katsuhiko Asagiri and Kunsaya Kurmet-Rakhimova

EXACTLY 32 years ago, on September 29, 1991, Kazakhstan, then part of the Soviet Union, made a historic decision that would alter its fate. On that day, Kazakhstan permanently closed the Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site, defying the central government in Moscow. This marked the start of Kazakhstan's transformation from a nuclear-armed state, possessing the fourth-largest nuclear arsenal at the time, to a non-nuclear-weapon state. Kazakhstan's audacious move to eliminate its nuclear weapons was rooted in a profound commitment to global disarmament, setting an inspiring precedent.

Eighteen years later, in 2009, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution, led by Kazakhstan, designating August 29 as the International Day Against Nuclear Tests. This day serves as a solemn reminder of the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons and underscores the urgent imperative for disarmament.

In a world where the threat of nuclear weapons being used again remains a grim reality, a pivotal question looms: Can we genuinely aspire to a world free of nuclear arms? To delve deeper into this pressing concern and comprehend the menace posed by nuclear weapons testing and deployment, we interviewed Kariybek Kuyukov and participants of the "Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons and the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone" regional conference. This conference, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan in partnership with the Center for International Security and Policy (CISP), Soka Gakkai International (SGI), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), took place in Astana, Kazakhstan to commemorate this year's International Day Against Nuclear Tests.

One of the most poignant moments during the conference came from Dmitriy Vesselov, a third-generation survivor of nuclear testing. He provided a heartfelt testimony about the profound human toll exacted by nuclear testings on his family and the broader community. The nuclear tests conducted at the Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site over four decades unleashed explosions 2,500 times more potent than the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The repercussions of these tests have echoed through generations, inflicting severe health problems and untold suffering.

Kuyukov, a renowned Kazakh artist born without hands due to radiation exposure in his mother's womb, has devoted his life to raising awareness about the horrors of nuclear testing. His powerful artwork, created using his lips or toes, depicts the survivors of nuclear tests and serves as a poignant tribute to those who perished. Kuyukov's unwavering commitment reflects the indomitable human spirit in the face of unimaginable adversity.

Dmitriy Vesselov's testimony shed light on the ongoing challenges faced by survivors. He candidly shared his struggles with health issues, including acromioclavicular dysostosis, a condition severely limiting his physical capabilities. Vesselov expressed his deep concern about the potential transmission of these health problems to future generations. Consequently, he has chosen not to have children. The conference underscored the imperative of averting the repetition of history by delving into the past tragedies inflicted by nuclear weapons testings.

Hirotsugu Terasaki, Director General of Peace and Global Issues of SGI, commenting on the event said "I believe that this regional conference is a new milestone, a starting point for representatives from five countries of Central Asia to discuss how we can advance the process toward a nuclear-weapon-free world, given the ever-increasing threat of nuclear weapons."

Terasaki observed that the international community is actively deliberating Articles 6 and 7 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), mandating state parties to provide support to victims and address environmental remediation. He accentuated Kazakhstan's pivotal role as a co-chair of the working group central to these discussions.

Kazakhstan does provide special medical insurance and benefits to victims of nuclear tests. However, these benefits are predominantly extended to individuals officially certified as disabled or a family member of those who succumbed to radiation-related illnesses. Numerous victims, like Vesselov, who do not fall within these categories, remain ineligible for assistance.

Despite his daunting challenges, Mr. Vesselov maintains an unwavering sense of hope. He hopes that his testimony will serve as a stark reminder of the perils of nuclear weapons and awaken global consciousness regarding the dangers posed by even small tactical nuclear weapons and the specter of limited nuclear conflicts. Ultimately, his



A group photo of participants of the regional conference on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and nuclear-free-zone in Central Asia held on August 29, 2023. Credit: Jibek Joly TV Channel

deepest aspiration, shared by all victims of nuclear weapons, is that the world will never bear witness to such a devastating tragedy again.

As Kazakhstan assumes its role as President-designate of the third Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW, it reaffirms its steadfast commitment to global peace and disarmament. President Kassym-Jomart

Tokayev's resolute words resonate with the sentiment of a nation that has borne the scars of nuclear testing: "Such a tragedy should not happen again. Our country will unwaveringly uphold the principles of nuclear security."

At the conference, member states of the Treaty of Semipalatinsk were encouraged to support Kazakhstan in this endeavor, and in its efforts to represent the Central Asian region's contribution to nuclear disarmament, through attending the second Meeting of States Parties of the TPNW, at least as observers, which will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York between 27 November and 1 December this year, and by signing and ratifying the TPNW at the earliest opportunity.

In a world still grappling with the looming specter of nuclear devastation, Kazakhstan's journey from a nuclear test site to a leading advocate for disarmament serves as a beacon of hope. Kazakhstan's unwavering commitment to peace stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of a nation that once bore the weight of nuclear tests and now champions a safer, more secure world for all.

Katsuhiko Asagiri is President of INPS Japan and Kunsaya Kurmet-Rakhimova is a reporter of Jibek Joly (Silk Way) TV Channel.



Kariybek Kuyukov is an armless painter from Kazakhstan, and global anti-nuclear weapon testing & nonproliferation activist. Credit: Jibek Joly TV Channel

IPS UN Burea

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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	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



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Africa Climate Summit highlights urgency of green transition amid financing bottlenecks

NAIROBI

IN his opening remarks at the summit Monday, Kenyan President William Ruto said the continent is ripe for a green transition, but financing bottlenecks and shifting goalposts by Western lenders stood in the way. According to Ruto, Africa was receiving a partly 3 percent of global climate finance, yet the continent suffered the most from global warming as evidenced by mounting hunger, water stress, and fragility of vital ecosystems.

More than 20,000 delegates, including a dozen heads of state and government, ministers, industry leaders, innovators, campaigners,

and researchers, attended the Africa Climate Summit held under the theme "Driving Green Growth and Climate Finance Solutions for Africa and the World." Heavy on the call for robust financing, the three-day summit generated more than 26 billion U.S. dollars in pledges from public and private sector entities, multilateral lenders, and philanthropies to help implement climate resilience projects in Africa.

The Nairobi Declaration, which was read by Ruto during the summit's closing Wednesday, called for a carbon tax, reform of the global financial system, and debt relief to boost Africa's response to the climate crisis. In addition, African leaders, in their declaration, chal-



Kenyan President William Ruto addresses guests on the final day of the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi

lenged major emitters in the Industrial North to honor the 100-billion-dollar pledge they made in 2009 to help developing countries deal with climate-induced catastrophes.

During the three-day Africa Climate Summit, delegates made a strong case for innovative financing to catalyze green energy transition, establish resilient cities and transport systems, and enhance

the health of natural habitats.

African countries are spending an average of 2 percent of their gross domestic product (GDP) to respond to climate emergencies including floods, droughts,

wildfires and cyclones, noted Josefa Sacko, the commissioner for agriculture, rural development, blue economy and sustainable environment at the AU Commission.

Stressing that a green transition is imperative to sustain economic growth, health and well-being of local communities, Sacko said Africa must explore innovative financing instruments and implement community-centered adaptation projects.

While lauding ambitious and bold resolutions that were adopted at the Africa Climate Summit, campaigners insisted the journey ahead is laden with pitfalls unless governments make deliberate efforts to bridge the financing gap.

Mithika Mwenda, executive director of Nairobi-based Pan African Climate Justice Alliance, noted that the continent required 160 billion to 240 billion dollars to support climate adaptation by 2030. To unlock climate financing, Mwenda said, African governments should incentivize institutional investors and green startups through friendly taxation and abolishing cumbersome regulations.

Olufunso Somorin, a regional principal officer at the African Development Bank, said realizing a green and just transition in the continent is feasible once governments prioritize policy reforms to attract nature-positive investments.

Concern as number of Ismailis keeps dropping in Arusha

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE number of Ismailis in Arusha city has dropped to just 110 from nearly 1500 residents who were living in the city back in the 1960s.

Members of the Ismaili community were responsible for the construction of nearly 90 percent of all buildings currently forming the Arusha Central Business District.

"The Ismailis pioneered Arusha Urban Centre, its business, culture and even religious influence," explains the city veteran, Aafeez Jivraj who is also a member of the community.

Jivraj points out that the Ismaili population in Tanzania has also dropped from over 10,000 people in the 1960s down to less than 3000 residents at the moment.

Dar es Salaam has around 1500 Ismailis today, while 300 others are found in Mwanza.

Nizar Kassam, a pharmacist based in Arusha but hailing from Dar es Salaam recalls his great grandfather of being among the pioneers of the Ismaili community in Tanzania

"My Great Grandfather was born in Dar es Salaam during the time when the area was known as 'Mzizima,' back in the 1800s," Kassam stated.

That means the Ismailis could have migrated into the country

in the late 1700s, which was long before many local Bantu tribes moved here.

Some of the notable Ismailis that pioneered the developments in Dar es Salaam City are Alidhina Visram, Tharia Topean and Sewa Haji Paroo, the founder of Muhimbili Hospital.

For a community whose members have been the pioneers and main drivers of the country's economy, this development may not augur very well with Tanzania's future prospects.

Nizar Kassam explains that many of the Ismailis of Tanzania left the country to other places such as Canada, Europe, Australia and the United States of America.

There is a Facebook page dedicated to Ismailis who live or those that once lived in Arusha, formed in 2016 and which currently has 320 members.

But why did they leave the country after investing in it so much?

"During the wave of nationalization, following the Arusha Declaration of 1967, many Ismailis lost their farms, businesses and industries, properties that got confiscated by the state," said Kassam.

But it was not just in Tanzania; the Ismailis also left Kenya when the country adopted the 'Localization,' policy through which all jobs and other positions were strictly being reserved for native

residents.

Things were even worse in Uganda when the country's former President, Idd Amin gave the Asian communities 24 hours to vacate the country leaving everything behind.

In other words, it was a mass exodus of Ismailis leaving the East African Region between 1967 and 1973.

The late Sultan Jessa, an outstanding Ismaili Muslim and journalist born in Arusha before retiring to Canada, wrote in 2015 that the Ismailis migrated into the East African region more than 220 years ago

"What we know for certain is it all began after the 1800s when Ismailis from Kutch and Kathiwar in Gujarat, India, ventured to the unknown and unexplored continent to begin a new life in East Africa," wrote Jessa.

It was under the leadership of Sir Sultan Mohamed Shah that Ismailis left Gujarat and other regions of India in large numbers in search of better economic opportunities as traders and merchants in unknown and unexplored Africa.

Being friends with and extremely close to the British raj, Aga Khan III, was one of the first world leaders to anticipate the scramble for Africa on the part of the European Imperial powers and the economic opportunities that would follow.

A series of devastating famines

in India and plentiful employment opportunities in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and other African countries prompted a huge exodus from India.

Apart from famine, there was high unemployment, religious persecution and political instability in India at the time.

Ismailis travelled by dhows and initially settled in coastal areas like Zanzibar, Dar es Salaam and Mombasa and then gradually made their way to the mainland.

Many Ismailis settled in Tanzania, formerly Tanganyika, after the country was placed under British administration following the defeat of Germany.

Germany had formerly ruled the territory, previously called German East Africa.

A letter, written on April 12, 1955 by Robert Gray to the Institute of Current World Affairs in New York, talks about the early Ismaili settlement in the country.

According to Gray, the small retail trade of Tanganyika was almost exclusively in the hands of Indian traders.

Some of these commercial families had become quite wealthy and possessed modern town houses and gave their children the best of education available at the time.

"But, in almost every case, their origins were humble," Gray wrote. The Aga Khan's vision was that his dedicated and

devoted followers will be at the forefront of economic development to transform the lives of ordinary people who had long suffered slavery, servitude and abject poverty.

"Arusha, sprawling near the foot of Mount Meru, was cool, lush and green. This was a big appeal to many new settlers. The Ismailis were shrewd and competent traders and enterprising merchants," Journalist Jessa observed.

They promptly established themselves as the pioneering Asian group and made special efforts to assert their distinctiveness from other communities.

Unlike other ethnic groups, the Ismailis were more adaptable and brought their womenfolk.

Their intentions were to settle permanently which gave them an important commercial advantage.

After settling smoothly and establishing themselves, the Ismailis pushed for separate burial grounds. They were also successful establishing Ismaili schools, dispensaries and hospitals which were open to everyone regardless of their race, colour, creed or caste.

This is the way it was and even today it is a religious duty and obligation to be loyal citizens of whatever country they live in.

The existence of a living Imam has meant the Ismailis have

been more flexible in adjusting to rapidly changing and evolving conditions in the last century.

The Ismaili settlement rapidly increased in numbers and wealth in the mid-1930s.

The Aga Khan School and other institutions were established in Arusha. The Meru Primary School was formerly known as Aga Khan School.

Across the Makongoro road from the school, there are graveyards also established by the Ismailis. A small Jamat Khana (prayer house) was built and many years later replaced by an ultramodern building.

But many new immigrants continue to arrive from India and Pakistan.

Ismailis prospered in Arusha and many owned large businesses.

