



TRANSPORT



DAR-DOM TRAIN TO START ON JULY 25 PAGES

MEDIA



ADHERE TO ETHICS, WARIOBA URGES JOURNALISTS PAGE 4

AGRICULTURE



CENTRE DEVELOPS NINE MILLET VARIETIES PAGES

TOURISM



Z'BAR TO REGISTER TOURIST HOTEL, RESORTS PAGES



Dubai's residential sales hits new high

PPRA blacklists three companies over collusions, until May 2034

“PPRA remains steadfast in its commitment to ensuring transparency and fairness in public procurement processes and will continue to take legal actions against any entities found engaging in fraudulent activities”

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) has blacklisted three companies from participating in public procurement for suspected frauds and collusion in tendering. Eliakim Maswi, the PPRA director general, said here yesterday that the suspended firms are Dacady Investment Co. Ltd, High Winds (T) Co. Ltd as well as Deaver PVC Co. Ltd.

In a statement, PPRA said that the debarment, encompassing the companies' directors, agents and partners is effective May 21, 2024, to May 20, 2034.

Dacady Investment Co. Ltd and High Winds (T) Co. Ltd were engaged in collusive practices, the statement affirmed, specifying that the two companies were shortlisted to compete for the same tenders while their owners were the same.

This undermined fair competition, the procurement chieftain explained, describ-

ing it as a malpractice resulting in a rotation of winning bids among the same individuals using different company names. This method unfairly influenced the bidding process, he emphasised.

In addition to the ten-year debarment, High Winds (T) Co. Ltd was struck with a three-year stoppage for failing to implement procurement contract No. 014/2020/2021/PR/G/26 with the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The two periods of debarment shall run concurrently, he said, explaining the case of Deaver PVC Co. Ltd as barred for ten years effective May 21, 2024. The PPRA found the firm liable for forging framework agreement No. 0068009, which was subsequently submitted to Kiwira Prisons College, he said.

Pursuant to Section 102 of the Public Procurement Regulations of 2013, the decision to remove the companies affects all procurement contracts entered into between

TURN TO PAGE 2



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi gifts Mozambican President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi a souvenir photo of the historical Beit Al-Ajaib (literally, House of Wonders), a landmark building in Zanzibar's Stone Town. It was shortly after they held talks at Zanzibar State House yesterday, with the VIP guest wrapping up a four-day working and state visit to Tanzania. Photo: Zanzibar State House

AMREF (T), EATV pact for WASH programmes

By Guardian Reporter

AMREF Health Africa (T) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with East Africa Television (EATV) for generating educational content on health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) especially for youth and women.

Dr Florence Temu, country director for AMREF Health Africa (T) signed the agreement in Dar es Salaam yesterday with EATV Ltd managing director Regina Mengi as the AMREF delegation visited EATV and EA Radio premises.

AMREF Tanzania is a leading health sector research organisation and a major development stakeholder, expressing contentment with the g EATV and East Africa Radio track record, and ability of their social media platforms to reach various groups of people with educational

TURN TO PAGE 2

Strong lake zone winds hurt fishers, consumers

By Guardian Correspondent, Bukoba

CURRENT weather changes with strong winds in areas surrounding Lake Victoria are driving up retail prices of fish, residents say.

A random survey in municipal markets here showed that fish markets and restaurants have difficulties in trying to stock fish as windy conditions tied with large waves on the lake hamper fishing activities.

Some fishermen opted to halt operations until the winds calm down, impacting already stringent availability of fish in



Lake users including fishers and transporters take precautions when conducting their activities in the lake during this period

these areas.

Interviewed fisherman at Nyamkazi fish selling point said that prices have risen over the past few days due to shrinking catch, as many fishermen can't sail with strong winds blowing intermittently.

Fish prices have risen from 3000/- to 10,000/- per unit, thwarting many residents from making the usual purchases for scheduled meals.

Frank Nyanda, a fisherman, said stormy weather compels fishermen to

TURN TO PAGE 2

Govt hints at shore drones ahead of OACPS meeting

Out of 28,615 vessels engaged in fishing activities across various water bodies within national territory, a total of 20,885 vessels were not registered or licensed

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government is in preparatory stages of using drones for surveillance of water bodies to control illegal fishing especially

in deep sea.

Prof Riziki Shemdoe, the Livestock and Fisheries permanent secretary made this observation in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a host agreement signing ceremony ahead

of a council of ministers session for the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) next month.

The government intends to use various technologies including drones to control blast fishing and other illegal means threatening sea life ecosystems, he said, explaining that drones will help the relevant authorities to know who is doing what and where.

“We want to embrace technology,” he emphasised, citing it as a key issue to be discussed during the ministerial session, with illegal fishing having struck headlines due to observations by the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) in his latest annual report.

It says that significant losses were reg-

TURN TO PAGE 2

SPORTS

Page 20



Fadlu Davids poised to be named as Simba's head coach

Page 19



Ronaldo vs. Mbappé: Clash of generations at Euro 2024 has just been given some extra spice



PPRA blacklists three companies over collusions, until May 2034

FROM PAGE 1

the procuring entities and these companies prior to the issuance of the debarment decision, he declared.

"PPRA remains steadfast in its

commitment to ensuring transparency and fairness in public procurement processes and will continue to take legal actions against any entities found engaging in fraudulent activities," he added.

Govt hints at shore drones ahead of OACPS meeting

FROM PAGE 1

istered from illegal fishing, amounting to about 15.2bn/- (\$5.9m) from 2019 to 2023.

The fiscal 2022/2023 report says most illegal fishing activities were carried out using unregistered and unlicensed vessels in the territorial sea, with Tanzanian portions in the major lakes of Victoria, Tanganyika and Nyasa littered with similar intruders.

Auditing fisheries resources management, the report puts at 72.99 percent of operating fishing vessels in territorial waters as a whole as unregistered and unlicensed, sending waves of disbelief among legislators and other stakeholders.

Out of 28,615 vessels engaged in fishing activities across various water bodies within national territory, a total of 20,885 vessels were not registered or licensed, it said.

The council of ministers is the main decision-making body for the organisation, which makes its organisers see it as a summit, responsible for implementing the guidelines laid down by the Heads of State.

Signing the host agreement for

the 8th OICP session of the council of ministers responsible for waters and the blue economy lays the basis for preparations of the agenda, focusing on how people surrounding water bodies can benefit from the resources.

Fishing, aquatic resources and other sources of income generation feature in the bill, encompassing the war against illegal fishing, with the ministers expected to make resolutions on policies needing to be formulated to oversee rescue efforts as disasters appear to be on the rise, given the gathering strength of cyclones and hurricanes.

Tanzania issued a bid to host the conference at which the West African state of Niger applied, where Tanzania approved the requisite budgetary demands faster than its competitor.

Jestas Nyamanga, Tanzania's ambassador to the European Union organs in the Belgian capital of Brussels, said the meeting is an opportunity as the government is engaged in a vast effort for developing the blue economy. Fisheries and seaweed farming top the list of initiatives in that regard, he added.

Strong lake zone winds hurt fishers, consumers

FROM PAGE 1

postpone fishing trips on safety hazards, while storms make it more difficult to net fish.

"The wind is still high and we cannot go into the lake as fishing nets effectiveness is limited during this time. Fishing in high winds is a threat to safety so we have to wait," he said.

Godfrey Rweyemamu, a Kashai resident in the municipality, said that many families have to seek alternatives to meat, whether it is meat or vegetables as fish is costly, as choice fish sells at 10,000/- and a small piece can be sold for 2,000/-, inadequate even for one person's meal, "so the situation isn't good."

Abdul Awadhi, a fish seller, said

that they currently get small fish with prices also being high, and a section of traders are holding out on the fish trade until the situation improves.

Prosper Kashasha, the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) acting regional manager, said that the windy situation is likely to persist through August and much of September.

Lake users including fishers and transporters take precautions when conducting their activities in the lake during this period, he stated.

"This is the cool season which is always accompanied by severe cold and wind. It also causes the fish to drop further into the lake, making fish availability skimpy for fishers and consumers," he added.

DR Congo military court sentences 25 soldiers to death for fleeing fighting

KINSHASA

TWENTY-FIVE soldiers accused of fleeing fighting against M23 rebels in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) were sentenced to death in a one-day trial on Wednesday.

A military court in North Kivu found them guilty of theft, fleeing the enemy, and violating orders, among other charges.

The army has been fighting the Rwanda-backed M23 insurgency in the region for more than two years, as well as facing violence from other militia.

Army officials on Tuesday detained 27 soldiers and 4 of their civilian wives, who had allegedly received stolen goods from shops in a nearby village.

They were brought before Butembo garrison military court on the very next day.

One soldier was handed a 10-year prison sentence for robbery, while the four wives and another soldier

were acquitted.

All but one of the 25 denied the charges. Their lawyer says he will appeal the verdict.

In March, the DRC lifted a moratorium on the death penalty, in place since 2003, citing treachery and espionage in recurring armed conflicts as the reason.