Many did quite well in their chosen professions after getting their higher education in universities in Europe and America.

A few played significant roles in the day to day running of the community.

Several became quite wealthy and contributed some of their wealth to charitable projects.

Arusha originally grew up as a German colonial town at the beginning of the 20 century.

Due to its pleasant climate and fertile soil, Arusha was an ideal respite from the humid malarial conditions of the coast and a great place to grow coffee and

other crops.

After the Second World War, it shifted into British hands, retaining its colonial feel with a growing population and luxuries like golf courses and private clubs.

Since Tanganyika's independence in 1961, Arusha has continued to grow at a rapid pace.

It has today become one of the most economically important cities in Tanzania.

Some of the most prominent Ismaili families in Arusha then were Natha Hirji, Subzali Sajan, Nurmohamed Velshi Gilani, Moosa Janmohamed, brothers Kanji, Hassanali, Jamal, and Ebrahim Mohamed among many others.

Wazir Subzali Sajan founded the largest automobile garage in East Africa, known as 'Subzali Garage,' along the Goliendo Road in Arusha.

The giant Subzali building now houses the Exim Bank and Toyota Motors, Arusha branches.

Then there were the bakers, including Jussa's family, the Abdulla Alimohamed and Gulam Haider.

Arusha city center population has now grown beyond 500,000 people. The Aga Khan Foundation plans to invest USD 1.1 billion to build a full-fledged university in Kisongo area.

If realized it will be the largest investment in health and higher education in the history of East Africa.

Zambia's largest copper mine in Zambia dodges liquidation

LUSAKA

ZAMBIA'S largest copper mine has dodged liquidation and received a cash injection of \$1 billion from its parent company, ending a years long legal battle.

London-listed Vedanta is the majority owner of Zambia's largest copper mining firm Konkola Copper Mines (KCM), which has been at the centre of a standoff with government.

The state-owned ZCCM-IH is a minority shareholder in KCM.

In 2019, the Zambian government placed KCM in liquidation proceedings after accusing KCM of violating its operational licence and not paying all its taxes, sparking a four-year legal battle with Vedanta.

KCM's liquidation process has now been halted and Vedanta would continue to run the mines as the majority shareholder with 79.4 percent stake, the government said Tuesday (Sep. 05).

"The KCM board will be reinstated and Vedanta Resources Limited will return to its previous role as the majority shareholders," the country's mining minister told a press conference in Lusaka.

The firm will enjoy "a renewed financing commitment towards investment in mine development and to increase production," mining minister Paul Kabuswe said. Zambia is Africa's second biggest copper-producing country on the continent after the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the sector is a major employer.

London-based mining Vedanta has said it will invest into developing KCM over the next five years.

Vedanta also pledged to invest \$20 million into the lo-



Workers build a copper foundry in Chingola, Zambia

cal mining community annually.

In 2015, some 2,500 villagers filed a claim in London against KCM for alleged toxic pollution caused by water discharged from its unit Nchanga Copper Mine, situated in Zambia's central Copperbelt region.

The mining firm agreed to settle the claims in 2021. The terms of the deal were not disclosed.

The Zambian government which grapples with a huge debt aims a annual production of 3 million tons of copper within the next 10 years.

According to GlobalData, Zambia is the world's eighth-largest producer of copper in 2022, with output down by 0.56% on 2021. Over the five years to 2021, production from Zambia increased by a CAGR of 0.04% and is expected to rise by a CAGR of 0.29% between 2022 and 2026.

Zambia accounts for 4% of global production, with the largest producers being Chile, Peru, China and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Exports of copper from Zambia increased by 0.17% in 2022 over 2021, with the highest share being exported to China. Zambia's copper exports are expected to drop at a CAGR of 0.1% between 2022 and 2026.

Africa finds common ground on climate as Nairobi Declaration unveiled

By Joyce Chimbi

TO cool down a burning planet, Africa's Head of State and Government at the inaugural Africa Climate Summit unveiled the 'Nairobi Declaration' as curtains fell on the inaugural Africa Climate Summit held in Nairobi, September 4-6, 2023, under the theme "Driving Green Growth and Climate Finance Solutions for Africa and the World."

The joint declaration is a unified approach and political leadership on an African vision that simultaneously pursues climate change and development agenda. As climate change pushes an already fragile continent between a rock and a hard place, Africa's leaders say immediate action is needed.

Included in the declaration is an acknowledgement of the 6th Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2023, stating that the world is not on track to keeping within the 1.5°C limit agreed in Paris and that global emissions must be cut by 45 per cent in this decade.

"The report is particularly important because it highlights the interdependence of climate, ecosystems and biodiversity, and human societies - the value of diverse forms of knowledge, and the close linkages between climate adaptation, mitigation, ecosystem health, human well-being, and sustainable development," James Njuguna from the Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources tells IPS.

As such, the Nairobi declaration underscores the IPCC confirmation that "Africa is warming faster than the rest of the world and, if unabated, climate change will continue to have adverse impacts on African economies and societies, and hamper growth and wellbeing."

Against this backdrop, UN Secretary-General António Guterres, while speaking at the Nairobi climate summit, stressed that "an injustice burns at the heart of the climate crisis, and its flame is scorching hopes and possibilities here in Africa. This continent accounts for less than 4 per cent of global emissions. Yet it suffers some of the worst effects of rising global temperatures: extreme heat, ferocious floods, and tens of thousands dead from devastating droughts."

To push the continent's climate agenda forward, the declaration identifies several collective actions needed to halt the speed of the ongoing climate crisis and to build climate resilience. African leaders urged the global community to act with speed in reducing emissions and honouring the commitment to provide USD100 billion in annual climate finance, as promised 14 years ago at the Copenhagen conference.

Other actions include accelerating all efforts to reduce emissions to align with goals set forth in the Paris Agreement, upholding commitments to a fair and accelerated process of phasing down coal, and abolishment all fossil fuel subsidies. And swiftly operationalise the Loss and Damage facility agreed at COP27 and accelerate implementation of the African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032).

Reducing dependency on fossil fuels and increasing reliance on renewable energy is an important tool in the fight against climate change. Fossil fuels emit the highest carbon footprint of all fuel types and are considered dirty energy, followed by coal. Africa's abundance of wind and solar energy can simultaneously meet development and climate change adaptation and mitigation goals.

Mitigation costs for a clean energy transition in Africa are about USD 190 billion per year until 2030. In 2009, during the 15th Conference of Parties (COP15), developed countries committed to a collective goal of mobilizing USD 100 billion per year by 2020 for climate action. As the global community heads to COP28, the pledge is still very much a broken promise.

Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, and South Sudan incurred an estimated USD 7.4 billion of livestock losses due to climate change and yet rich nations paid less than 5 per cent of the USD53.3 billion East Africa needs to confront the climate crisis.

To meet the cost of climate adaptation and mitigation efforts, Africa's head of state and government are seeking: "New debt relief interventions and instruments to pre-empt debt default - with the ability to extend sovereign debt tenor and include a 10-year grace period. New universal global instruments to collect additional revenue.

"Decisive action on the promotion of inclusive and effective international tax cooperation at the United Nations with the aim to reduce



Global community urged to decarbonise their economy. Fossil fuels emit the highest carbon footprint of all fuel types and are considered dirty energy, followed by coal. Credit: Joyce Chimbi/IPS

Africa's loss of USD 27 billion annual corporate tax revenue through profit shifting by at least 50 per cent by 2030 and 75 per cent by 2050."

Towards pushing the continent's climate agenda forward, the Nairobi declaration proposes to establish a new financing architecture that is responsive to Africa's needs, including debt restructuring and relief, including the development of a new Global Climate Finance Charter through the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and COP processes by 2025.

African leaders have yet another critical platform to push the climate agenda forward at the Climate Ambition Sum-

mit to be held on September 20, 2023, during the high-level week of the UNGA - as an opportunity for 'First Movers and Doers'.

'First Movers and Doers' is in reference to people and institutions from Government, business, finance, local authorities, and civil society who are already engaged in climate action and can offer pointers into how climate action can be accelerated. Further, the Nairobi declaration will form the basis of negotiations at the COP28 summit as Africa's common position in global climate change processes.

Actioning the declaration is particularly urgent for the injustice of climate

change is such that climate-induced disasters have cornered an already fragile continent, and a most vulnerable African population is in the eye of a deadly storm.

Malawi, Mozambique, and Madagascar were in February and March this year in the crosshairs of the most severe storms in the last 20 years. Deadly floods affected countries such as Chad, Nigeria, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya are experiencing the most severe drought in the last 40 years due to five consecutive rainy seasons. Children in 48 out of 49 African countries assessed by UNICEF are at high or extremely high risk of the

impacts of climate change. Children in the Central African Republic, Chad, Nigeria, Guinea, Somalia, and Guinea Bissau are the most at risk.

To cushion vulnerable communities against the vagaries of climate change, the declaration seeks to hold rich nations accountable for their contribution to the climate status quo and to therefore reach new global carbon taxes, restructure global climate financial infrastructure and decarbonise the global economy in favour of a green economy.

IPS UN Bureau Report



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
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

BUSINESS

Bank, eGaz sign MoU to accelerate Zanzibar's digital transformation

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

EXIM Bank Tanzania has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Zanzibar eGovernment Agency (eGaz) geared towards accelerating Zanzibar's digital transformation journey.

The MoU has been signed after the recent launch of the Zanzibar Digital Government Strategy for 2023-2027 that was graced by Zanzibar President Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi.

Speaking before the signing ceremony held in Zanzibar at the weekend, the Exim Bank Chief Finance Officer (CFO) Shani Kinswaga said the signing of the new MoU aligns with Zanzibar's digital transformation goals laid out in the Isle nation's Digital Economy Blueprint and Roadmap.

Kinswaga said the bank will leverage on technology as a tool to provide an exceptional digital experience by collaborating with eGaz to digitize payments which will ultimately increase Zanzibar Government's revenues and improve efficiency.

"This new partnership reiterates Exim bank's commitment to support sustainable economic development in Zanzibar. As a bank, we believe that the MoU signed today will not only significantly contribute to robust economic growth but help to accelerate Zanzibar's transformation into a strong digital economy," Kinswaga said.



This new partnership reiterates Exim bank's commitment to support sustainable economic development in Zanzibar. As a bank, we believe that the MoU signed today will not only significantly contribute to robust economic growth but help to accelerate Zanzibar's transformation into a strong digital economy,

bar's transformation into a strong digital economy," Kinswaga said.

He said the bank earlier this year upgraded its core banking system to a more resilient and robust infrastructure, a move geared towards enriching its offerings and delivering customers a heightened sense of security, efficiency, and innovation.

"We are committed to delve into the complete capabilities of our enhanced systems and our commitment persists in delivering beyond conventional banking services to our valued customers in Zanzibar including the Government," he stressed.

Kinswaga pledged that the bank will continue working with various players in Zanzibar's Blue Economy agenda to hasten growth in sectors that include tourism, fishing and agriculture by providing seamless banking options.

Said Seif Said, Zanzibar eGovernment Agency (eGaz) managing director noted that the partnership between the duos is a strategic one and will help fuel economic growth and facilitate financial and digital inclusion in Zanzibar.

"This is a partnership of its own and has come timely. We have been waiting for this moment for so long and we are glad that we have finally signed the MoU today marking the beginning of our exciting digital transformation journey," he said.

Said noted that his agency will continue working closely with Exim Bank to implement the Zanzibar Digital Economy roadmap.

"As we embark on this long journey to implement the five-year Zanzibar Digital Government Strategy, we are glad that strategic partners like Exim Bank have come on board and we believe the strategy will now be realized in a shorter period to achieve the set Government objectives," he said.

Said added digital transformation is a strategic priority for the Zanzibar Government adding that his agency is committed to ensure that people in Zanzibar receive stress-free digital services right at their fingertips through the use of various digital tools including smartphones.

"This partnership will enable us to drive innovation and leverage on Exim Bank's cutting-edge technologies to deliver a new digital experience in Zanzibar," he added.

Stanbic pledges to continue delivering quality services

By Guardian Reporter

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has reiterated commitment to continue supporting the government in creating platforms that provide insights to enable clients and businesses to make the right investment decisions for sustainable development.

The bank recently hosted an economic forum that unpacked the economic landscape and priorities that drive the economy, and the opportunities available for both local and foreign investors.

The forum brought together stakeholders from the Ministry of Finance who spoke on the government priorities for 2023/2024, the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) who presented on the country's investment agenda, while Standard Bank Regional experts shared insights on the state of the global economy and its impact on Africa, particularly the East African region and Tanzania.

Speaking at the forum, Stanbic Tanzania's Head of Global Markets, Erick Mushi said, "In a world where

change is the only constant, forums such as these serve as crucibles of ideas and catalysts for progress.

We are excited to bring together stakeholders from diverse industry backgrounds to share different perspectives, illuminate new pathways, challenge existing norms, and forging collaborations with policy makers that can redefine industries."

Standard Bank Africa Regions Head of Economic Research, Jibril Qureishi noted that Tanzania's economy remains resilient despite global shocks.

He added that there is more enthusiasm within the economy saying the bank was seeing more inclusive growth and excitement from the investment community, about the new refreshing approach from the Tanzania government.

The forum was also attended by the bank clients, who hailed the bank for the insightful discussions and enabling them to network with policy makers from the government.

He said the bank remains steadfast in its commitment to contribute to the

When anti-poverty grants fail to end rural poverty-2

By Francis Kajubi, Kisarawe

In Wednesday's issue we saw how Athumani Mkalule (65) resident of Chale village in Kisarawe District, Coast Region, is still struggling with poverty two decades since he became a TASAF beneficiary.

Edmund Livinda, TASAF Project Coordinator, Kisarawe District Council told the reporter that it is not TASAF's responsibility to mobilise funds for beneficiary groups for them to establish income generating activities.

For him, grants extended through TASAF are enough for serious beneficiaries to establish savings and lending groups hence run sustainable income generating activities of their own choice.

Livinda said that beneficiaries are trained on financial discipline; business plan and project proposals drafting so that they are capable of seeking investment loans from financial institutions. The training is done prior to grants disbursements.

He argued that beneficiaries perceive TASAF grants in different ways with some of them using the money on non-economic activities. He said the Fund is operating under a Laissez-faire policy.

"We cannot dictate how beneficiaries should spend their grants. A few beneficiaries who are yet to transforming their livelihoods through TASAF grants lack commitment, courage and trust among themselves;

There are several beneficiaries who have decided to form saving and lending groups and are successful. One of these groups is Jipe Moyo, found in Kitanga hamlet," said Livinda.

Livinda emphasized that the main priority of TASAF grants is to harmonise extreme poverty by facilitating people to manage daily household needs.

To him, public work programmes (PWP) are intended to complement the grants so that willing beneficiaries earn more.

"Beneficiaries are not forced to work in public work programmes.

Those who feel like they are not paid something they deserve are free to quit and continue as beneficiaries of monthly grants," said Livinda.

He dismissed complaints that TASAF grants are selective whereby the needy are left out and in some cases the grants benefit people from the middle income families.

Chris Rwezahula, TASAF Project Accountant, Kisarawe District Council, said that 77 villages are targeted with the project but so far 49 villages have been reached.

According to him, the 49 covered villages had registered 3,005 beneficiaries at the end of June 2023. The plan is to extend the project scope to the remaining 28 villages in the 2023/24 financial year.

That is to say of the 49 covered villages some of them might have registered up to 61 beneficiaries per village.

"Between May and June this year we have paid a sum of 211mn/- to all beneficiaries. Almost 65 percent of the payments were allocated to beneficiaries who took part in public works programmes," said Rwezahula.

With the 65 percent of 211mn/- disbursement it means that people who took part in the public work programme were paid a total wage worth 137.15mn/- while the remaining 73.85mn/- was the two months beneficiaries' grant.

He said that beneficiaries work 60 days in six months which is equivalent to ten days a month.

Beneficiaries have to graduate after five years but some of them, especially old men, have been filing requests asking to continue receiving the grants since they don't have relatives or income generating activities to rely on.

"The graduation age for being a TASAF beneficiary is 65 years. I don't have exact figures but the majority of them have been asking to continue receiving the grants;

For one to graduate we have to conduct an analysis if he or she is capable of living their lives independently from the project," said Rwezahula.



Juma Mfaume holds a rope he uses to climb coconut trees.

He asserted that in the Coast region all nine district councils known as project areas of authority (PAA) are covered by TASAF projects.

Rwezahula named the PAA as Kisarawe District Council, Chalinze District Council, Kibaha District Council, Kibaha Town Council, Bagamoyo District Council, Mkuranga District Council, Mafia District Council, Kibiti District Council and Rufiji District Council.

Beatrice Kwai, Kisarawe District Council Executive Director, said that the idea of establishing TASAF beneficiary savings and lending groups is being embraced.

She said that beneficiaries have to form groups and establish income generating activities. Kwai asserted that the grants are issued to individual beneficiaries and not savings and lending groups.

"We could have intervened by linking these groups to financial institutions but we have learned our lesson from the beneficiaries of the 10 percent district council's loans;

Most benefiting groups have been not loyal in repaying their loans. It has turned into a headache for us," said Kwai.

If that is the case, she questioned, who knows if the TASAF beneficiary groups who demand linkage to financial institutions will repay the loans they

need?

Speaking of the challenges that come with the 10 percent district council loans, Hoffman Sanga, Kisarawe District Council Community Development Officer, said that the district has registered over 400 beneficiaries of the 10 percent interest free loans allocated from monthly district total revenue collections.

According to him, youths and women are supposed to be in saving and lending groups to access the loans. As for people living with disabilities this condition does not apply to them. They can access loans even individually.

Borrowers must have already established an income generating activity. They must have a well-defined business plan, a group constitution, and leadership and be registered by the village leadership to which the proposed project is being implemented.

Sanga said borrowers don't need collateral to access the loan but a verification letter of the group's existence to be issued by the Ward Development Committee.

"The free interest loan amount depends on our evaluation of the existing business run by the specific group or an individual;

Beneficiaries are given three months of managing their projects or busi-

nesses before they start paying back the loans. Loans are paid back on a monthly basis for a period that doesn't exceed twelve months," said Sanga.

Sanga asserted that during the third quarter of the 2022/23 financial year (January to March 2023) the district had disbursed 162.1mn/- to 29 special groups of which 20 are women-led groups, six youths led groups and three people with disability groups.

He said women-led groups are good at repaying loans but the challenge is with youth-led groups and people with disabilities. Commitment is what motivates women in being sharp to repay the loans.

According to him, 500mn/- is yet to be repaid by the over 400 beneficiary special groups. He said the loan application model has been digitized and since 2022/23 requests are filed on the Ten Percent Loan Management Information System (TPLMIS).

"We are continuing to receive requests but have stopped issuing the loans since April this year following the Prime Minister's directive," said Sanga.

Earlier May 2023, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa when addressing the National Assembly directed all executive directors across the country's 184 district councils to stop issuing the 10 percent

loans, which are extended to special groups namely youths, women and people living with disabilities.

The 10 percent loans are raised from district monthly revenue collections where four percent goes to women, another four percent goes to youths and the remaining two percent goes to people living with disabilities through non-interest loans.

The Premier argued that there is fraud in issuing the loans where ghost beneficiary groups are formed and given money.

"This arrangement should stop with effect on revenue collected from April to June 2023 until further notice. The government needs to conduct a thorough verification on disbursement and beneficiaries of the loans," said Majaliwa.

Haluna Kapilima, a 71 years old woman resident of Chale village said that TASAF had since the past six years when she became a beneficiary helped her to live a happier life.

"I live with my elder son. I rely on him for food and treatment. If I wasn't a TASAF beneficiary I would have been embarrassing him by demanding petty cash for my personal spending. With the 24,000/- grant I'm able to buy Khanga and other petty things on my own," said Kapilima.

Juma Mfaume (49) Kidugalo hamlet resident thanked the government for coming up with the TASAF project that has been supporting people from poor households with grants to survive.

"It's just six years since I became a TASAF beneficiary. I have two children. I'm paid 30,000/- in a two months period as a children's monthly grant. I'm often paid 90,000/- as wage for participating in public work programmes," said Mfaume.

According to him, he has managed to send his two children to school, build a three room mud house, even purchase a one kilowatt solar panel and he enjoys electricity consumption since the village is yet to be reached by the rural electrification project.

Mfaume revealed that he doesn't only rely on TASAF grants but also works as a coconut tree climber and on other villagers' farms.

He earns 1500/- from climbing one coconut tree. He usually climbs one coconut tree a day but on lucky days he climbs up to three trees and earns 4500/-. However, he earns between 3,000/- and 7,000/- by working on other villagers' farms.

According to the third quarter implementation progress report covering January to March 2023, by the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government Authorities, TASAF is currently implementing the second phase of the Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN II) project launched in February 2020.

FinScope Tanzania 2023 findings by the Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT) about 44 percent of Tanzanians generate personal income through trading seasonal agriculture produce harvests.

FinScope shows 35 percent of Tanzanians generate their income from casual labour or occasional jobs; eight percent generate income from monthly salaries or wages and five percent generate income by providing services usually on daily or weekly basis.

The report states that 26 percent of Tanzanians occasionally rely on someone else for their income.

According to the third quarter implementation progress report covering January to March 2023, by the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government Authorities, TASAF is implementing the second phase of the Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN II) project which was launched in February 2020 after the PSSN-I was closed in December 2019.

TASAF was established in 2000 with the purpose of socially and economically uplifting households living under extreme poverty.

To be continued tomorrow

Govt encourages smallholder farmers to embrace warehouse receipt system



Women work on a farm

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has reaffirmed its commitment to bridging the gap between farmers and markets, urging farmers of various crops to persist in adopting the warehouse receipt system for selling their produce. The system has proven to deliver significant benefits, particularly in driving price increases.

During recent events and discussions, President Samia Suluhu Hassan and Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa emphasized the notable price hikes in cashew nuts, peas, cocoa, and sesame resulting from the competitive dynamics among buyers, a direct outcome of the warehouse receipt system.

Acknowledging the persistent challenges in establishing a strong connection between farmers and markets, President Samia admitted the ongoing efforts in some crops, such as cashew nuts and peas, have successfully boosted their prices.

The President's remarks were made at the just-ended African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) in Dar es Salaam.

"It is true that the connection between farmers and markets is still unsatisfactory. However, the efforts we have initiated for some crops, including cashew nuts and peas, have helped to raise the prices of the crops, thanks to the warehouse receipt system," mentioned President Samia.

President Samia highlighted the extraordinary market progress, exemplified by peas, which saw prices soar from 300 /- per kilogram in the previous season to 2,000/- or higher.

She also emphasized the intention to extend the warehouse receipt system to other crops, recognizing its effectiveness.

"And this (the warehouse receipt system) is the model we will also adopt for other crops," emphasized President Samia.

She further pledged to expedite the construction of roads across various districts to facilitate the seamless transportation

of crops from farmers to both domestic and international markets.

Echoing the President's sentiments during the adjournment of parliamentary activities over the weekend, Prime Minister Majaliwa shared optimism about the ongoing improvement in crop prices, particularly for those sold through the warehouse receipt system.

"For instance, cocoa, extensively cultivated in the Kyela and Mvomero districts, is now fetching 8,700/- per kilogram, a significant increase from the previous price of 2,500/- per kilogram. Similarly, sesame is being sold at 4,000/- per kilogram compared to the previous season's range of 1,000 to 1,200/- per kilogram," he stated.

The government's encouragement to farmers to embrace the warehouse receipt system aims to ensure fair prices and market access for their produce, ultimately benefiting the agricultural sector and the nation as a whole.

Banks to link part of bonus to green financing targets

NAIROBI

Commercial banks are set to link part of staff pay, including bonuses, to climate-related milestones following the adoption of a climate-related financial disclosures template.

The guideline is anchored on governance, strategy, risk management, metrics and targets and aims to enable banks to appropriately and comprehensively report their respective climate-related risks and opportunities.

Banks will be expected to increase the amount of executive management remuneration impacted by climate change considerations while other staff would have bonuses based on the sale of green products relative to a year-to-year baseline.

The adoption of the template moves away from the current remuneration structure where compensation to staff is tied heavily to the financial performance of respective institutions and profits.

In addition to tying staff pay to climate considerations, banks are expected to apportion investments to be deployed toward climate-related risks and opportunities including allocations to portfolios such as electric vehicle manufacturing.



Kenya Bankers Association chief executive officer Dr Habil Olaka

Lenders are to set a proportion of revenues, assets and other business activities, aligned with climate-related opportunities.

For example, banks would document revenues from products or services supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy or the number of green buildings financed.

The template is expected to allow commercial banks licensed by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) to comply with its guidance on climate-related risk management issued in 2021.

"Through our Sustainable Finance Initiative e-learning

training, we have been able to sensitise our members to make lending decisions that benefit the environment, society and economy," noted Kenya Bankers Association CEO Habil Olaka.

KBA said the programme had reached over 45,000 banking sector employees including ex-staff since 2015. The climate-related reporting template was developed through KBA's Sustainable Finance Initiative.

As delegates from different African countries converge in Nairobi from last Monday for the inaugural Africa Climate Summit, a new report has shown how banks

outside the continent finance projects that fuel the climate crisis.

The report, How the Finance Flows; the banks fueling the climate crisis, shows that every year, 11 banks from Europe, the Americas and Asia pump in money to finance such projects 20 times more than they do for climate solutions on the continent.

Published by Action Aid, the report analysed financial flows in more than 100 countries in the Global South whose fossil fuel projects (coal, oil and gas) and those in industrial agriculture were paid for by the said banks.

Some of the top banks fingered in the report are HSBC, Citigroup and JP Morgan Chase.

Since 2015 when the landmark Paris Agreement, which is known for, among other things, limiting global warming to about 1.5 degrees Celsius, the banks have funded the expansion of fossil fuels to the tune of \$3.2 trillion.