Faced with the ongoing security crisis in the east, the DRC's army has become increasingly dysfunctional with soldiers inadequately equipped and low morale. The United Nations says around 2.8 million people have been displaced within North Kivu province by fighting between the army and militia.

The M23 rebels have seized large swathes of territory in the mineral-rich province, and since last week have taken several towns on the northern front of the conflict.



Dr Florence Temu (2nd-R), Country Director for Amref Health Africa in Tanzania, exchanges documents with East Africa Television Limited (EATV) Managing Director Regina Mengi in Dar es Salaam yesterday. They had shortly earlier signed documents on a partnership agreement meant to strengthen the production of information, education and communication health content especially on projects related to youth and women. Looking on are Amref Tanzania's Director of Programmes, Dr Aisa Muya (R), and Director of Finance, Damas Mugashe. Photo: John Badi

AMREF (T), EATV pact for WASH programmes

FROM PAGE 1

content.

Delegation members witnessed the major investment accord signing, projecting that its various programmes will be aired every day, on the background of the 2022 Population and Housing Census results, indicating that 77 percent of the total population is youthful.

The country director said after the signing that the visit yielded plenty of insight into what that investment in EATV and EA Radio promises, noting that the two channels have appropriate facilities and the zeal to inform the public with quality information helpful in stimulating develop-

ment.

AMREF is a not-for-profit organisation investing plenty of efforts to bring positive change in the society, she said, elaborating that AMREF Africa (T) works closely with the Health ministry and the Regional Administration and Local Governments wing of the President's Office (PO-RALG).

It similarly engages with other organisations working in environment, women and youth to ensure that it helps such groups address various challenges, she said, expressing satisfaction with collaboration obtained from the media houses.

"You also involve us in your campaigns such as 'I value her'

which shows your commitment to promoting girls' welfare," she reflected, affirming that the partnership entered will enhance financial capacity and technology transfer in content generation.

"That is why we say the media is powerful, when we produce features and other documents on various topics such as health and children welfare we help in the awareness campaign," she said.

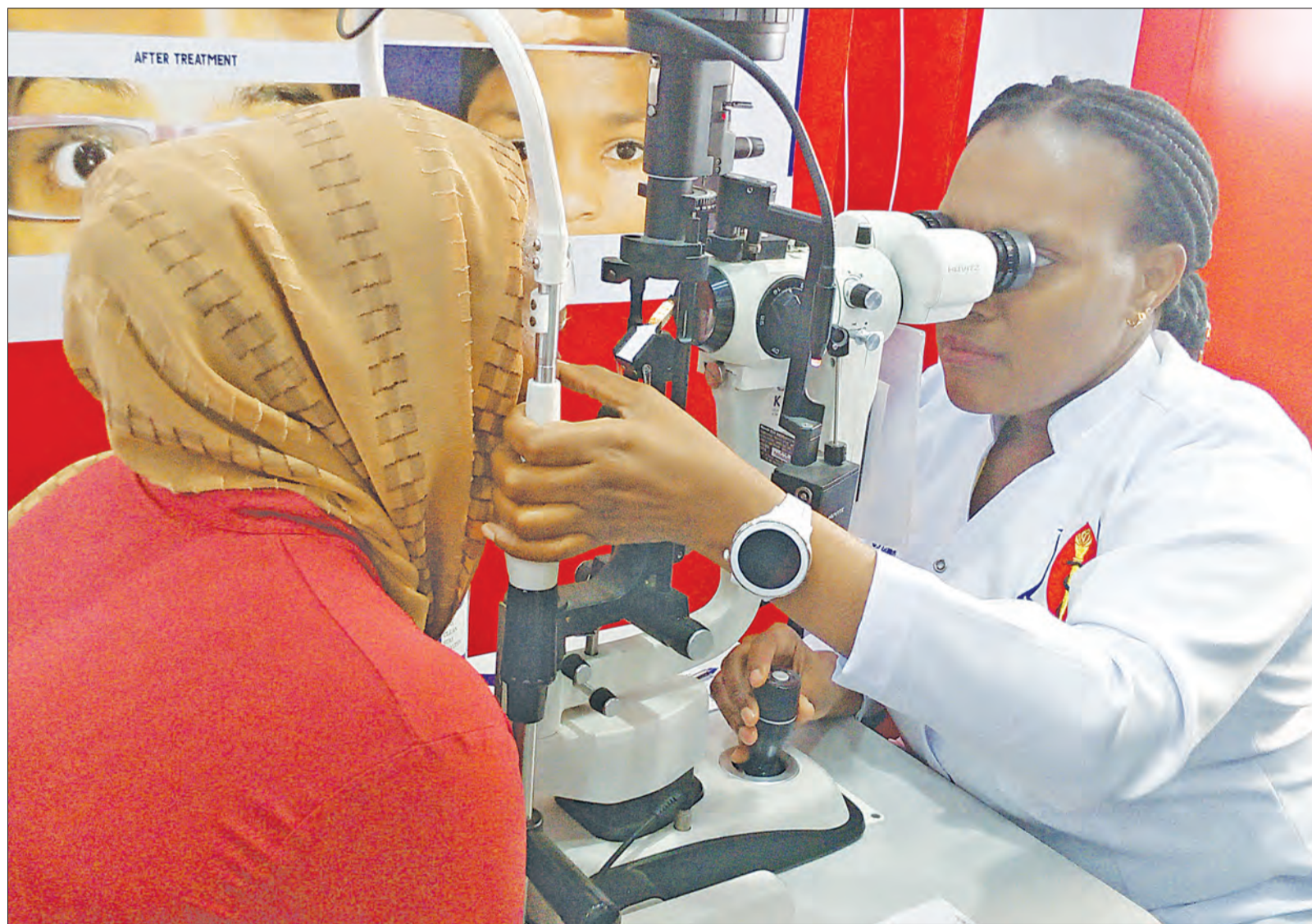
The media have an important role to inform the public on various health interventions as well as climate change issues, she further noted, while the EATV director praised AMREF for choosing to work with the media house.

This is the right platform to

reach the majority of youth and women, she stated, assuring AMREF officials that EATV and its wider platform was ready for collaborating to help change the lives of women and children.

"Unfortunately, we look at our health after getting sick instead of checking it earlier," she said, intoning that these days mental health has become a challenge.

EATV expects to learn a lot from AMREF on how to reach out to the public with key health information, as it opens its doors for collaboration with various stakeholders, including government institutions, to reach out to the majority with crucial information, the media executive added.



Dr Neema Moshi (R), an eye care specialist with Muhimbili National Hospital, examines a visitor at the hospital's pavilion at the ongoing 48th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

Morocco pilots new and more efficient technique for harvesting cork

RABAT

NEXT time you open a bottle of wine, spare a thought for what goes into producing the cork. The bark tissue is not only used for wine, but also in the fashion and building industries.

Morocco, which produces about 6 per cent of natural cork globally, is transforming the way it harvests, moving away from the axe to a smarter and more efficient method.

The industry is introducing a new lightweight battery-powered saw that calculates the depth of the cork bark.

This method is not only more efficient in removing the bark but it also reduces damage to the trees, says Abderrahim Houmy, director general of the National Agency for Water and Forests.

"The second objective is to increase the cork harvest. Thanks to this technology, we can get large-size boards and avoid small pieces that have a low value in the market."

Houmy says the new technology will also help the industry adapt to changes in the harvesting season, which has become variable and shorter as a result of climate change.

A pilot programme to train cork technicians is currently underway in the Rabat-Salé-Kenitra region with the aim of rolling out the new method across Morocco by 2025.

According to the Moroccan Association of Cork Industrialists, the sector has faced two years marked by relentless drought, which caused unprecedented stagnation in the industry.

Its president, Mohamed Anas, is confident that implementing the new technology will help give the industry in Morocco the reboot it desperately needs.

"With this machine, we will work

in a cleaner and healthier way. This means that the machine will take care of the tree's bark which will result in fewer injuries as it was the case in the past when we used axes," he says.

As for the technicians, they say swapping axe for saw will not only make their work easier, but will increase their earnings by allowing them to produce more cork in a shorter period.

Government data for 2023 shows Morocco exported 7,021 tonnes of cork products, bringing approximately \$20.5 million into the economy.

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

THE Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) has embarked on a project to conduct research as well as production of improved seeds varieties for numerous horticulture crops that flourish well across the country.

The development which focuses to heighten performance of the economic sub-sector in the county is being implemented by the state-owned agriculture research institute at its two centers of TARI Tengeru (Arusha) and TARI Mlingano (Tanga).

In an interview with this paper yesterday at the ongoing 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF 2024), TARI Director General, Dr Thomas Bwana said to start with, the project is focusing on producing improved seeds for spice crops, among others.

He said the ongoing project has so far resulted into constructive production of a number of improved seeds for spices crops, the much-needed development which is projected to bring about major transformation in the production of the crops that attracts potential markets at both, local and international market platforms.

"We are very thankful as the government, during the current financial year, has injected our side with enough budgets to enable thorough research and production of improved seeds for horticulture crops," he said.

With the increased budget, he informed that TARI currently works to facelift infrastructures and facilities at its laboratory in Arusha-based Tengeru centre, targeting to transform it to the country's excellence facility for horticulture.