The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report says that human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels and changes in land use are the culprits for climate change.

"Limiting global warming will require major transitions in the energy sector. This will involve a substantial reduction in fossil fuel

use, widespread electrification, improved energy efficiency, and use of alternative fuel," says the IPCC report.

The report also shows that the banks gave out about \$370 billion towards projects in industrial agriculture, whose emissions, after burning fossil fuels, are the second greatest contributors to greenhouse gases.

In a statement sent to newsrooms on Sunday, Arthur Larok, the secretary-general at ActionAid International, said that the report must not be ignored especially by the banks paying for the projects that derail reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

"The world's money is flowing in the wrong direction - since the Paris Agreement, banks have provided 20 times more financing to fossil fuels and industrial agriculture. This is absurd and must stop," he said.

Teresa Anderson, Global Lead on Climate Justice at ActionAid International and author of the report, said that there is a need for global banks to make public declarations that they are addressing climate change but the scale of their continued financing of fossil fuels and industrial agriculture is staggering.

TMSA to award best marketers for 2023

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Marketing Science Association (TMSA) is expected to host the annual marketing congress and awards, in a bid to encourage more professionalism in the marketing ecosystem in the country.

The Annual marketing congress is now being held for the fourth time, while the marketing awards is being held for the third time.

The annual marketing congress provides a room for sharing insights that shapes the marketing professionalism in Tanzania while the awards focus on shaping excellence in the marketing field. Since their inception in 2021, TMSA has leveraged the awards to spotlight the efforts and achievements of individuals, organizations, and scholars who are making a difference in the field of marketing.

"This year we expect to issue awards in more than 20 different marketing categories. The annual marketing congress and awards expect to take 2023 place on 27th October 2023 at Blue Sapphire, opposite Ramada Hotel in Dar es Salaam. The program for the annual marketing congress will start from 9.00am, while the main program for the awards gala dinner will take place from 18hrs," said Dr Emmanuel Chao, TMSA director said over the weekend when briefing on the matter.

Dr Chao pointed out how marketing is indispensable to guarantee brand growth and profitability.

He said: "In any business, enterprise marketing is exceptional, as it constitutes between 30 and 40 percent of the business budget, and is a strong determining factor for profitability and survival in the business market."

As TMSA, we will use this opportunity to encourage companies and practitioners to be more professional. Luckily, at TMSA, we are already offering marketing-certified programs. We are also under negotiations with the Chartered Marketing Institute of the UK to align with their programs. Our intention is to win over the local market by producing qualified marketers with more understanding of the African market than abroad. He ended.

We would like to appreciate our partners who have provided essential support for making this event successful. These are: Smart Codes, Hessa Africa, Imperial Marketing and Communication, Bremex Marketing and Communication, Integrated Marketing Communication, Kango, 360, Attwood Marketing and Communication and others

The main Partner, Smart Codes which was represented by Iche Omari, acclaimed the awards as an 'ice-breaker' to spur growth in the marketing industry. "We are fully on board with TMSA awards, and we are optimistic that this is a stepping stone in the right direction to inspire creativity and professionalism among Tanzanian marketers," she said.

TMSA will award winners in categories such as: Excellence in interactive marketing/AR & VR, Excellence in event marketing, Excellence in digital marketing, Excellence in experiential marketing, Community-focused firm of the year, marketing research team of the year, marketer of the year, Excellence in product launch/re-launch, the rising star of the year, marketing agency of the year, digital marketing agency of the year, hall of fame, and young marketing leader of the year.

The vetting and selection process was driven online via www.tmsa.or.tz/nomination, where individuals and organizations were nominated. After the nomination process, a team of well-experienced judges will through the proposed nominations and selected winners.



Ekperikpe Ekpo

LAGOS

NATURAL gas has become critical in driving industrial activities in both developed and developing countries.

The global demand for natural gas has grown rapidly, particularly in the past couple of decades. This increasing global demand for natural gas has also spurred commercialization of the resource, particularly in the developing countries, where some of the largest gas reserves are located.

Unfortunately, to date, most of Nigeria's natural gas

Gas resources: Tasks ahead

production have been flared or re-injected to enhance greater crude oil recovery. With electric power still as epileptic as ever and global climate change caused by green house emissions from this flaring, it has become imperative to find ways to exploit and utilise Nigeria's natural gas reserves for the improvement of the nation's economy.

Enter President Bola Ahmed Tinubu with an unprecedented move, indicative of the country's readiness to harness this untapped potential for economic growth. This bold shift saw the separation of the gas and petroleum ministries and heralded a venture into a prior uncharted territory in the oil and gas sector. For a man well known for having a keen eye for talent, the subsequent appointment of Obongmem Ekperikpe Ekpo as the new Minister of State for Gas Resources to midwife this vision is another laudable mas-

terstroke.

Being Africa's largest gas producer and placing ninth in the world, this moment in history, which may well turn out to be a very defining one in Nigeria's history, as it signals the journey to cementing a sustainable alternative to the extant fossil-fuel-driven economy; the man tasked with drawing up a road-map to execute the President's vision, Ekperikpe Ekpo, may not be the most popular given his modest demeanour, but he more than makes up for his natural pre-disposition to shy away from the spotlight, with an uncanny capacity for delivering gargantuan results.

A former national legislator in the nation's Green Chambers between 2007 and 2011, Ekpo is not new to the challenges of the Nigerian state. And knowing the urgency of the task at hand, he has already folded his sleeves and gotten down to the business of expanding energy accessibil-

ity, while also improving the nation's revenue stream.

The prospected upturn in fortunes will definitely not be a stroll in the park given the attendant challenges in this sector as well as the intangibles often associated with the teething process of a new innovation, such as the Ministry of Gas Resources. However, Ekpo has started on a sound footing.

He has carefully assessed the sector and has identified how good - and maybe even how bad - things are; but more importantly, how much better they can be. He disclosed that Nigeria's natural gas reserves is currently put at over 200 trillion cubic feet (TCF), but that the country's gas sector still remains merely a potential key player in the emergent global natural gas market. This is because not much has been accomplished in terms of the effective exploitation and utilisation of the over \$800 billion worth of resource, as only a

paltry 1.7% of this reserve is being accessed.

He has expressed his determination to maximise this huge resource via a "gas revolution" that will grow businesses, create employment opportunities and provide energy to help ameliorate hardship in Nigeria. To achieve these, Ekpo has identified key areas that will drive this revolution to include attracting foreign investments, given Nigeria's position in the world market as a favourable investment hub. Other areas, which will bring the vision of gas-propelled economic and industrial growth to fruition, are circumventing the challenges of supply and the development of critical infrastructure.

With his appointment and his veracity, Nigeria will more likely exploit the opportunities to increase LNG exploration and thereby making more foreign exchange earnings.

MTN launches skills academy in Uganda

KAMPALA

MTN has opened a skills school in Uganda to address the digital skills gap, particularly among rural and marginalised youth.

The MTN Skills Academy seeks to provide youngsters across the African continent with access to digital and financial skills training as a catalyst for job development and expanded employment prospects.

MTN said yesterday that it is well positioned to serve communities thanks to its collaboration with ATC Uganda, which has Digital Communities situated at the base of its towers, and Huawei, which has a mobile Dig-itruck giving connection.

ATC's Digital Communities are digitally connected spaces that are equipped with ICT and offer instructor-led or self-guided digital literacy and youth education instruction, financial literacy and career skilling, or health-care services with the goal of improving quality of life through connectivity.

In addition, MTN Uganda debuted its digital bus, which provides mobile connectivity to enable community members to access the MTN Skills Academy from numerous locations across the country.

Joyce Nabosha Ssebugwa, Minister of State for Information, Communications and Technology, said: "This project will enable our youth to tap into the vast resources that MTN offers for our nation's development."

Nompilo Morafo, MTN Group chief sustainability and corporate affairs officer, said: "We believe that this platform will be pivotal in providing Ugandan youth with the essential skills required to flourish in the digital economy."

"Not only will this help alleviate the shortage of digital skills, but it will also reverberate positively across the nation's economic growth trajectory, aligning to the newly launched Digital Transformation Roadmap."

Trade summit
Meanwhile, the Uganda-South Africa investment and trade summit, attended by MTN Group and other significant South African companies that have operations in Uganda, concluded this week.

The summit's goal is to boost investment and trade between Uganda and South Africa. Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni presided over the event.

Speaking at the summit, MTN Group chair Mcebisi Jonas, said: "As a Pan-African



Nompilo Morafo, MTN Group chief sustainability and corporate affairs officer

organisation MTN sees its role as an important part of the broader conversation to support and facilitate growth and development across the continent and that is why the group has played its part in engaging with the public and private sector to make the summit a reality."

In his closing remarks, President Museveni encouraged companies to continue investing in Uganda.

Uganda is one of MTN's core markets, and mobile subscribers increased by

11.2% to 18.1 million in the current reporting period, while active data subscribers increased by 21.4% to 6.9 million and active fintech subscribers increased by 11.6% to 10.9 million.

On another development ATC Nigeria has been revealed as the new preferred tower company, which will lease around 2,500 network sites to MTN.

MTN Nigeria notified the Nigerian Exchange of the plan, stating that the lease for about 2,500 network

sites, for which IHS Nigeria currently provides tower services, is set to expire in 2024 and 2025. The company said in accordance with MTN Nigeria's procurement policy, which attempts to ensure a transparent and competitive bidding procedure, the company has now selected ATC to provide services for these sites.

It said: "This will further diversify our site portfolio and align with our proactive initiatives to renegotiate tower agreements, focusing on

ensuring terms that will help cushion the business from the volatility in our trading environment. ATC will take over the provision of tower services for the affected sites from 2025."

Of the 19 markets within which MTN Group operates, Nigeria contributes the lion's share of group revenue.

In the current reporting period, MTN Nigeria's mobile subscribers increased by 4.0% to 77.1 million, active data users surged by 11.5% to 41 million

Nigeria set to host Africa internet governance forum

LAGOS

This month, Nigeria will host the Africa Internet Governance Forum (AIGF) in Abuja.

This comes ahead of the 18th United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF), which will be held in Japan next month, with the theme of "The Internet we want - empowering all people".

The Nigerian Communications Commission is hosting the AIGF on behalf of the government, with the theme "Transforming Africa's Digital Landscape: Empowering Inclusion, Security, and Innovation".

A statement by the commission reads: "The Forum will serve as a platform for meaningful dialogue and collaboration on Internet governance among various sectors and regional initiatives to advance digital connectivity, address Internet governance challenges, and empower Africa through digital transformation."

"The event will be preceded by the African Youth Internet Governance Forum,

which will take place from 13-18 September, 2023.

It added: "The series of events at this year's programme will commence with the Parliamentary Symposium, scheduled to take place on 18-19 September, 2023, during which members of the parliament from all participating countries will take the opportunity to consult and network with one another in a roundtable designed to better understanding of the roles of the legislature, and nudge deeper synergy with parliaments on Internet governance in Africa."

Next month, AIGF, which will have eight sub-themes to cover all such Internet-related issues for discussion. These are: AI and emerging technologies, avoiding Internet fragmentation, cyber security, cyber crime and on-line safety, data governance and trust, digital divides and inclusion, global digital governance and cooperation, human rights and freedoms, and finally sustainability and environment.

Digital banking role in uplifting women on the African continent

By Belinda Rathogwa

Like many other countries, South Africa has a high number of women-led households who contribute to economic and social development. Based on data collected in 2021, Statistics SA estimates that 7.6 million households in South Africa are headed by women. Therefore, 42.1% of South African households depend on women as their primary breadwinners.

Despite the significant reliance on women, research conducted by the International Research Center for Development and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation highlights that women face significant challenges that limit their ability to access information, opportunities and the resources needed to uplift themselves and those around them. Specifically, the research shows that women have difficulty maintaining full control of how their money is spent or saved because they don't have access to the knowledge and tools they need to manage their finances.

Consequently, many female-led households are unable to reach their full economic potential. And the opportunity cost of this is significant. In fact, The McKinsey Global Institute estimates that fully incorporating women into the world economy would add \$12 trillion to global GDP by 2025. Bridging the gap is imperative if we want to stimulate economic growth and this is where technology is playing a key role.

Digital banking for example has made it easier and more convenient to access banking services and money management tools. Women who aim to take better control of their finances can open a bank account and access a full suite of banking services through digital banking apps, including savings and investments, personal lending and insurance.

In the first half of 2023, women constituted 51% of clients who opened a savings or investment account through Standard Bank's Mobile Banking App. Around 51% of new loans and 47% of further loans granted through the Standard Bank app were disbursed to women.

In addition to enabling access to financial services, the Standard Bank Mobile Banking App supports clients in developing healthy financial habits and making informed financial decisions through financial management tools such as credit score, money movements or budget manager. Standard Bank data shows that in the first half of 2023, women made payments to the value of R73 billion using digital platforms.

Moreover, 41% of clients who viewed their credit score and 40% who managed their budget through the Banking App were female. Consequently, digital banking can meaningfully support women in maintaining control of how their money is spent, optimising how they use their financial resources to uplift themselves and those around them.



MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM

SATURDAY 8 July		SUNDAY 9 July		MONDAY 10 July		TUESDAY 11 July		WEDNESDAY 12 July		THURSDAY 13 July		FRIDAY 14 July		SATURDAY 15 July		SUNDAY 16 July		MONDAY 17 July		TUESDAY 18 July		WEDNESDAY 19 July		THURSDAY 20 July		FRIDAY 21 July		SATURDAY 22 July		SUNDAY 23 July			
5:30	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi	5:00	Uwajja wa Mazoezi



Belinda Rathogwa is the head of digital at Standard Bank South Africa

WORLD

G20 inclusion of African Union cited as historic for Global South

NEW DELHI

THE inclusion of the African Union in the Group of 20 is a historic expansion of the economic bloc, with the Global South voice now carrying more weight, experts said.

The AU has been granted permanent membership to the G20, India announced on Saturday. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited the president of the 55-member African Union or AU to take a seat at the table among permanent members at the opening of the two-day summit on Saturday morning, stating there was consensus among existing members to approve the move.

The African Union became the second regional grouping after the EU to be admitted to the Group of 20 leading industrialized and developing nations as a full permanent member, Modi said in G20 leaders' summit in New Delhi.

Reacting to the inclusion of African Union in the G20, Vincent Magwenya, spokesperson to South Africa President Cyril Ramaphosa, said, "India has done extremely well not only with respect to the organization of the summit but with

respect to focusing this summit on including the voice of the Global South, and including smaller countries that were often excluded from such forums. So, we are very delighted at this development that AU is now part of the G20."

"The collective efforts of both India and China have played [a role] in ensuring that you have a summit of this nature, that is inclusive. It is the same level of efforts and cooperation that we saw in the lead-up to the BRICS summit with respect to a number of issues that had to be managed to build enough to the Summit," Magwenya added.

"We think it augurs very well with respect to how the global financial architecture gets shaped as well as how the global sort of governance processes are approached. They will be approached now with the inclusion of the African continent, which remains an integral part of the global economy. It was always a miss that you could have such forums being hosted and conducted at the exclusion of a continent of more than 1.4 billion people," he said.

Amid the round of applause from G20 delegates, Azali Assoumani, the current AU president and also president of the Co-



This image tweeted by President of Kenya William Samoei Ruto, 'Kenya welcomes the addition of the African Union – the fastest growing continent in the world – to the G20. This will increase the voice of Africa, visibility, and influence on the global stage and provide a platform to advance the common interest of our people. This fits perfectly with the resolutions of the just-concluded Africa Climate Summit, including the reform of international financial institutions and multilateral development banks. ANI

moros, was escorted by Indian Foreign Minister S Jaishankar to a seat, and Modi rose to hug him.

The inclusion of the AU will mark the bloc's first growth since it was created in 1999 in response to an Asian financial crisis and now includes the European Union and the 19 largest economies in the globe.

"Honored to welcome the African Union as a permanent member of the G20 Family. This will strengthen the G20 and also strengthen the voice of the Global South," said a message on Modi's official account on social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter.

South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa is also attending the G20 Summit which is underway now in Bharat Mandapam at Pragati Maidan.

China and India were most vocal in their attempts and the run up to get AU into the G20.

"China is the first country to explicitly voice support for the AU's accession to G20," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said on Thursday.

Former veteran diplomat and former Indian High Commissioner to South Africa, Virendra

Gupta said, "It is a very good development. The forum gets more representatives. With the inclusion of AU, voice of global south will get much more strengthened. If you want any organization to grow, it should have adequate representation."

The inclusion of the AU is the way of future growth of G20, said the former veteran diplomat.

"The African Continent can no longer be ignored. Everyone is doing business with them. It is also about being inclusive. Excluding AU while the EU is included does not make political sense in today's time and age," said Archana Upadhyay, a Professor of School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Most importantly, the Global South is a force to reckon with. The inclusion of the AU is the recognition of this reality. The emerging economies have big economic and political clout, Upadhyay added.

It could promote development of African nations and will increase global engagement with the union to achieve sustainable development goals, said Haans Freddy, a professor in the department of political science at Madras Christian College in Chennai, India.

Developing Russia-North Korea ties in line with ensuring regional security – Putin

TOKYO



DEVELOPMENT of bilateral relations between Russia and North Korea in all directions is in line with ensuring security and stability of the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia, Russian President Vladimir Putin wrote in his congratulatory message to North Korean leader Kim Jong-un on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Day of the Foundation of the Republic.

"I am confident that through joint efforts we will continue to systematically develop bilateral relations in all directions. This fully meets the interests of our peoples and is in line with ensuring security and stability on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia," the North Korean state radio Voice of Korea quoted excerpts from the message.

Putin also pointed out that the Soviet Union was the first to recognize the new sovereign state. "Since then, relations between our countries have always been based on the principles of friendship, good-neighborliness and mutual respect. Significant experience of constructive cooperation in various fields has been accumulated," the president's congratulatory message said.

Putin also wished Kim Jong-un "good health and success, and all North Korean citizens - peace and prosperity."

US reaffirms its support for Morocco's autonomy plan for Western Sahara as 'serious, credible and realistic'

RABAT

THE United States has again shown its strong support for Morocco's autonomy plan for Western Sahara as the most "serious, credible and realistic", with a potential approach to meeting the aspirations of the Sahrawi people, in order to resolve a conflict that has lasted more than four decades since Spain's departure that ended the colonial era in the area.

This is the message that emerged from the visit of Joshua Harris, US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for North Africa, to Rabat, where he met with the Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Residing Abroad, Nasser Bourita.

"The United States continues to view Morocco's autonomy plan as serious, credible and realistic," an official statement from the US Embassy in Rabat said after Joshua Harris' meeting with Nasser Bourita.

The US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for North Africa and the Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs reaffirmed the mutual partnership between the two nations and the enduring support for the UN-led political process in Western Sahara.

The senior US official, who was accompanied by the US Ambassador to Morocco, Puneet Talwar, also 'reaffirmed the deep and historic partnership between the United States and Morocco', as the US Embassy indicated.

Joshua Harris ended in the Moroccan kingdom a regional tour of North Africa that had previously taken him to Algeria, where he met with officials of the Polisario Front and the Algerian state and visited the refugee camps in Tindouf, which house Saharawis who are living in very difficult conditions under the responsibility of the Polisario and Algerian authorities.

On this trip, the senior US official reaffirmed support for Staffan de Mistura, the UN Secretary-General's personal envoy for Western Sahara, and stressed the importance of working with the UN official in a spirit of realism and compromise as he intensifies his efforts to achieve a lasting and dignified political solution to the Saharawi dispute. De Mistura has recently developed important contacts with the parties involved in the issue, including Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania and members of the so-called 'Group of Friends', including Spain, the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom and France, with a view to finding a solution to the existing problem.

Morocco proposes for Western Sahara a formula of broad autonomy under Moroccan sovereignty that envisages a large degree of self-government for the Saharawis, reserving security and foreign policy powers for the Moroccan state, all while respecting UN resolutions. This initiative has received much international support from countries such as the United States, Israel, the United Arab Emirates, Germany and Spain, which consider it to be the most serious, credible and realistic way of resolving the problem of the territory.

On the other hand, the Polisario Front, supported by Algeria, Morocco's great political rival in the Maghreb, advocates holding a referendum on independence for the Sahrawi people, which has less support on the international stage and is difficult to implement due to various problems such as the electoral roll, according to various analysts.

The US diplomat demonstrated US appreciation for Morocco's critical efforts on a wide range of regional and global challenges, especially combating instability in the Sahel, supporting Libyan elections and promoting equitable measures of freedom, security and prosperity for Israelis and Palestinians, as the US Embassy in Rabat and the Kingdom of Morocco's Department of Foreign Affairs also officially noted.

Li: No conflict of interests exists between China, Europe

NEW DELHI

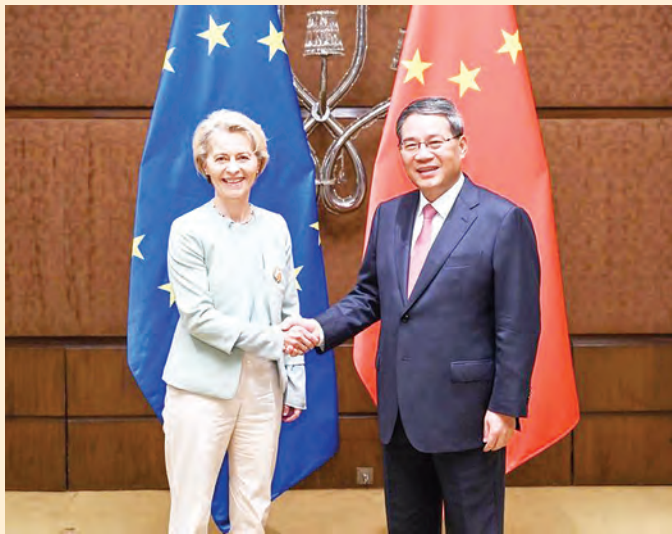
LYING at the opposite ends of Eurasia, there is no geopolitical conflict between China and Europe, let alone a fundamental conflict of interests, Chinese Premier Li Qiang said yesterday.

China is ready to work with Europe to promote the sound and steady development of the bilateral relationship, Li said when meeting with European Council President Charles Michel on the sidelines of the G20 summit.

As China and Europe are two major forces, markets and civilizations in the world, China-Europe relations bear on global stability and prosperity of the Eurasian continent, Li said.

He added that China hopes to see a prosperous and stable Europe, and is ready to work with the European side to stay committed to their partnership, further strengthen dialogue and exchanges, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, and properly handle sensitive issues, to promote the sustained, healthy and stable development of China-Europe relations and inject stability and positive energy into this turbulent world.

Li pointed out that both sides should strengthen strategic guidance. As this year marks the 20th anniversary of the China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership, the Chinese premier said he looks forward to co-chairing the new round of China-EU summit with Michel and European Com-



Chinese Premier Li Qiang meets with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit in New Delhi, India on Saturday. XINHUA

mission President Ursula von der Leyen.

China's development is an opportunity, not a risk, for Europe, and both sides should continue to open up and cooperate for mutual benefit, the premier said.

No matter now or in the future, Li pledged that China is and will remain a trustworthy friend and partner of Europe. China stands ready to work with Europe to enhance dialogue and negotiation, discuss establishing relevant mechanisms to promote the reliability and stability of China-Europe economic and trade relations, he said, welcoming more European businesses to invest and operate in China.

Michel, for his part, said that the EU is willing to be a sincere, credible and constructive friend and partner of China.

A prosperous China is good for the EU and the wider world, and the EU has no intention to contain China's development,

Michel said. The EU adheres to the one-China principle and stands ready to work with China to host a successful EU-China summit, deepen dialogue and cooperation in various fields, and jointly address global challenges such as climate change, public health, security and stability.

On Saturday, Li said that the mainstream of China-Europe ties is cooperation, and the relations are win-win in nature.

In his meeting with Von der Leyen on the sidelines of the G20 summit, Li also said that China and Europe, as two major forces in a multipolar world and two major engines of global development, should come together even closer and step up their cooperation.

He called on both sides to offset uncertainties in the international landscape with the stability of China-Europe relations.

China, Li said, stands ready to work with Europe in successfully hosting the China-EU Summit this year, deepen mutual trust and properly handle differences through communication and consultation, and jointly make more positive contributions to global peace and development.

Risk prevention as well as co-

operation are not mutually exclusive, Li said, adding that people should not simply equate interdependence with insecurity, nor should they overstretch the concept of security and politicize economic issues.

Li expressed the hope that the EU will uphold the principles of market economy and fair competition, keep its trade and investment markets open, and provide a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory environment for Chinese companies to invest and operate in Europe.

China is willing to further deepen green partnership with Europe, strengthen dialogue and cooperation in such fields as clean energy and green finance, and provide support for developing countries in tackling climate change, he added.

For her part, Von der Leyen said that since the beginning of this year, exchanges between Europe and China have been continuously strengthened and yielded positive results.

The European side, she added, is willing to strengthen dialogue and cooperation with China in various fields to jointly tackle climate change and other global challenges. Xinhua

Somali public officers hone skills in human rights, civilian protection

MOGADISHU

THE African Union (AU) Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) said it has wrapped up a five-day training course to sharpen skills for Somali public officers in human rights and civilian protection.

The training, which was conducted in the port city of Kismayo, southern Somalia, saw 21 officers from Jubaland State ministries and civil society organizations equipped with the necessary knowledge on how to protect and promote human rights in their respective regions. "We expect

that the participants will cascade it to different sectors of the society and make sure we generate a large number of trainers," Gloria Jaese, the civilian sector coordinator and protection officer at the ATMIS, said in a statement issued in the Somali capital of Mogadishu on Friday evening. Jaese said one

of the AU mission's mandates is to promote human rights protection and to ensure that human rights are respected in their operations and those of their counterparts.