He added that through the launched initiative, the

TARI to study quality seed for horticulture, spice crops

institute will research and produce improved varieties for numerous popular vegetables to enable the involved growers to expand their production scope and productivity.

"The horticulture sector attracts huge markets and the country has been endowed with suitable agro-climatic zones for the production of the crops, but the farmers are facing a number of challenges which need to be addressed, including shortage of enough improved seed varieties," he expressed.

Dr Bwana said the future focus is to research and develop key technologies to assist the local farmers to improve productivity, but also to attain additional value chains for various strategic crops.

"The mission is to enable the local farmers to use the technologies to advance their production levels to further heights, to become crop producers and crops additional value developers, the move which will enable them to stand a chance of benefiting accordingly from all economic potentials that the sector offers," he observed.

During this fiscal year, the government through the Ministry of Agriculture set aside a total of over 41.39bn/- to implement a series of strategies for elevating the performance of the seeds research and production sector.

Among others, the set amount meant to facilitate the major projects for the construction of ultra-modern gen bank at the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Selian centre, installation of vast bioscience lab at the TARI Mikocheni centre in Dar es Salaam,

to sponsor a total of 485 agricultural pundits to acquire high education levels in pertaining to seed research, as well as to rehabilitate the TARI Tengeru center lab.

Other targets involve production and distribution to the farmers of a total of 5.7 million cuttings of cassava in all regions where the crop flourishes, to continue with the general task of installation of irrigation infrastructure at a total of 19 research farms, occupying a total of 1,120 hectares.

"The sum will also be injected to finalize construction of a special facility for the production of banana tree seeds through tissue culture technology at TARI Maruku center," he added.

Impeccable statistics from the Tanzania Horticulture Association (TAHA) shows low pace in the country's production trend for the two economic cash crops, spices and vegetables.

According to the statistics in question, during 2016/17 the country produced a total of 1,298,388 tonnes of vegetable, whereby in 2017/18 production slightly increased to 1,595,489 tonnes, which was an increase of about 297,101 tonnes.

During 2018/19 vegetable production in the country developed to at least 1,926,927 tonnes.

On the side of spices, the production rate stagnated at about 22,062 tonnes between 2016/17 and 2017/18, followed by 38,987 tonnes in 2018/19, a slim increase of only 16,925 tonnes.

However, from such a lacklustre production trend, Tanzania had so far managed to pocket at least \$310,982,000 from exportation of vegetables in a period from 2001 to 2019.



NOW, NOW, NOW... Could this be to suggest that no load is too bulky or big for a Bajaj taxi rider to transport? Correspondent Miraji Msala witnessed this spectacle along Dar es Salaam's busy Mandela Road yesterday.

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

Dar-Dom high-speed train to start on July 25, says minister

MINISTER for Transport, Prof. Makame Mbarawa, has maintained that the high-speed train of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) service between Dar es Salaam and Dodoma is slated to commence on July 25, 2024 without any change.

He made the reiteration on Wednesday following an inspection of the SGR infrastructure from Dar es Salaam, Prof. Mbarawa expressing satisfaction with the progress, confirming that the train service will begin as scheduled.

"I have inspected the infrastructure of bridges and crossings along with the train itself. The work is progressing well, and on July 25, 2024, we expect to begin the journey from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma," he stated.

The Minister highlighted that the train fare will be affordable

for all Tanzanians, offering travel options from first class to third class to accommodate various budgets.

He observed that the introduction of the high-speed train service is crucial for enhancing trade and economic activities between Dar es Salaam, the commercial hub, and Dodoma, the administrative capital.

This improved connectivity will facilitate faster movement of goods and people, reduce transportation costs, and stimulate economic growth in the regions. Businesses will benefit from more efficient supply chains, and new opportunities will emerge for local enterprises, thereby boosting the overall economy.

Speaking about the inspection tour, he said they left Dar es Salaam at six o'clock in the morning and arrived in Morogoro at around seven o'clock 7:00, where they got the opportunity to discuss some of the challenges realized on the way before leaving for Dodoma.

"To a great extent, almost everything is ready and there are just very few challenges which the team on the ground promise to clear in the next eight days or so," he said.

He added that all the passenger stations from Kilosa in Morogoro Region to Dodoma are complete, giving the assurance that the scheduled trip will start on 25th July, 2024.

"I am happy with the ongoing preparations and stages reached by the construction as everything is ready and I am confident that we shall start the Dar es Salaam-Dodoma trip as was planned," the minister noted.

Eng Machibya Shiwa, Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) acting Chief Executive Officer noted that they have completed all the requirements for scheduled trips to begin.

"TRC has completed all the tasks for the start of Dar es Salaam-Dodoma SGR trips and we are happy that the job which started in 2017 has reached far," he said, promising members of the public that they will soon start using the high speed train.

How to Buy Nipashe and The Guardian Newspapers at www.ippmedia.com or epaper.ippmedia.com

Through the website epaper.ippmedia.com

1. Open the epaper.ippmedia.com website from your browser, select the version of publication you want to purchase, whether **Nipashe** or **The Guardian** by clicking "Read"
2. It will send you to another page where you need to fill in your information and the package you want to join. Then click "**subscribe**"
3. It will take you to the payment page where you can pay with either **bank card** or **by mobile money** transfer after correctly filling in your required information
4. Through **mobile Money**, choose the mobile network, write your number and tick the box to accept the terms and conditions. The **push SMS** will pop out on your phone to deduct

the amount after allowing the transaction from your mobile account. When the payment is completed, you will receive a payment confirmation **email** and **SMS**, then login into your account and start reading the publication of your choice

5. Through the **bank card**, you enter your card information and allow the amount to be deducted from your account after accepting the terms and conditions. Then log in to your account and finally enjoy the publication of your preference

Through the www.ippmedia.com website

6. Open your browser www.ippmedia.com website on the right hand side you will see "**E-Paper**" click on it and follow the processes same as **number 1-5**



UN forum awards Tanzania for embracing IT in public services

By Getrude Mbago

THE United Nations (UN) Public Service Forum 2024 has awarded Tanzania for its efforts to digitalise services in public institutions specifically for initiating the e-Mrejesho platform under the e-Government Authority (e-GA).

Tanzania is among the only two African countries that received the award recently during the forum conducted recently in Songdo-Incheon, west of Seoul in the Republic of Korea, the other being South Africa.

The system has been identified by the UN as a platform that enables the government to collect citizens' opinions and complaints digitally and thus make policy decisions and implementation on time.

In a statement availed to the media, stated that during the three-day annual a total of 15 local governments and public institutions from around the world were honoured with the United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA).

The awards were presented by Li Junhua, UN's Under-secretary-general for economic and social affairs, and the Republic of Korea's Interior Minister Lee Sangmin and received by Tanzania's Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), Xavier Daudi.

"I would like to congratulate all the awardees of the U.N. Public Service Awards. Your initiatives have showcased the breadth of innovations that governments are undertaking for inclusive development and fostering a culture of innovation in the public sector, which encourages generation of new ideas," Li Junhua, UN's Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, said in his closing remarks.

He said it also means leveraging the technology to streamline the process and delivery of public

services is critical in an effective and responsive public sector.

Li said throughout the session they heard inspiring examples of impactful public sector initiatives regarding digital technology advancement.

Speaking soon after the awards, e-GA's Director General, Eng. Benedict Ndomba, said the e-Mrejesho platform is helpful in saving time and money, where a citizen is not forced to travel a long distance to public office to submit his/her complaints or making a follow up on the implementation, instead, he/she can do it digitally through his/her mobile phones.

"In the past when a person wanted to present complaints over public service, he/she was forced to physically submit them in the suggestion box or send a letter to the particular institution, but currently it is done digitally," he explained.

He added that the platform also empowers government agencies to make informed decisions based on public needs and concerns, fostering adaptability and responsiveness in governance while also enhancing the citizen experience and engagement with government agencies.

On March 13, this year when swearing in some leaders at the State House in Dar es Salaam, President Samia Suluhu Hassan directed the government leaders to use the e-Mrejesho system in receiving views from the citizens and giving feedback.

Samia said the public leaders should understand and use various ICT systems available in the government, including the e-Mrejesho in order to improve efficiency in their responsibilities and service delivery.

"Go and use the e-Mrejesho so that you get feedback from citizens as well as citizens get information from you. This is how we can work efficiently," she said.



Former Prime Minister Judge (rt) Joseph Warioba addresses media stakeholders shortly before launching the Media Council of Tanzania's 'State of the Media in Tanzania 2022-2023' report in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

Adhere to professionalism, Warioba urges journalists

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

FORMER Prime Minister Judge (rt) Joseph Warioba has urged media practitioners to adhere to professional ethics, work hard and all the time observe fairness in their reports for the public interest.

He made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday as he launched a report dubbed: 'State of the Media in Tanzania 2022-2023'.

He said currently the media sector is swept away with psycho-fancy news writing terming it as 'Uchawa' a trend which is leading due to lack of objectivity in news writing.