The participants will be part of a team that will be sent to different parts of Jubaland to train locals and various interest groups on

human rights and civilian protection. The ATMIS said the training focused on deepening the participants' understanding of key principles of international human rights law, including human rights frameworks, children's rights, women's rights, and the protection of internally displaced people. Xinhua

China rolls out policies to improve foreign investment environment

CHINA'S State Council has recently issued guidelines to further optimize the country's foreign investment environment and beef up foreign investment inflow.

The guidelines are expected to address major issues in the business environment that foreign-invested enterprises are concerned about.

Chen Chunjiang, assistant minister of Commerce, said that the guidelines introduced a new batch of targeted and highly valuable measures to stabilize foreign investment.

Covering six key areas, including improving the quality of utilizing foreign investment and guaranteeing national treatment

for foreign-invested enterprises, the measures aim to effectively bolster the confidence of foreign investors and attract more high-quality foreign investment.

The guidelines advocated expanding the scope and intensity of opening up, calling to further expand the comprehensive pilot program for opening up the service sectors.

The guidelines encouraged foreign-invested enterprises and their R&D centers to undertake major scientific research projects, called for the establishment of a sound Qualified Foreign Limited Partner (QFLP) foreign exchange

management facilitation system, and supported QFLPs in conducting relevant investments with RMB raised abroad.

The guidelines urged efforts to improve the level of investment and business operation facilitation. The guidelines pledged to provide convenience for foreign executives and technical personnel of foreign-invested enterprises, as well as their families for entry, exit, and residence in China.

Special inspections will be carried out to ensure the fair participation of business entities in government procurement activities, according to the guidelines.

Full-process information disclosure in standard formulation and revision will be promoted to support foreign-invested enterprises to participate in standard formulation work on an equal footing in accordance with the law.

The guidelines also called for efforts to improve the mechanism for rapid and coordinated protection of intellectual property rights and expedite the progress of handling cases with clear facts and substantiated evidence in accordance with the law.

The guidelines pledged to bolster efforts guiding foreign investment.

According to the guidelines, local governments are supported to implement complementary incentive measures for foreign-invested enterprises in encouraged industries within the statutory authority.

The guidelines also pledged efforts to develop innovative cooperation procurement methods and support foreign-invested enterprises to develop globally leading innovative products through first-time purchases.

The guidelines called for intensified efforts to strengthen foreign investment promotion and service guarantees. Relevant mea-

asures include establishing and improving the system of roundtable conferences for foreign-invested enterprises, facilitating the signing of certificates of origin of free trade agreements, and providing convenience for foreign-invested enterprises with tariff reduction policies.

In recent years, China has continuously improved the business environment and implemented various measures to assist foreign-invested enterprises, striving to give foreign-invested enterprises a greater sense of gain, said Liu Lin, a person in charge of the Credit Supervision and Management De-

partment of the State Administration for Market Regulation.

The guidelines pledged proactive efforts to facilitate market access for foreign-invested enterprises in China, calling for strict implementation of the management mechanism of pre-establishment national treatment plus negative list for foreign investment.

The guidelines called for equal treatment of Chinese and foreign-invested companies, striving to foster fair market competition.

China has released five supporting regulations for the Anti-Monopoly Law, offering clear, transparent and predictable guidance for compliant business practices.

People's Dai



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the United States President Joe Biden, South Africa President Cyril Ramaphosa, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva of the Federative Republic of Brazil, and President of World Bank, Ajay Banga in a group photo on the margins of the G20 Leaders' Summit, at the Bharat Mandapam International Exhibition Convention Centre in New Delhi on Saturday. ANI



President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi received African Union Chairperson and Comoros Union President Azali Assoumani at the Bharat Mandapam during the G20 Summit Gala Dinner hosted by the President, in New Delhi on Saturday. ANI

PM Modi announces conclusion of G20 Summit, proposes virtual review session in November

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi yesterday announced the conclusion of the G20 Summit here and proposed to hold a virtual G20 session in November to review the suggestions and proposals made at the premier forum for international economic cooperation.

"As you all know India has the responsibility of G20 presidency till November 2023. In these two days, all of you gave a lot of suggestions and placed proposals. It is our duty to see how faster progress can be achieved on these," PM Modi said.

"I propose that at the end of November, we hold a virtual session of G20. We can review the topics decided in this Summit, in that virtual session. I hope you all will connect in the virtual session. With this, I declare the conclusion of the G20 Summit," he added.

Before declaring that the summit had ended, PM Modi handed over the ceremonial gavel of the Group of 20 presidency to Brazil President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

"I congratulate Brazilian President and my friend Lula da Silva and hand over the gavel of Presidency," PM Modi said. Earlier Indonesian President Joko Widodo and Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva handed over saplings to Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of Session 3 of the G20 Summit.

While Indonesia held the G20 presidency last year, Brazil will hold the presidency after India.

India took over the G20 presidency on December 1 last year at the G20 Summit in Bali and will continue to hold it till the end of November.

The New Delhi Declaration was adopted by G20 leaders on Saturday, the first day of the Summit.

ANI

'G20 declaration major step forward in Biden's efforts for peace in Ukraine conflict'

NEW DELHI

US President Joe Biden is engaging countries around the world to push for peace in the Russia-Ukraine war on the basis of principles of the UN Charter and the New Delhi G20 declaration is a "major step forward in this effort", a senior US official said yesterday.

Principal Deputy National Security Advisor of the White House Jon Finer told the media on board Air Force One that the joint statement issued yesterday builds on the Bali G20 declaration and UN resolutions to send "an unprecedented unified statement on the imperative that Russia refrains from using force for territorial acquisition" and abide by UN charter.

"The G20 Countries have signed up to the Bali language (declaration) last year and the vast majority of G20 countries have supported multiple UN resolutions that call out Russia's illegal aggression. The joint statement issued yesterday (in Delhi) builds on that to send an unprecedented unified statement on the imperative that Russia refrains from using force for

territorial acquisition and abide by its obligations in the UN charter," Finer said.

He said this is a strategy that the Biden administration has been adopting for some time now "to focus on countries in the world that are seeking an end to the conflict and make sure that they are pushing for peace on the basis of the four core principles of the UN Charter".

Finer said major economies are united in calling on Russia to uphold international law.

"US President Joe Biden is engaging the countries around the world for that and this statement is a major step forward in this effort highlighting the major economies of the world, including Brazil, India and South Africa are united in calling on Russia to uphold and respect the international law," Finer said, answering queries from media persons.

Biden left for Vietnam from Delhi in the morning after attending the G20 Summit.

PM Modi's "today's era isn't of war" message to Russian President Vladimir Putin in the backdrop of the Ukraine-Russia conflict found reflection in the G20

declaration.

The New Delhi G20 declaration said that in line with the UN Charter, all states must refrain from the threat or use of force to seek territorial acquisition against the territorial integrity and sovereignty or political independence of any state and that the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is inadmissible.

"Concerning the war in Ukraine, while recalling the discussion in Bali, we reiterated our national positions and resolutions adopted at the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly (A/RES/ES-11/1 and A/RES/ES-11/6) and underscored that all states must act in a manner consistent with the Purposes and Principles of the UN Charter in its entirety," it said.

"Reaffirming that the G20 is the premier forum for international economic cooperation, and recognizing that while the G20 is not the platform to resolve geopolitical and security issues, we acknowledge that these issues can have significant consequences for the global economy," it added.

The G20 members appreciat-

ed the efforts of Türkiye and UN-brokered Istanbul Agreements consisting of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Russian Federation and the Secretariat of the United Nations on Promoting Russian Food Products and Fertilizers to the World Markets and the Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian Ports (Black Sea Initiative), and called for their full, timely and effective implementation to ensure the immediate and unimpeded deliveries of grain, foodstuffs, and fertilizers/inputs from the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

"This is necessary to meet the demand in developing and least developed countries, particularly those in Africa. The leaders highlighted the human suffering and negative added impacts of the war in Ukraine with regard to global food and energy security, supply chains, macro-financial stability, inflation and growth, which has complicated the policy environment for countries, especially developing and least developed countries which are still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic

and the economic disruption which has derailed progress towards the SDGs.

"There were different views and assessments of the situation, the declaration said. "We call on all states to uphold the principles of international law including territorial integrity and sovereignty, international humanitarian law, and the multilateral system that safeguards peace and stability. The peaceful resolution of conflicts and efforts to address crises as well as diplomacy and dialogue are critical.

"We will unite in our endeavour to address the adverse impact of the war on the global economy and welcome all relevant and constructive initiatives that support a comprehensive, just, and durable peace in Ukraine that will uphold all the Purposes and Principles of the UN Charter for the promotion of peaceful, friendly, and good neighbourly relations among nations in the spirit of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future,'" it said.

"Today's era must not be of war," the declaration added. The G20 Summit was held in New Delhi and concluded yesterday.

ANI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi hands over the gavel of the G20 Presidency to Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula Da Silva during the G20 Leaders' Summit, at the Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, in New Delhi yesterday. ANI

We are always there to prevent violence, push back against hatred - Justin Trudeau

NEW DELHI

CANADIAN Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said that he had many conversations with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue of Khalistan extremism and "foreign interference", and Ottawa will always defend freedom of expression, and at the same time will always be there to prevent violence.

He further emphasized that the "actions of the few" do not represent the entire community or Canada.

When asked about if the issues of Khalistan extremism and "foreign interference" did come up during discussions with PM Modi during the G20 Summit, he said, "Both the issues came up. Over the years, with PM Modi, we have had many conversations on both of those issues. Canada will always defend freedom of expression, freedom of conscience, and freedom of peaceful protest and it is extremely important



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau addresses the media during a press conference after attending G20 Summit, in New Delhi yesterday. ANI

to us. At the same time, we are always there to prevent violence and to push back against hatred". "I think on the issue of the community, it is important to remember that the actions of the few do not represent the entire community or Canada. The flip side of it, we also highlighted the importance of respecting the rule of law and we did talk about foreign interference," he added.

Notably, multiple incidents of Khalistan extremism have been reported in Canada over the past few years.

In June this year, a tableau parade was organised in Canada celebrating the assassination of former PM Indira Gandhi, which drew severe criticism from New Delhi. In March this year, Khalistan supporters held a protest outside the Indian Embassy in Canada. They

raised pro-Khalistan slogans and allegedly assaulted Indian-origin journalists present on the spot.

Multiple temples have also been vandalised in Canada by pro-Khalistani protestors, with anti-India graffiti.

Earlier in July, India also raised concerns over threats to its diplomats in posters being circulated in Canada with information on a pro-Khalistan rally to be held on July 8.

The posters contained threats to the Indian Ambassador to Canada and the consulate general in Toronto.

The posters purportedly circulated by Sikh extremists have named Indian High Commissioner to Canada Sanjay Kumar Verma and the Consulate General of India, Toronto, Apoorva Srivastava accusing them of playing a role in the June killing of Khalistan Tiger Force chief and designated terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada. ANI

G20 Summit has been a milestone...healthy solution found in declaration - Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov

NEW DELHI

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov yesterday described the New Delhi G20 Summit as "a milestone" and said the active role of the Indian presidency "has genuinely consolidated" the G20 countries from the Global South for the first time in history.

Addressing a press conference after the conclusion of the G20 Summit here, Lavrov said a healthy solution has been found in the declaration regarding the need to strive for a clear and equitable balance of interest.

"It is a long way to go but this Summit has been a milestone... I would also like to mention the active role of the Indian presidency that has genuinely consolidated the G20 countries from the Global South for the first time in history. Our BRICS partners - Brazil, India, China, South Africa have been particularly active and thanks to these consolidated positions taken by the Global South countries to uphold and protect their legitimate interests," he said.

"I think that a healthy solution has been found in the declaration regarding the need to strive for a clear and equitable balance of interest. It is one of the decent purposes

and we are already on track. In our turn, we will continue strengthening these positive trends including during Brazil's presidency next year and in 2025 during South Africa's presidency," he added.

Lavrov also referred to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposal to hold a virtual G20 session in November towards the end of India's G20 presidency to review the proposals made at the New Delhi Summit.

"While closing today's session, PM Modi said that he would convene another G20 Summit via video conferencing in late November. It will be another opportunity for us to review the implementation of the agreements that we have reached today," Lavrov said.

The Russian leader accused the Western countries of not fulfilling their promise about funds to deal with climate change.

"The West also had long ago promised even 100 billion US dollars per year to counter the negative consequences of climate change, but nothing on that has been done. The declaration also mentions the tasks that need to be done in accordance with the long-standing promises in order to ensure a balance of interest in the global economy," he said.

ANI



The United States President Joe Biden clicks a photo of Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director general of the World Trade Organization, and other officials on the sidelines of G20 Summit, in New Delhi on Saturday. ANI



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov attends Session 1 on 'One Earth' during the G20 Summit, at the Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, in New Delhi on Saturday. ANI



Morocco's AS FAR FC newly signed winger, Bernard Morrison. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AS FAR FC

Bernard Morrison finally signs for AS FAR Rabat FC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FORMER Yanga winger, Bernard Morrison, has made a triumphant return to the football scene by signing for Moroccan side Association Sportive des Forces Armées Royales (AS FAR) Rabat FC.