"We understand that each media house has editorial policies. Whatever the guidelines, the main objective should stick on publishing contents that favours the public interest," he said.

Judge Warioba added: "Still the influence of western media in local

media is high with no balance of sources featured in many of your stories, you need change."

According to him, self-censorship is a major problem in news writing cautioning that, "whenever citizens seem to be side-lined, they will use their own tactics to achieve their rights."

Dr Samwilu Mwaffisi, Senior Researcher on the report and a lecturer at Tumbani University Dar es Salaam College (TUDARCO) said it's time the Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) and other stakeholders review on how graduates with 3.5-3.9 Graduate Point Average (GPA) are enrolled in teaching under a condition of six years of probation.

According to him, experienced journalists with below 4 GPA are not enrolled into teaching with claims that this is what the curriculum demands.

He also noted that a large number

of students pursuing journalism lack a will to learn and express themselves due English language barrier demanding a system that will enlist qualified students.

Hawra Shamte, a media expert, said research on veteran journalists came into a finding that the majority of media practitioners were shallow in analysing various public agenda.

"There is a gap somewhere and something needs to be done. It is observed that many journalists tend not to make a follow up of their published stories. I am in a dilemma on how editors deal with these kinds of journalists," she said.

She further noted that the majority of students joining universities pursue journalism as a last resort or a force from parents towards the field regarding it as a field without complications.

Dotto Bulendu, St Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT)

Lecturer and one of the researchers on the report said that the research revealed that the media isn't giving any attention to Artificial Intelligence (AI). It's as if they are denying the fact that that's where the world is heading to.

"The media perceives Artificial Intelligence as a new thing. The curriculum should have a clear view on this so that we are not left behind," he underlined.

Highlighting on the report, Kajubi Mukajanga, an editor said the report discovered that in the year 2022-2023, media houses lacked detailed reports on Dubai-based multinational logistics company DP World to limited key sources to the story.

He further said that some of the aspects featured in the report included media investment and ownership, legal regulatory and policy regime and legal regulatory and press freedom violation.

Monthly interest rates as of JULY 2024

Loan Terms	Admin Fee	Insurance % on Monthly instalment	Call Centre			USSD
			Refinance Loans	New	Consolidation	Refinance Loans
3	0.00%	0.00%	3.49%	3.41%	3.41%	3.41%
6	2.00%	7.08%	0.77%	0.69%	0.69%	0.69%
9	5.00%	7.08%	0.84%	0.76%	0.76%	0.76%
12	8.47%	7.08%	0.80%	0.72%	0.72%	0.72%
18	8.47%	7.08%	1.59%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%
24	8.47%	7.08%	1.99%	1.91%	1.91%	1.91%
30	8.47%	7.08%	2.23%	2.15%	2.15%	2.15%
36	8.47%	7.08%	2.40%	2.32%	2.32%	2.32%
42	8.47%	7.08%	2.51%	2.44%	2.44%	2.44%
48	8.47%	7.08%	2.60%	2.52%	2.52%	2.52%
54	8.47%	7.08%	2.67%	2.50%	2.50%	2.59%
60	8.47%	7.08%	2.60%	1.97%	1.81%	1.81%
66	8.47%	7.08%	2.64%	2.01%	1.85%	1.85%
72	8.47%	7.08%	2.54%	2.05%	1.89%	1.89%
75	8.47%	7.08%	2.56%	2.07%	1.90%	1.91%
78	8.47%	7.08%	2.57%	2.08%	1.92%	1.92%
81	8.47%	7.08%	2.58%	2.09%	1.93%	1.93%
84	8.47%	7.08%	2.51%	2.11%	1.94%	1.95%
87	8.47%	7.08%	2.52%	2.11%	1.95%	1.96%
90	8.47%	7.08%	2.53%	2.13%	1.96%	1.97%
93	8.47%	7.08%	2.54%	2.14%	1.97%	1.98%
96	8.47%	7.08%	2.55%	2.14%	1.98%	1.99%
108	8.47%	7.08%	2.58%	2.17%	2.03%	2.03%



TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LTD (TIPER)



RE-ADVERTISEMENT

TENDER No. TP/07/2024/ICB/S/022

SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING, AND COMMISSIONING OF FIRE DETECTION, ALARM, AND SUPPRESSION SYSTEM

5 July, 2024

- Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Co Ltd (TIPER) is a bulk storage facility for Petroleum Products with its shares divided equally between the Government of Tanzania and Oryx Energies SA of Switzerland. The Company office is located at Kigamboni Industrial Area, Depot site-plot 1, Dar es Salaam-Tanzania.
- TIPER hereby invites via International Competitive Bidding (ICB) eligible to bid for the **Supply, Installation, Testing, and Commissioning of Fire Detection, Alarm and Suppression System**.
- Eligible bidders are reputable firms which have:
 - valid registration by the Fire and Rescue Authority as for both fire consultant and fire dealer qualified to undertake the design and installation of fire systems,
 - Experienced personnel in undertaking both fire system design, supply and installation as per NFPA standards (Supported by the Related firm's training certificates) and
 - Compliance Certificate of the Occupation Safety and Health Authority (OSHA) or equivalent,
 - Also, eligible firms must provide evidence of at least 5 years of experience working with reputable organizations in fire alarm, detection and suppression system design as per NFPA standard.
- Bidders who don't meet condition stated in line 3(a to d) above are not eligible to bid for this tender.
- Interested and eligible bidders may request an electronic copy of the tender document by sending their signed and stamped application letter(s) and copies of certifications from Fire and Rescue Authority and NFPA or a similar certification through the following email: tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz from date **5 July, 2024 to 18 July, 2024 between 8:00 A.M to 4:00 P.M.**
- Bidders MUST visit the site before bidding.** The site visit will be conducted on Wednesday **10 July, 2024 from 10:30 am to 12:30 am** local time.
- During the site visit all bidders will be required to come with their own PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) which meets TIPER standards. This includes **Steel Toe Safety Boots, Cotton Overcoat, and helmets**. Static Reflective vests are not allowed onto site. Bidders without PPE will not be allowed onto the site.
- Bids MUST be submitted in hard copies only in envelopes sealed with postal seals or fire seals. Softcopies of bids should be submitted via a USB flash driver embedded in the hardcopies of bid submitted. No bid should be submitted by email.
- All bids submitted in plain sealed envelopes in one original plus one copy, properly filled and marked **TENDER NO. TP/07/2024/ICB/S/022 FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING, AND COMMISSIONING OF FIRE DETECTION, ALARM, AND SUPPRESSION SYSTEM**. All bids must be delivered physically to: **The Secretary, Tender Committee, Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Limited (TIPER), P.O. Box 2608, Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam.**
- The deadline for submission of Tender documents will be **4.00 P.M.** local time on **19 July, 2024.**
- There shall be NO public opening of bids.
- Late bids, a portion of bids, and electronic bids will not be considered for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
- TIPER is not bound to accept the lowest or any bid.

THE SECRETARY, TENDER COMMITTEE,
TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LIMITED (TIPER),
P.O. BOX 2608,
KIGAMBONI, DAR ES SALAAM.

Relief as Dar schools get desks to uplift teaching, learning climate

By Guardian Reporter

TWO secondary schools in Ilala and Temeke districts, Dar es Salaam Region have received 180 desks, tables, and chairs to reinforce teaching and learning environments, and uplift academic performance.

The beneficiary schools include Uhamiaji Secondary School located in Temeke District which received 40 tables and 40 chairs for teachers as well as Mchikichini Secondary School in Ilala District that received 50 tables and chairs for students.

Worth over 10m/-, the furniture has been donated by NMB Bank as part of its commitment to create a conducive environment for students and teachers.

Temeke District Commissioner, Sixtus Mapunda who received the furniture for Uhamiaji Secondary School commended the bank for its generous gesture reaffirming the sixth-phase government's commitment to support the development of the education sector.

"We understand that many schools in Temeke District still face many challenges and need more support from stakeholders due to limited budgets. I am so grateful to NMB Bank for the support," he said. Mapunda called upon other corporate stakeholders to also direct their support to stimulate development of the education sector.

Ilala District Commissioner Edward Mpogolo said: The sixth-phase government has played a pivotal role in setting up supportive education sector infrastructure. We commend generous partners like NMB for supporting Government efforts."

Christopher Mtabutu, Uhamiaji Secondary School headteacher noted that his school faces an acute shortage of desks expressing optimism that the donated desks will help address the deficit to minimal levels.

"This donation has come at the right time as we have been facing a deficit of teachers' desks. I believe

the donated items will not only help in improving their working environment but the safety of their belongings as well," he added.

Nelson Nestory, Mchikichini Secondary School headteacher said: "We are glad that NMB Bank has finally been able to close the deficit gap after donating 50 chairs and 50 tables today for teachers. We will strive to preserve these desks for use by future generations."

Ferdinand Mpona, the bank's acting zonal manager (Dar es Salaam) said the education sector is among the bank's priorities in terms of corporate social investment (CSI) and reiterated the bank's commitment to continue working closely with all the stakeholders including the government in uplifting development of the education sector across the country.