The 30-year-old Ghanaian winger, who had previously been dropped by Yanga at the end of the 2022/23 season, has found a new home with AS FAR Rabat FC, where he will once again work under the guidance of Belgo-Tunisian coach Nasreddine Nabi, who also coached the footballer at Yanga.

Initially, there were speculations linking Morrison with a move to another Mainland Tanzania Premier League side, Singida Fountain Gate FC.

However, it was revealed in mid-August that Singida Fountain Gate FC had opted out of pursuing his signature.

This turn of events left Morrison's future in limbo, but he has now put those uncertainties to rest with his signing for AS FAR Rabat FC.

Morrison's excitement and anticipation for his new journey were palpable as he shared the news of his signing on social media during a photo shoot, proudly donning the AS FAR Rabat FC jersey adorned with the number 5.

The Ghanaian winger rejoined Yanga in July 2022, following the expiration of his two-year contract with age-old rivals Simba SC.

During his time at Simba SC, Morrison made a lasting impression with over 50 appearances in all competitions, including the prestigious CAF Champions League.

Before his time in Tanzania, Morrison had ventured into the South African Premier Soccer League, where he plied his trade with the giants, Orlando Pirates.

Before making waves in South Africa, Morrison had made a name for himself in the Ghanaian Premier League, representing Ashanti Gold FC.

However, his aspirations and talents soon led him beyond the borders of Ghana, as he made a pivotal move to the DR Congo side, AS Vita Club, in the summer of 2015.

One of the highlights of Morrison's recent career was his commendable performance during his second stint at Yanga, which saw the winger play an instrumental role in the club's success.

He notably contributed significantly to the Jagwani Street giant's achievement - finishing as the runner-up in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup having lost to Algeria's USM Alger in the final.

TIC unveils investment opportunities in sports

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Tanzania Investment Center (TIC) has urged sports stakeholders to take advantage of the opportunities available in the sports sector to invest in it and increase employment opportunities for youths.

The center disclosed that if a large number of investors in the sports sector come forward, they will help to increase income and promote the sector's contribution to economic growth.

John Mnali, the TIC's Director of the Investment Promotion Department, issued the appeal in Dar es Salaam last weekend when speaking at a meeting that brought together various sports stakeholders in the country.

He said TIC has reduced investment costs for Tanzanians to reach USD 50,000 to provide opportunities for more people to invest in various areas in the country.

"When we say USD 50,000 as capital to enable an individual to obtain an investment certificate, we do not mean that he/she must have cash, we mean the value of the land, value of buildings, value of cars and other tools that he has bought for investment purposes," Mnali pointed out.

"The sports sector involves many stakeholders and employs many youths, that's why we have seen the importance of meeting these stakeholders to tell them about the op-

portunities available for investment in the sports sector and, for those who have already invested, how they can get incentives when they decide to expand their investments," Mnali stated. He said investors that want to invest in the sports sector should show up in large numbers as the scope is still wide and TIC has set many attractions for local investors.

He asked investors who invested in the sector to come to TIC to be given investment certificates so that they could benefit from various investment incentives offered.

Rashid Juza, Senior Sports Officer from the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports, said he was happy to see TIC encourage more investment in the sports sector.

Juza said that it is true the sector has helped to develop many youths, so, more investors need to come forward to invest in various sports areas to help the youths.

The official said they have also discussed some of the challenges facing the sector and set various strategies to deal with them to create a better environment that will attract new investors.

Apansia Lema, Sports Officer at the National Sports Council (NSC), said investment in the sector will help to develop talent, so, they will continue to collaborate with TIC to build the capacity of sports stakeholders in the country to invest in sports facilities.

Reverse Oedipus: Mother dies as pastor destroys satellite plate

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

HUGE ideas either in life or in history are often based on a curious fable, which catches up with imagination like wildfire.

At times, these are real lessons in life that lead to the formulation of rules on behaviour, the mainstay of aphorisms or axioms in language, whose birthplace is storytelling, later becoming theater.

Each tribal group or language has its own and, at times, they add up to humour, for instance, a Pare expression which, once translated, says 'if one keeps turning around a snake, he will see its legs'.

The snake is viewed as a cripple lacking legs as if it matters.

What it means is that one should not play around with someone else just because he or she looks either peaceful or obliging, and take that attitude for granted, as it can abruptly change and teach someone a lesson.

Other expressions are legends or fables about strange things which happened in history, and sometimes it is about what the Greeks call 'the caprice of the gods'.

We would have had that sort of tradition in East Africa and all over Africa if we had grown up to be educated in tribal ways, with Arabs even now learning of the old deities.

The difference is that they are now stripped of their deity status and are seen as jinn instead of being attached to a particular deity, as such a deity is no longer worshipped.

Among southern Tanzania tribes, an elaborate culture came up with some literature to that effect at the University of Dar es Salaam, for instance, with Ibrahim Hussein's play



Choir singers of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, located at Mbezi Luis in Dar es Salaam, sing in a special service for guests organized by the church's Kibamba Kwa Mangi branch recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

titled 'Mashetani'.

Tingatinga paintings were also focused in that direction, while in Nigeria one sees Obatunde Ijimere's 'Imprisonment of Obatala', whereby the caprice of the gods is quite clear. It is focused on sacrifice.

Looking at these traditions in East Africa, one is treated to an unambiguously naïve encompassing of the tradition, where the 'Mashetani' theme is about dancing, painting faces, and strange costumes in dances like in the Halloween festival in the United States.

Reading Ijimere's play and how it depicts Eshu as a confuser of men, one sees the radical theme of sacrificing slaves and then examines how to hold in esteem such deities, a radical confusion of culture comes up.

We know from imported religions, Islam and Christianity whereby God is about love, peace, and healing.

The teachings notwithstanding, culture always

lurks in the background, brought to the fore only very rarely and left at that as a miracle, to avoid disturbing fixed images of what is worshipped, or what people believe.

That is why a recent incident performed live at the 'Buza Kwa Lulenge' tabernacle in Dar es Salaam must have struck an imagination about how far culture can be reversed in real life, as the English say, 'life is stranger than fiction'.

There is a tale in classical Greek literature recited again in classical English plays especially by William Shakespeare, it may even look childish by comparison with the recent incident, despite its global renown.

The tale by itself would not have gained worldwide currency as there are too many Shakespeare plays to choose from, before moving into plenty of other rich heritages.

It happens that a tricky psychologist-turned-phi-

losopher in the 1920s, the doctor Sigmund Freud, was a Swiss physician seeking to heal consciousness that has been hurt, thus disturbed in dreams, or falling into depression.

He summed up his clinical experiences in a formula of the bizarre pursuit of a 'forbidden fruit'.

Cleverly, the doctor picked up a fable in ancient Greece that once upon a time a king had a son, who was abandoned by his parents at an early age and grew up elsewhere.

He became a good soldier, and a noble horseman and came back, conquered the kingdom, killed the king, and married his wife, unaware the woman was his mother.

Freud told the world it is something little male children wish for, but they are held back and eventually realize they are at fault, but it still burns underneath.

Shouting at Freudians that this is altogether silly helps nothing, but it is

dwarfed by how a mother in real life set out to methodically destroy the business and family life of her son, on account of having been inserted in a witch club since age 16 by her now deceased mother.

As her son inched up in success they demanded that the wealth be captured, and to enable this, they threw a paralysis on a leg and up to the wait on the witch-mother so that she could shift to her son's place for treatment.

This way, she cast spells leading to the collapse of the business, wife's departure, and desperation.

Like thousands of other people, the relatively youthful fellow, a father of four children, heard the spiritual exploits of Pastor Dominic the witch-buster, and strived to ring, unaware of where the problem came from.

The pastor, vividly seeing the setting at the house and all that happened to the man asked to talk to the mother.

She strenuously and disarmingly rejected all idea of knowing the cause of her only son's misfortune, to which the pastor directed a check under the mother's bed, where a plate with inscriptions, a rope, and knots was found.

Once anointed water was poured onto the witch-link plate she started growling as death neared, after her shrieks for mercy were flatly rejected by pastor and son. A new rule, Dr. Freud?



Yara Tanzania Limited's Director, Winstone Odhiambo (L), hands over a gift to Twaha Juma of the Rotary Club Oysterbay during the 2023 Goat Race that took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. The event aimed to collect 320m/- to fund higher education for underprivileged students. The company's sponsorship for the race aims to promote young professionals, especially women, in agriculture. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Presidents Obama, Clinton and many others congratulate Coco Gauff on her US Open tennis title

NEW YORK

FORMER President Barack Obama congratulated Coco Gauff on her U.S. Open title Saturday, less than two weeks after attending her first comeback of the tournament.

After Gauff rallied to beat Aryna Sabalenka 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, messages quickly poured onto the social media platform formerly known as Twitter in celebration of the 19-year-old American's first Grand Slam title.

Obama and his wife, Michelle, were in Arthur Ashe Stadium on opening night, when Gauff rallied for a 3-6,

6-2, 6-4 win over Laura Siegemund. They met with her after the match, which was followed by a tribute to Billie Jean King as part of a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Open becoming the first sporting event to offer equal prize money to female and male competitors.

"We couldn't be prouder of you on and off the court - and we know the best is yet to come," Barack Obama wrote.

Michelle Obama also sent congratulations with a picture of their meeting, while Clinton wrote that: "The future of American tennis looks

bright."

"The support I have gotten is incredible," Gauff said. "Obviously from President Obama and former first lady Michelle is crazy that they were here my first-round match, and now I'm a different person now."

Gauff and her parents also received a congratulatory phone call from President Joe Biden, who was in New Delhi for the Group of 20 summit.

Gauff thanked King for the leading the prize money fight when she collected her \$3 million winner's prize. King responded to a tweet showing

video of that moment, posting that: "This generation is living the dream of the Original 9," referring to herself and the other women who signed \$1 contracts to launch a women's pro circuit in 1970.

Basketball Hall of Famer Magic Johnson congratulated Gauff and praised her parents, writing that "Corey and Candi, they've done an outstanding job!"

And Gauff got kudos from rival competitors, with 2017 U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens telling her that "my girl you are amazing!!!!". AP

No Messi, no problem as Miami win again

MIAMI

DESPITE missing Lionel Messi, Inter Miami moved within six points of the playoff positions in Major League Soccer with a 3-2 win over Sporting Kansas City on Saturday.

Messi was one of eight Inter Miami players away on international duty, but Gerardo "Tata" Martino's team showed their strength in depth as they extended their unbeaten run in all competitions to 12 games.

With Miami battling to rise from their pre-Messi position at the bottom of the Eastern Conference into the top nine, they know they have little room for error but their night began poorly.

Goalkeeper Drake Callender failed to hold on to a drive from Felipe Gutierrez and Daniel Salloi slotted home the loose ball.

Miami drew level though in the 25th minute through a Leonardo Campana penalty after the Ecuadorian forward was flattened by Kansas City keeper Tim Melia as they challenged for a high ball.

Unlike Messi, Campana was not called up for this week's South American World Cup qualifiers and he proved decisive as he put the home side 2-1 up with a fine header from a DeAndre Yedlin cross on the stroke of half-time.

Campana went close to a hat-trick after the break with a deft touch goalwards from a low Jordi Alba cross but Melia got down well to save.

Melia was in action to deny Nicolas Stefanelli after more good work from Alba, who recently retired from duty with the Span-

ish national side.

Miami's other former Spain stalwart, midfielder Sergio Busquets, created the third when he showed great awareness to take a quick free-kick on the half-way line and send Argentine forward Facundo Farias through.

Farias, one of a trio of young South American signings brought in to add some energy and talent to accompany the team's veteran stars, showed great composure as he ran in on goal and beat Melia with a perfectly placed shot.

But with 12 minutes remaining, Sporting pulled a goal back with Alan Pulido's 13th MLS goal of the season, the Mexican pounding on a loose ball and then beating Callender with a clinical finish.

The visitors enjoyed plenty of pressure in the latter stages, including the seven minutes of stoppage time when a tired Miami was hanging on.

But with DC United held to a 0-0 draw at home to San Jose, Miami are now just six points behind Wayne Rooney's ninth placed team in the East and have two games in hand.

-Swift Exchange - Champions Los Angeles FC suffered a third straight defeat with a 2-0 loss at the Portland Timbers who are also looking to make a late push into the playoffs.

After defeats to Charlotte and Miami, LAFC fell behind when their goalkeeper John McCarthy made a hash of a corner allowing Larrys Mubila to tap in from close range.

AFP

Former USA coach Arena resigns after MLS investigation

NEW YORK

FORMER US national team coach Bruce Arena has resigned from Major League Soccer club New England Revolution after a league investigation into allegations of "insensitive and inappropriate remarks," MLS said in a statement on Saturday.