"As a bank, we recognize that education is the key. This is why we have for years invested heavily in uplifting the growth of the education sector. The education sector is one of our key priority areas in our CSI strategy. We have been setting aside one percent of our Profit After Tax (PAT) each year to support various development initiatives," he said.

Mpona added: "We believe the furniture that we are donating today will go a long way in improving the schools' learning environment."



We understand that many schools in Temeke District still face many challenges and need more support from stakeholders due to limited budgets. I am so grateful to NMB Bank for the support

Research centre develops nine finger millet varieties

By Correspondent Nebart Msokwa,

Mbeya

THE Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Uyole centre in Mbeya Region has produced nine varieties of finger millet that are to be registered before being distributed to farmers countrywide.

The move is part of the TARI centre to increase the production of the crop.

The seeds have been researched in various regions including Singida, Rukwa, Katavi Songwe and Mbeya where it alleges that farmers are involved in choosing the varieties that they think are suitable before being sent to Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI).

Dr Denis Tippe, TARI Uyole centre director unveiled this here yesterday when speaking to farmers who visited the centre to learn ways to boost finger millet.

He said that they decided to research the seeds with an aim to revive the crop which in recent years had started to disappear because many farmers were not producing.

Dr Tippe said that they collected types of various genetics from various places including some from East Africa and the research was funded by the Norwegian government.

He said that the crop is one of the natural crops that are of great economic and health importance and therefore, he asked the farmers to be authentic about the cultivation of the crop in order to elevate themselves economically.

"Finger millet is very crucial crop for human health particularly for children and the elderly, this is due to the fact that the crop has high nutrition of zinc and iron minerals which are very essential, that is why millet porridge is consumed with many people," Dr Tippe

emphasised.

Dr Tippe added that due to the importance of the crop, its market surpasses others, therefore, he urged the farmers, especially those in the Southern Highlands Regions, to get excited about the millet cultivation so that they can gain economically.

He hailed the government for assisting in carrying out the research, appealing that the research is important for the economy to people, the nation and even the health of the people.

Some millet farmers in the Southern Highlands regions, said that the crop is important to them because it does not rot or be attacked by insects as it is the case with other grain diseases.

Elisha Sheyo, is one of the farmers from Ileje district who said that millet production is different from other crops because it does not cost as much as other crops; adding that the crop tolerates drought and any kind of weather, so they produce it without using energy and high costs like other crops.

"You can harvest and store it for up to five years and not spoil it, so when the market is bad, you store it until the market is good, then you sell it, but other crops like corn, which are usually harvested," Sheyo explained.

Another Farmer, Mawazo Nzowa said that previously they were cultivating the crop in small quantities and they were producing more for making alcohol, but through the education they received from TARI researchers, they have found out that it is used for other activities.

Nzowa said that now, they have found that the crop can be produced commercially and it will benefit them economically adding that when the time comes to select the type of seeds they want to be registered they will participate in the exercise.



Odilia Njau (C), a nursing officer with the Dar es Salaam-based Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute, has a word at the specialised medical centre yesterday with German citizen Zsuzsanna Bona. The latter, who was admitted to the facility recently after developing poor health while climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, said she is recovering. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

WMA installs up-to-date tools for electric meters' verification

By Correspondent Joseph

Mwendapole

IN an effort to align with the current technological changes and facilitate provision of efficient measurement services, the Weights and Measures Agency (WMA) has purchased three modern machines for the verification of electric meters.

Paulus Oluochi, WMA Public Relations and Communications Manager unveiled this yesterday when speaking to this paper at the ongoing 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF -2024).

Oluochi said two plants have been installed in the inspection center in Misugusugu Coastal Region and one plant has been installed in Kilimanjaro Region.

He said that the purchase of the machines has brought great efficiency in the area of electric

meters verification adding that they have already started verifying electric meters since March this year.

He said that starting from March this year, all the electric meters that come from abroad and those made in the country have been verified by WMA to ensure that they do not disappoint the end users.

"The verification of new electric meters started in March and more than 2,000 meters have already been verified as it is the implementation of Weights and Measures Act and all the meters before they are installed to customers are brought to WMA we test them and if there are no problems they are installed to customers," Oluochi said.

He said that WMA continues to manage the accuracy of measurements in various sectors and continues to build the professional capacity of its employees from time to time in order to enter new areas of work.

He said at the trade fair, WMA has continued to provide education on the accuracy of measurements and to ask traders to stop the habit of improperly packing products known as 'Lumbesa' style.

Oluochi said WMA has been conducting regular operations to check if traders are following the correct measurements and those who are found to be in violation are fined including traders who pack in the lumbesa style.

He said at the international trade fair, WMA is focused on providing education on the correct use of measurements in various areas of business, health, environment and safety, providing professional advice on various issues of measurements.

He said the goal of WMA is to raise awareness among stakeholders and citizens in general about the obligations of WMA in the verification of electric meters, water meters and fuel tank calibration and other measurements.

He said WMA also continues to provide education to stakeholders and citizens in general on the correct packaging of produce in a weight of not more than 100 kilograms as the law points out.

Oluochi said that they have been urging traders to refrain from packing farm produce weighing more than 100 kg, popularly known as lumbesa, because such packing is an offence. "We continue to provide education to traders of various products to ensure that they use the correct verified scales and not by using cans, boxes and buckets and a call is given to all buyers of products to use scales in all their purchases in markets and shops selling products," he said.

He invited measurement stakeholders and all citizens to visit its booth located inside the Ministry of Industry and Trade pavilion to be able to get more education and professional advice on various issues of measurement.



The Weights and Measures Agency's Port Division manager, Alfred Shungu (R), briefs a visitor at the WMA pavilion at the 48th International Trade Fair yesterday on the agency's operations. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Low-quality IDs to be re-printed, says NIDA

THE National Identification Authority (NIDA) has embarked on a county-wide exercise to collect and reprint low-quality cards that have been printed and distributed to the citizens.

Giving a press briefing yesterday at the ongoing Dar es Salaam International Trader Fair (DITF 2024), Head of Communications Department at the state-owned Authority, Geoffrey Tengeneza, expressed that they have keep on receiving a number of complaints from citizens in various regions over the poor quality of some of those IDs.

"We have been receiving

complaints from some citizens from Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Morogoro, Dar es Salaam and others that the identification cards given to them have had their pictures and names erased," he said.

After conducting a thorough research and established the truth about the existence of the challenge, Tengeneza said NIDA has decided to launch a special exercise to collect the dilapidated identification cards from the Citizens in order to reprint them.

"I would like to take this opportunity to inform the public that any citizen with an identity card whose photo and text have

been erased should return it to the offices of his ward, or the NIDA offices located near him so that it can be reprinted and given to him within a short time," he said.

He added, the Authority is working to ensure that the exercise is carried out with professionalism and quality in order have the affected population provided with the improved ones.

"In order to keep up with the high speed of the need for national ID cards for citizens in this country, we had to print a lot of ID cards in a short period of time, a big exercise which experienced unavoids faults," Tengeneza explained.

He observed that, until now, the Authority has managed to print and issue identification cards to a very large percentage of Tanzanians, and the work is still continuing to reach out to the remaining few citizens.

"Basically, our statistics show that every Tanzanian who applied for a citizenship ID card and met the criteria set by the government has already had his ID card printed," he explained.

"The challenge that exists right now is that many people, especially in the cities, have not gone to pick up their IDs, which is causing congestion at the stations," he said.

Central bank keeps policy rates unchanged for Q3

By Guardian Reporter

THE Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has decided to keep the Central Bank Rate (CBR) unchanged at 6 percent for the third quarter of this year.

In a statement after its quarterly meeting held on 3rd July 2024, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to keep the Central Bank Rate (CBR) unchanged at 6 percent for the third quarter of this year. The MPC observed that growth outturns in the first and second quarters of 2024 have been strong in most countries. Inflation has been falling, financial conditions easing, and central banks in most countries have receded the interest rate hiking cycle.

Crude oil prices declined, but edged up towards the end of June 2024. The price of gold remained elevated, as investors sought safe-haven assets, amidst currency depreciation and geopolitical conflicts. "On balance, these global economic conditions are expected to prevail in the outer period of 2024 and in the subsequent year, despite facing a risk of further escalation of geopolitical conflicts and trade

exchange rate pressures to moderate owing to increased foreign exchange inflows from tourism, gold, as well as cash crops and food," Emmanuel Tutuba, the BoT Governor said.

The economy continued to grow, recording a growth of 5.1 percent in 2023, higher than 4.7 percent in the previous year driven by agriculture, mining, quarrying, construction, and financial intermediation, mainly credit to the private sector.

Tourism, which cuts across many activities, also contributed to the strong growth.

The MPC forecast growth in the first and second quarters of 2024 also to be high, at around 5 and 5.4 percent, respectively.

Similarly, the Zanzibar economy expanded by 7.4 percent in 2023, compared to 6.8 percent in 2022, driven largely by tourism activities, food services, construction, and real estate. Economic growth is projected to be high in the second half of 2024 and the years ahead.

Inflation remained below the target of 5 percent and consistent with the EAC and SADC convergence criteria.

In April and May 2024, inflation was 3 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively, attributed to low food inflation from adequate food supply, complemented by prudent monetary and fiscal policies.

Inflation in Zanzibar also declined to the medium target of 5 percent, owing to a decline in both food and non-food prices.

Inflation is projected to remain low in the second half of 2024 and beyond, ranging from 3-4 percent, driven by prudent monetary and fiscal policies, adequate food supply, stable power supply, and moderate consumer goods prices in the world market.

exchange rate pressures to moderate owing to increased foreign exchange inflows from tourism, gold, as well as cash crops and food," Emmanuel Tutuba, the BoT Governor said.

On global economic activity, the MPC observed that growth outturns in the first and second quarters of 2024 have been strong in most countries. Inflation has been falling, financial conditions easing, and central banks in most countries have receded the interest rate hiking cycle.

Crude oil prices declined, but edged up towards the end of June 2024.

The price of gold remained elevated, as investors sought safe-haven assets, amidst currency depreciation and geopolitical conflicts. "On balance, these global economic conditions are expected to prevail in the outer period of 2024 and in the subsequent year, despite facing a risk of further escalation of geopolitical conflicts and trade

exchange rate pressures to moderate owing to increased foreign exchange inflows from tourism, gold, as well as cash crops and food," Emmanuel Tutuba, the BoT Governor said.

The economy continued to grow, recording a growth of 5.1 percent in 2023, higher than 4.7 percent in the previous year driven by agriculture, mining, quarrying, construction, and financial intermediation, mainly credit to the private sector.

Tourism, which cuts across many activities, also contributed to the strong growth.

The MPC forecast growth in the first and second quarters of 2024 also to be high, at around 5 and 5.4 percent, respectively.

Similarly, the Zanzibar economy expanded by 7.4 percent in 2023, compared to 6.8 percent in 2022, driven largely by tourism activities, food services, construction, and real estate. Economic growth is projected to be high in the second half of 2024 and the years ahead.

Inflation remained below the target of 5 percent and consistent with the EAC and SADC convergence criteria.

In April and May 2024, inflation was 3 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively, attributed to low food inflation from adequate food supply, complemented by prudent monetary and fiscal policies.

Inflation in Zanzibar also declined to the medium target of 5 percent, owing to a decline in both food and non-food prices.

Inflation is projected to remain low in the second half of 2024 and beyond, ranging from 3-4 percent, driven by prudent monetary and fiscal policies, adequate food supply, stable power supply, and moderate consumer goods prices in the world market.

disputes," he said in a statement yesterday. "Domestic economic conditions have improved significantly in the recent past, on the back of implementation of policies and reforms for fostering high economic growth."

The central bank governor noted that the outlook also is positive, driven by expected favourable weather for agriculture, adequate power supply, improvement in infrastructure (especially railways, roads, and ports), as well as policies and reform programmes.

The economy continued to grow, recording a growth of 5.1 percent in 2023, higher than 4.7 percent in the previous year driven by agriculture, mining, quarrying, construction, and financial intermediation, mainly credit to the private sector.

Tourism, which cuts across many activities, also contributed to the strong growth.

The MPC forecast growth in the first and second quarters of 2024 also to be high, at around 5 and 5.4 percent, respectively.

Similarly, the Zanzibar economy expanded by 7.4 percent in 2023, compared to 6.8 percent in 2022, driven largely by tourism activities, food services, construction, and real estate. Economic growth is projected to be high in the second half of 2024 and the years ahead.

Inflation remained below the target of 5 percent and consistent with the EAC and SADC convergence criteria.

In April and May 2024, inflation was 3 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively, attributed to low food inflation from adequate food supply, complemented by prudent monetary and fiscal policies.

Inflation in Zanzibar also declined to the medium target of 5 percent, owing to a decline in both food and non-food prices.

Inflation is projected to remain low in the second half of 2024 and beyond, ranging from 3-4 percent, driven by prudent monetary and fiscal policies, adequate food supply, stable power supply, and moderate consumer goods prices in the world market.

Inflation is projected to remain low in the second half of 2024 and beyond, ranging from 3-4 percent, driven by prudent monetary and fiscal policies, adequate food supply, stable power supply, and moderate consumer goods prices in the world market.



Tanzania Railway Corporation director general Masanja Kadogosa (L) shares a light moment at TRC's Pugu Station in Dar es Salaam Region yesterday with CCM youth wing secretary general Jokate Mwegelo. She was leading a delegation of the wing's leaders from various parts of Tanzania on a tour of the standard gauge railway (SGR) project. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

By Rahma Suleiman, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S Ministry of Tourism and Heritage has said it is readying to register tourist accommodations to ensure the quality and safety of the services provided in the sector.

Mudrik Ramadhan Soraga, Minister for Tourism and Heritage, unveiled this here yesterday when speaking at the tourism stakeholders' meeting, where he said the exercise will be done in phases.

He said initially the exercise will start in Urban West Region, involving Stone Town, Mlandege, Michenzani, Chukwani, Mbweni, Fumba, Kama, Chuini, and Bububu streets.

Minister Soraga added that the Zanzibar Commission for Tourism will start an inspection of the accommodation to ensure that they have all the required

Zanzibar out to register all tourist-class hotels, resorts

standards for housing tourists.

Despite the license being granted, he added the commission has the power to terminate the license at any time if it is found to have used fraudulently, misleading, or falsified information during the application.

Soraga said that the Tourism Commission continues to insist that any person who violates any of the provisions of those regulations will be given a special punishment and if proven to have committed a crime, he/she will be convicted and required to pay a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000.

Hafsa Mbamba, Executive Secretary of the Zanzibar Commission for Tourism said that the meeting was held to bring together all players in the industry and be able to receive insightful opinions in their institutions.

Mbamba also said that the commission has prepared a tourism exhibition that is expected to start soon; the aim of starting the exhibition is to see the growing tourism industry in the country.

He further asked the stakeholders to continue to support the sector to ensure that they succeed in the exhibition as a large percentage of Zanzibar's revenue comes from the tourism sector.

FORM 58
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF TEMBEKE
AT ONE STOP CENTRE
PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION CAUSE NO 12210 OF 2024
In the Matter of the Estate of the Late
ADATUS VICENT MAGERE
And
In the Matter of Application for letters of
administration by
ELIZABETH MARJORIE MAGERE
GENERAL CITATION
(Rule 75)
All persons claiming to have any interest in the estate
of the above-named deceased are hereby cited to
come and see proceedings if they think fit before the
grant of probate (or letters of administration) is made
to the above-named petitioner.
Objections to the grant should be filed on or before
the 8th day of AUGUST 2024
Dated at DAR ES SALAAM this 4th day of JULY 2024

KUPOTEZANA

Hansen Robert Muhile
MIMI ROBERT ISRAEL MUHILE WA
BOX 8792 DSM TEL +255754298764,
Email rmuhile@gmail.com
Mimi mzazi wa Hansen R.M Namtufuta
tangu mwaka 2007 hadi leo hii alioridoka
na mama yake sina mawasiliano
Atakae mwona awasiliane nami anuani
hapo juu.





Advertisement

BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below services at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.

No.	Reference no.	Description of work/goods to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-24-06-03	Drilling, Packer Testing and Installation of VWP Instruments at Upper West	<p>a. The applicant must be a Consulting Engineering Firm certified by the Engineering Board of Registration (ERB 2. Supply and Install VWP Instruments) Can also list other relevant Certification and accreditations as bonus.</p> <p>b. Applicant must share experience with detailed descriptions of similar projects completed, including project names, locations, client names, scopes of work, durations, and key outcomes.</p> <p>c. Applicant must share specific expertise in installing Vibrating Wire Piezometers and related instrumentation, multi-level VWP instrumentation installations, borehole grouting, headworks, cable termination, and construction of concrete plinths.</p> <p>d. Applicant must share technical capability in equipment and technology used, listing, and describing the equipment and technology the firm processes for installing VW Piezometers and configuring datalogger.</p> <p>e. Applicant must describe the methodology for installing VW Piezometers, using VW signal cables and splice kits, configuring and programming VWP to datalogger, installing screened steel casing, and conducting borehole grouting, headworks installation, cable termination, and constructing concrete plinths.</p>

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead **referencing the work package reference number** should your company qualify as per the **pre-qualification criteria** together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile.
- Company registration documents i.e., Certificate of incorporation, Tax Clearance Certificate, etc.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, and affiliated registration
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner.
- BRELA detailed search certificate indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest 1800hrs on the 12th July 2024.

Any responses received after this date shall not be considered.

Please quote the above Reference number and description on your Expression of interest submission.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your EOI unsuccessful.

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

For and on behalf of **BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**.





Advertisement

BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below goods/service package at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced, and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.