Arena, the country's most successful coach, had been placed on administrative leave on July 30, while the league conducted a review into the allegations. No specific details of the charges have been made public.

"As a result of the investigation which confirmed certain of these allegations, should Arena wish to pursue future employment within MLS, he must first submit a petition to the Commissioner," the league said in a statement.

New England said in a statement that they had "accepted the resignation of Bruce Arena. We wish Bruce well and thank him for his contributions to the team."

The 71-year-old Arena, who had two spells in charge of the USA national team, said his departure was the right move to make.

"I know that I have made some mistakes and moving forward, I plan to

spend some time reflecting on this situation and taking corrective steps to address what has transpired," Arena said in a statement. "And while this has not been an easy decision, I am confident that it is in the best interest of both the New England Revolution organization and my family that we part ways at this time," he added. Arena joined New England in 2019 and led them to the Supporters Shield, presented to the team with the best regular season record, two years later.

The New Yorker led DC United to the first ever MLS Cup title in 1996 and repeated the feat the following season. In 1998, his side became the first team from the USA to win the regional CONCACAF Champions Cup.

He took over as the USA coach in October 1998 and four years later he took the team to the quarter-finals of the World Cup in Japan and South Korea -- their best achievement in the post-war era.

Arena enjoyed more club success with the Los Angeles Galaxy who he guided to three MLS Cup titles before a brief return to the USA team, resigning after their failure to qualify for the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

AFP

Afcon 2023: Mozambique, Mauritania and DR Congo qualify as Aubameyang's Gabon miss out

CAIRO

THREE more countries sealed their places at the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations (Afcon) on Saturday as Mozambique secured qualification with a dramatic 95th minute winner.

Mauritania and the Democratic Republic of Congo also booked a spot at next year's finals but there was disappointment for striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang as his Gabon side missed out on a place in Ivory Coast.

Three spots remain for Afcon which kicks off in Ivory Coast on 13 January.

*Mambas return Mozambique sealed their return to the Africa Cup of Nations for the first time since 2010 thanks to a late 3-2 win over Benin in Maputo in Group L.

The Mambas knew a draw would be enough against a Benin side who needed a victory to qualify.

Benin started the better, taking a 1-0 lead after 20 minutes thanks to a Steve Mounie penalty.

The hosts quickly fought back with goals from Witi and Ricardo Guimaraes to go 2-1 up but Benin made it a nervous end for the home fans, finding an equaliser through



DR Congo players celebrate

of Congo and Mauritania sealing qualification at the expense of Sudan and Gabon respectively.

Mauritania's home game against Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's Gabon in Nouakchott proved a tempestuous affair with red cards for both teams.

Gabon's had to play most of the game with 10 men after goalkeeper Jean Noel Amonome was sent off for

violent conduct in the fifth minute.

Goals from Hemeya Tany and Aboubakar Kamara gave the hosts a comfortable 2-0 lead until El Hassan Houbeib was sent off for Mauritania for a second booking late in the match.

Didier Ndong clawed one back for Gabon in the 91st minute but Mauritania held on to seal their place in Ivory Coast and

deny Aubameyang, who returned to the Gabon set-up in May having retired from international football a year earlier.

DR Congo finished top of Group I thanks to a 2-0 win over Sudan in Kinshasa. Theo Bongonda scored after eight minutes with Fiston Mayele adding a second late on.

Saturday's games were overshadowed by the

earthquake in Morocco that killed more than 1,000 people.

It led to the postponement of Morocco's Group K clash with Liberia.

Later yesterday's decisive Group G game between The Gambia and Congo Brazzaville in Marrakech was expected to go ahead.

More crucial games will take place up until 12 September as nations - including Cameroon - look to secure their place at the 24-team tournament - with a total of 21 teams now already through.

Saturday's three qualifiers join Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, DR Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tunisia and Zambia at the finals alongside Ivory Coast, who qualified automatically as hosts.

The Elephants ended their Group H campaign with a 1-0 home win over Lesotho - Ibrahim Sangare of Nottingham Forest scoring off a Sebastien Haller assist.

The Nations Cup is scheduled to begin on 13 January 2024, with the final taking place on 11 February.

BBC

Italy falter, England and Belgium on track for Euro 2024

LONDON

DEFENDING European champions Italy drew 1-1 with North Macedonia in a Euro 2024 qualifier on Saturday to suffer a blow in their hopes of making it to next year's finals from Group C where leaders England took a valuable point in a 1-1 away draw against Ukraine.

England lead the group on 13 points with Ukraine on seven. Italy and North Macedonia both have four points.

Italy next face a crucial qualifying test against Ukraine on Tuesday.

Luciano Spalletti took charge of Italy for the first time following Roberto Mancini's shock resignation but his team flopped against the side which dumped them out of the last World Cup in the playoffs.

Ciro Immobile put Italy ahead but Enis Bardhi smashed in a free-kick for the hosts with nine minutes remaining in Skopje.

Ukraine hosted England in Poland and marched out onto the pitch in Wroclaw with national flags draped over their shoulders in front of around 40,000 of their own fans.

"Very tough place to come. You could feel the atmosphere, a unique occasion," said England manager Gareth Southgate after his team's run of four consecutive wins in the group came to an end.

Oleksandr Zinchenko put Ukraine in front with a thundering shot after a sweeping drive through midfield on 26 minutes.

England, however, hit back in the 41st minute when Harry Kane played a ball over the top and Kyle Walker slipped the ball home for his first international goal on his 77th ap-



Fans of Ukraine hold smartphones with torches switched on during the Euro 2024 group C qualifying soccer match between Ukraine and England in Wroclaw, Poland, Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023. (AP Photo)

pearance. Belgium went joint top of Group F with a 1-0 away win at Azerbaijan, lifting them level on 10 points with Austria.

Yannick Carrasco scored the only goal in Baku as new manager Domenico Tedesco extended his run to five games without defeat.

Sweden are third in the group on six points after they thumped Estonia 5-0.

Switzerland lead Group I by two points after a saw-saw 2-2 draw with Kosovo for whom La Liga based Vedat Muriqi scored twice.

In the same group, Romania and Israel drew 1-1 and are locked in a struggle for second place, separated by a point on nine and eight points respectively.

The top two teams in each group qualify for the finals.

As hosts, Germany are playing only friendly in-

ternationals but they are a team in crisis and their problems worsened in a 4-1 humiliation at the hands of Japan in Wolfsburg.

Junya Ito and Ayase Ueda scored either side of a Leroy Sane strike in the first half, with Japan scoring twice in the final

five minutes as home fans jeered.

Germany captain Ilkay Gundogan said simply "we are not good enough right

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

No Messi, no problem
as Miami win again

Miguel Gamondi delighted with Makudubela's return from injury lay off, boasts depth

PAGE 19



Yanga's South African winger, Mahlatsi Makudubela.

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA's head coach Miguel Gamondi is elated with the return of players, who were nursing injuries, in his squad ahead of the 2023/24 CAF Champions League and domestic competitions.

The Tanzanian soccer big gun, popularly known as Yanga, has embarked on intensive drills ahead of the CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round's first leg match against Al Merrikh SC of Sudan slated to take place in Kigali, Rwanda on September 16.

The return of South African winger Mahlatsi Makudubela, alias 'Skudu', has added attacking depth to the Jangwani Street side after missing his services in five competitive games since picking an injury in the 2023/24 Commu-

nity Shield's semi-final against Azam FC last month.

The competition's semi-finals culminated with Yanga defeating Azam FC 2-0, courtesy of goals netted by Burkinabe midfielder, Stephane Aziz Ki,

and forward Clement Mzize.

The 33-year-old Makudubela signed for Yanga on a free transfer once his contract with South African outfit, Marumo Gallants, had expired at the end of June last year.

Marumo Gallants suffered relegation from the DStv Premiership on the final day of the 2022/23 season.

Speaking about Makudubela's return, Gamondi said the winger adds a variety of options on his

bench among his striking force's players as he has already clicked in with other players.

The Argentine coach said: "Makudubela has returned to first-team training and, after having various friendlies, we are working to see

if he will travel with the team to Kigali for the CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round game against Al Merrikh SC, which I feel he will be among the club's players (for the trip)."

"Every player has an equal chance to make it into the starting XI and having competition is healthy for our squad to thrive. After having several friendlies this week we will have a clear picture but so far we have a healthy squad," he disclosed.

Yanga will play the reverse fixture in Dar es Salaam on September 30, before playing an NBC Premier League match against Ihefu SC.

Premier League holder Yanga, which is currently leading the top flight table with a superior goal average whilst registering six points, has the third home match against Namungo FC set to take place at Azam Complex Stadium postponed.

The game would have seen former Yanga assistant coach Cedric Kaze, now Namungo FC head coach, plotting to outfox his former employers in the race for maximum points.



Congolese fullback Djuma Shabani

Azam FC denies signing fullback despite playing in friendly duel

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Azam FC has refuted news about the outfit signing Congolese fullback, Djuma Shabani, much as the defender turned out for the side in an international friendly clash against Arta Solar 7 of Djibouti.

The ice cream makers won 2-1 against Arta Solar 7 at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, with goals scored by Prince Dube and Feisal Salum boosting the team's confidence ahead of the next friendly to be played in Arusha.

Shabani left Yanga at the beginning of this season after both sides decided to part ways following the failure to agree on terms of a contract extension.

The former DR Congo's AS Vita Club captain was an integral part of the Yanga squad that attained the domestic treble triumph last season, catapulting the squad to winning the silverware in Community Shield, NBC Premier League, and Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC).

He went on to score in his last match for the Tanzanian club in Algeria, as the team confronted USM Algiers in the rematch of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup final that ended in a 1-0 win for the former, which, however, lost based on the away-goal rule following a 2-2 aggregate result.

The Congolese right-back returned with Yanga to Tanzania after the continental showpiece's final, with the outfit's fans in a dilemma that needed clarification given he was not on the list of footballers making the 2023/24 season's team.

Azam FC's Head of Information and Communication, Thabit Zakaria, elaborated on the situation, saying: "We have not signed Djuma Shabani, he is not out player, he asked to take part in training so that he can keep himself fit because he is now a free agent."

"He felt that our club is suitable to keep him fit until he finds a new team that will sign him," Zakaria pointed out.

The official noted: "Due to the presence of Congolese players and (fellow footballers that are) Francophone speakers he saw it as an opportunity to blend in with our players as he seeks fitness and readiness."

"We have the custom to accommodate footballers that are free agents to train with us," Zakaria stressed.

The Guardian understands Shabani is likely to sign for the club in the January transfer window, with work underway to trim foreign players at the squad to accommodate the pacy right back.

DR Congo's TP Mazembe was in pursuit of Shabani during his last days at Yanga but the fullback declined the offer to return home in the DR Congo Premier League, Linafoot.

Youssof Dabo positive after Azam FC win in friendly

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe



Azam FC's head coach, Youssof Dabo. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

AZAM FC head coach Youssof Dabo had plenty to be positive about after his squad dispatched Djibouti's Arta Solar 7 with a 2-1 victory in an international friendly game played at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday afternoon.

The Tanzanian club took the lead through midfielder Feisal Salum's powerful volley in the eighth minute before Arta Solar 7 leveled the score through Moussa Coulibaly.

The Arta Solar 7 attacker had made the most of a goalkeeping error committed by Azam FC's goalie, Abdulai Iddrisu, six minutes after the restart.

Zimbabwean import Prince Dube restored Azam FC's lead in the 62nd minute and ensured it was a happy end for the hosts.

After the game, the Senegalese tactician spoke to the media about the game, playing time for fringe players, and plans during this league break.

The gaffer noted: "I think it was a good game between two good teams. In the first half, we had a lot of goal-scoring opportunities but we lacked efficiency."

"We succeeded in creating opportunities and even defensively we were more aggressive today in comparison to the past games," Dabo pointed out.

"We are on the right track, in progress, and we need to keep working hard to improve our team. It is important to continue working hard for progress," the Senegalese disclosed.

He said: "We also succeeded in finding areas that we need to work on before the league resumes. We will continue playing more friendly games until the resumption of the league."

Commenting on fringe players like Malickou Ndoye and Ayub Lyanga who started for the first time this season, Dabo insisted every member of his squad will get playing time to prove his quality and ability in the team.

"I have 26 players in my first team squad, I

have told them I need all the players because the season is long," the gaffer noted.

"Each player will have his time and moment to show his quality and ability to play for the team," Dabo added.

On new signing striker Allasane Diao playing his first 90 minutes since his move to Azam FC, Dabo acknowledged he had a good game but was hesitant to single out his performance.

"He had a good game just like other players. He did not play alone, he had a partner and sometimes he was fed off and vice versa," he disclosed.

The coach revealed: "He complimented his partner too, that was his role. Football is a collective job, there is no need to congratulate one player and it is not my mentality. I congratulate all players."

After the international break, Azam FC will turn their attention to their next NBC Premier League assignment against Singida Big Stars FC slated for Saturday as the former aims to make it three wins out of three games.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