No.	Reference no.	Description of services to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-24-06-04	Build, Supply, Install and Commission 1 x 40Foot Containerized IT Data center.	<p>i. Contractor specialised in design, manufacture, supply and installation of 40Foot containerized IT data center, CRB Certificate – Specialist Class 1 or equivalent.</p> <p>ii. Experience working with similar works – List of previous projects carried out in the last 3 years.</p> <p>iii. Competence/experience with similar works within the Barrick Group and fully conversant with the risks and control measures of working in Mining industry.</p> <p>iv. Manpower Resources with organization chart for the respective project - Team with multi discipline members (Mainly – Supervisors / Safety officer / QA/QC officer / E&I Engineer /Multi skilled) should have sound Knowledge of Mine Health & Safety acts. QA / QC officer should be NACE certified or equivalent.</p> <p>v. List of equipment's - Resource list – specifying quantities - List of all tools and tackles (with detailed specifications of important equipment).</p> <p>vi. Company with detailed company Health, Safety and Environment Policies</p>

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

- Full company profile.
- Company registration documents i.e., Certificate of incorporation, Tax Clearance Certificate, etc.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, and affiliated registration.
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgment of submission from the Mining Commissioner.
- BRELA detailed search certificate indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management, and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest 1800hrs on the 12th July 2024.

Any responses received after this date shall not be considered.

Please quote the above Reference number and description on your Expression of interest submission.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your EOI unsuccessful.

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

For and on behalf of **BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**.

Project kicks off to lift milk collection systems

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

THE Tanzania Dairy Board (TDB) is finalising processes to commence implementation of a major 452bn/- worth project for the formalisation and improvement of the milk collection centres across the country.

The envisaged project, to commence in 2024/25 fiscal year, will incorporate installation of over 100 vast ultra-modern milk collection centres, as well as a total of 700 small centres across the country.

Prof. George Msalya, Registrar of the Tanzania Dairy Board (TDB) told The Guardian at the ongoing 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF 2024) that the initiative focus to ensure all milk produced by the dairy farmers in the country are marketed through the recommended formal sector.

He said the farmers in the country are producing a total of 3.9 billion litres of milk annually, worth around 7bn/, out of which, between 10 and 14 percent are collected at the milk collection centers (MCC).

According to him, the development enables at least 3 percent of the milk to reach the milk processing factories, and the remaining percentage is marketed through the informal sector, which is very risky, according to him.

“The project will work to ensure enough milk collection points are available in all areas with milk production records in order to have all milk produced by the dairy farmers available to the users through the formal and safe system,” he informed.

Prof Msalya said there will be a special package to educate the farmers on the importance of channelling their milk through the set milk collection centers in order to feed the available factories in the country with enough milk to process, but also, to ensure the health security of the consumers.

“Currently, there are a total of 252 milk collection centres in different parts of the country where dairy farmers can market and sell their milk at reasonable and profitable prices rather than selling randomly through unchecked markets, which is against the set regulations,” he advised.

He unveiled that the country has at least 152 registered milk processing plants, saying the board works to attract more potential investors to chip in and invest in the vital sector.

“Consumption of milk per individual annually has substantially improved from 20 litres to at least 67.5 litres, an impressive development which requires the

factories to process more milk to help heighten the ratio,” he noted.

He said TDB in cooperation with the various development partners in the country’s dairy sector has so far, and will continue to implement a series of initiatives to help improve performance of the sector, targeting to escalate production as well as milk consumption from grassroots.

“Currently, we are implementing the school milk feeding programme, the five year initiative which works to impact a total of 500 schools across the country,” he said.

According to him, with a budget of 15bn/-, the programme involves distribution of processed milk, either pasteurized, ultra high temperature/pasteurized (UHT), and cultured milk or yoghurt to the beneficiary students.

“The programme started by covering at least 100 schools in the period of 2023/2024, whereby as per the relevant plans, other 100 schools will be added every year for the five consecutive years of the implementation, and schools covered is expected to increase from 125 to 625 schools by 2027, with the targeted beneficiaries students are those aged between 4 to 19 years,” he detailed.

In implementation of the programme, Prof Msalya said TDB is partnering the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, and diverse institutions from the private and public sector, and international organizations in the milk value chain.

He noted that findings from the Tanzania National School Malaria and Nutrition Survey (SMNS) of 2019 indicates that on average, children from public primary schools consumed limited diversified meals with animal source food being the least consumed food groups by majority of school children.

“It is with this ground that the livestock sector has a significant role to play in making sure that its food system is delivering desired nutrition outcomes thus contributing to optimal health and nutrition status of school children,” Prof Msalya noted.



Currently, we are implementing the school milk feeding programme, the five year initiative which works to impact a total of 500 schools across the country

African meeting on blue economy starts in Kenya

By Special Correspondent, Kwale

THE second edition of the African conference on the blue economy started in the Kenyan coastal town of Kwale Wednesday, focusing on strategies to boost investments in the sector of the continent.

The two-day Blue Invest Africa 2024 conference attracted the participation of more than 200 development agencies, investors, entrepreneurs, and senior government officials from 36 countries across Africa.

Salim Mvurya, the cabinet secretary for the Kenyan Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, said in his opening remarks that the country recognizes the potential of various sectors within the blue economy, including maritime transport and shipping, tourism, culture and recreation, fisheries and aquaculture, renewable energy, and extractive industry such as bio prospecting that can provide meaningful wealth creation.

“Investment in Africa’s blue economy is vital for the realization of benefits such as the reduction of poverty and inequity and the realization of greater socioeconomic advancement,” Mvurya said.

He suggested that blue investments should be structured to fund research and innovation that will spur entrepreneurship along various value chains in the blue economy sector.

According to the African Union, the continent’s blue economy currently generates about 300 billion U.S. dollars annually in revenues and sustains 50 million jobs. It projects that the blue economy will realize more than 405 billion dollars per year and create 57 million employment opportunities by 2030.

Charlina Vitcheva, director general of the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of European Commission, said that Africa’s blue economy offers numerous opportunities because of the region’s vast coastline. Through legal and regulatory reforms, Africa can attract a pipeline of investments that can transform the blue economy, Vitcheva added.

Betsy Njagi, principal secretary in the Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, said that some of the challenges inhibiting sustainable and optimal investments into the blue economy include climate change, biodiversity losses, and pollution of the aquatic resources.



Entrepreneur Mary Chilala (L) pictured yesterday briefing one-time first lady Anna Mkapa (R) and Vice President Dr Philip Mpango’s wife, Mbonimpaye Mpango (3rd-R), at one of the pavilions at the ongoing 48th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

German national narrates the ordeal when climbing Mt. Kili

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

A German national, Zsuzsanna Bona (69) has narrated how she survived death after a heart attack when climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in June, this year.

Zsuzsanna revealed this yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking to journalist at the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI), where she was admitted for treatment.

She said she experienced the ordeal because it was her first time to come to Tanzania to climb the

mountain, an incident which she described as unfortunate.

Zsuzsanna said that before she had decided to come to Tanzania to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, she prepared herself by conducting regular exercise and also did various health tests to see if she had a problem that could prevent her from climbing the mountain.

“After the tests showed that I had no problem I arrived in Tanzania eager to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and reach the top,” she said.

“I had a heart attack at midnight when I was climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, I suddenly started to get tired and could not breathe

enough, my husband spoke to the tour guides to help me and they immediately took action to get me down, and rushed me to the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) hospital who referred me to JKCI,” she said.

“I am very grateful to the experts of JKCI because after doing the tests and seeing the problem, they gave me quick treatment and now I have recovered tonight and I am returning to Germany”, said Zsuzsanna.

Dr Smita Bhalia, JKCI cardiologist, said Zsuzsanna managed to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and reach 4,300 feet where she suffered a heart

attack due to a percent blockage of her right coronary artery.

Dr Bhalia said that after JKCI received her, did tests on her, and put them in a small hole surgery room using a Cathlab machine where her coronary artery on the right side was opened and now the blood is flowing well.

“Due to the 100-percent blockage of her blood vessel, if we did not give her immediate treatment she could have lost her life, we thank our government for investing in medical equipment and training specialists because we can serve patients with various heart problems,” said Dr Bhalia



Mbeya Water Supply and Sanitation Authority take part in environmental cleanliness at a Mbeya city health centre late last week shortly after gifting patients they found there an assortment of items. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

66m people food insecure in Greater Horn of Africa: report

By Guardian Reporter

SOME 66.7 million people in the Greater Horn of Africa region are highly food insecure, according to a new report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

Out of the total, 39.1 million were from six of the eight IGAD member states, the FAO and IGAD said in the June report.

These are Djibouti, Kenya,

Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda.

Other countries where people are food insecure in the region are Burundi, the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The number of food-insecure people in June, 66.7 million, fell almost 11 percent from the previous month’s 74.9 million, according to the two institutions.

“Conflict, inflation, disease outbreaks and poor access to nutritious diets and safe water

continue to severely impact the state of food security and nutrition in Eastern Africa,” the report said.

Countries like Sudan, Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan experienced heavy rainfall, as flooding exacerbated by lingering effects of previous droughts heightened severe levels of food insecurity, according to the two institutions.

The report said that the East and Central Africa region hosts a substantial number of refugees and internally displaced persons

(IDPs), especially in countries such as Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia, where people grapple with food insecurity due to restricted access to essential resources and limited livelihood opportunities.

According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, severe climate events such as flooding and drought, conflicts and disease outbreaks are continuing to cause displacements and push millions of people into acute food insecurity.

FRIDAY 5 JULY 2024

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: DENNIS NTAITA
feedback@guardian.co.tz

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Mobile: 0677020701
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

Cement, sugar trade: Digital scan scant replacement for competition

DESPIITE restless moves on its work patterns, the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has been associated with stepping into the sphere of other regulators with plans to introduce tailor-made digital verification applications to help the public verify quality cement and sugar sectors in shops.

This initiative will likely take the issue of reconstitution of a nutrition agency or an exclusively food quality regulator to the legislature, as the older agency was split into two: a medical aspect shifted to a medically specialised body, the rest to the national standards bureau.

There was some technical pageantry as the tax enforcer called the media for a briefing on its tools for use in verifying the quality of diverse products "through smart phones with Android, or the iOS system."

With many people having smart phones, the public was being schooled to become standards verification officers, as if those employed to do the job were holidaying.

What could be of even greater consequence is what is expected next, with the customer scrambling to drive around the city looking for the right cement or sugar, or stops purchasing, skips breakfast or office coffee while complaining to regulators, etc.

If anything, this brilliant technique is covert 'whistle blowing' to the effect that the real regulators wish to relax, and if someone has a complaint on what is seen in shops let the person report the issue - perhaps to TRA instead of the standards body.

Even as a senior TRA official was saying that the gadgets unveiled to the public at the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF 2024) are intended to ensure the public buys quality products appears to be misdirected. Quality

is checked earlier, and cleared. Saying that the consumer will be able to check whether the product they are looking at have the right tax stamp is surprising, as they will usually be checking the price and, where relevant, the brand.

If there are counterfeits, and neither regulators nor brand owners can spot them, competition will be harmed and investment plans halted.

The question then would be as to why one would expand an industry if expired stuff is sold undisturbed.

Arguing that either application can detect the number of the tax stamp, its type and whether it is genuine or not is virtually as much a non-starter as explaining to street residents how to use fingerprint machines.

One problem with regulatory initiatives is that not only is competition fractured by protected public firms determining what comes into the market and how much but also that their stock in trade is to start at the end.

Systemic dysfunction is left intact and defending the consumer is taken by this or that invasive method, like checking what is in shops or exhibiting apps to check on quality. The seller by then has the customer with best price.

Evidently, viable competition would detect and check much of that and also make regulators more motivated in ferreting out bad products.

But if they are imported by a protected agency, what regulators can do is to introduce an app that allows the consumer to complain, obviously to no avail.

At the end of the financial year there will hopefully be plenty to report on how the public is using those apps, the suspicious products reported. By the time they start taking action, most of the suspicious stock will likely be sold out already. The rest might prove irrelevant.

Business community expects plenty in tax enforcement hint of concern

IT was not surprising that tax-related contentions between the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and the business community, chiefly among wholesale traders and foreign investors likewise, took a low profile at the opening of this year's Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) on Wednesday.

Had there been no earlier measures targeted at reassuring members of the city's business community and other stakeholders, not using that moment to address the boiling disputes would have 'underwhelmed' the audience.

The annual jamboree meanwhile still stands as an excellent setting for interactions between the local and foreign business communities.

As President Samia Suluhu Hassan accompanied visiting Mozambican President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, who was this year's DITF chief guest, she demonstrably hailed the US\$5.68 billion worth of investments recorded during the past year by investment authorities.

With various African capitals reeling from aftershocks of events in Nairobi just across the border, as thousands of youths with virtually nothing to lose besieged even the legislature, tax queries and disaffection were shown 'in a baptism of fire' that it can cause havoc.

It is an open analytical issue leading to this sort of situation, as wrangles on taxes are as old as representative government, but it is rare that matters go this far.

What is evident is that African leaders need to realise that traditional methods aren't usable; some form of balance is necessary.

What this means is that if leaders

can't conduct reforms promising to lead to most able-bodied or sober-minded people to find gainful employment outside hazards of this or that trade opening, they must allow those excluded to scrape a living.

It means that the government is more or less free to tax if most working age people have predictable incomes keeping them out of desperation. If there is no reform to make that happen, then taxation affecting ability to survive must be avoided.

It is even evident that there are immense efforts to tax, with policy makers looking at figures like the percentage of the gross domestic product (GDP) collected in taxation.

Yet those doing better don't arrive there by massive taxation but, rather, thanks to smart taxes - which doesn't mean low taxes but generalised capitalisation of economy on account of its being wholly or solely in the private sector.

In much of Africa there is a vast stretch of government business concerns that don't pay taxes and merely remit paltry dividends.

If these spheres were put to systematic reform and embedded in competition with other participants in those sectors, vast new employment areas would be opened up, innumerable services get customers from that fallout and both industry and services would get a boost.

This removes from the streets thousands of idle able-bodied young men and skims off layers of those likely to be totally disoriented with a raft of revenue measures. It is, in the main, a question of Africa trading off its public property conservatism for jobs and progress.



NAIROBI & ADDIS ABABA

INVESTING in teachers and school leaders in Africa is the most important factor in promoting educational opportunities for girls, keeping them in school and ending child marriage, ultimately reducing gender inequality through education.

Having more female teachers in schools and having more of them lead the institutions is even more important for keeping the girls in school beyond the primary level and providing them with role models to motivate them to continue learning.

While low educational attainment for girls and child marriage are profoundly detrimental for the girls, their families, communities, and societies, investments in teachers and school leaders are also key in ending lack of learning, identified as the single biggest cause of school dropout for girls, besides traditional factors including social and cultural ones.

Despite data showing that less than a fifth of teachers at the secondary level for example, are women in many African countries, and the proportion of female school leaders is even lower, the teachers have been proven to improve student learning and girls' retention beyond primary and lower secondary school.

As a result, better opportunities must be given to women teachers and school leaders in order to bring additional benefits to girls' education, as women often remain in teaching for a longer time, a report by the United Nations and the African Union says.

The absence of the above has led to high drop-outs, resulting in low educational attainment, a higher prevalence of child marriage, and higher risks of early childbearing for girls across Africa, according to the report, Educating Girls and Ending Child Marriage in Africa: Investment Case and the Role of Teachers and School Leaders.

"Increasing investments in girls' education yields large economic benefits, apart from being the right thing to do. This requires interventions for adolescent girls, but it should also start with enhancing foundational learning through better teaching and school leadership," the document tabled at the 1st Pan-African Conference on Girls and Women's Education taking place July 2-5 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The lack of foundational learning is a key cause leading to drop-out in primary and lower-secondary schools, it finds, further noting that while teachers and school leaders are key to it, new approaches are also needed for pedagogy and for training teachers and school heads.

"Targeted interventions for adolescent girls are needed, but they often reach only a small share of girls still in school at that age; by contrast, improving foundational learning

Investing in teachers, school leaders key in keeping girls in school, UN/African Union joint report finds



Girls at Dabaso Girls School in Malindi, Kenya, pose with a ball during break time. Universal secondary education could virtually end child marriage and reduce early childbearing by up to three-fourths, according to an African Union and UNESCO report. Credit: Courtesy of Stafford Ondego for the EDT PROJECT

would benefit a larger share of girls (and boys) and could also make sense from a cost-benefit point of view," it adds.

Parents in 10 francophone countries who responded to household surveys cited the lack of learning in school—the absence of teaching despite children attending classes—for their children dropping out, accounting for over 40 percent of both girls and boys dropping out of primary school, it further reveals.

The lack of learning, blamed on teacher absence, accounts for more than a third of students dropping out at the lower secondary level, meaning that improving learning could automatically lead to significantly increased educational attainment for girls and boys alike.

"To improve learning, reviews from impact evaluations and analysis of student assessment data suggest that teachers and school leaders are key. Yet new approaches are needed for professional development, including through structured pedagogy and training emphasizing practice. Teachers must also be better educated; household surveys for 10 francophone countries suggest that only one-third of teachers in primary schools have a post-secondary diploma," the survey carried out in 2023 laments.

It calls for "better opportunities" for female teachers and school principals, noting that this would bring additional benefits as women also tend to remain in teaching for a longer time compared to men.

Better professional standards and competency frameworks are also needed for teachers to make the profession more attractive and gender-sensitive, it finds, revealing that countries have not yet "treated teaching as a career" and lack a clear definition of competencies needed at different levels of the profession.

Throughout sub-Saharan Africa, just over two-thirds of girls complete their primary education and four in ten complete lower secondary

education explains the study authored by Quentin Wodon, Chata Male, and Adenike Onagoruwa for the African Union's International Centre for the Education of Girls and Women in Africa (AU/CIEFFA) and the UN agency for education, culture and science, UNESCO.

Quoting the latest data from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, it reveals that while nine in ten girls complete their primary education and over three in four complete their lower secondary education globally, the proportions are much lower in Sub-Saharan Africa, where slightly over two-thirds of the girls—69 percent compared to 73 percent boys—complete their primary education, and four out of ten girls—43 percent compared to 46 percent boys—complete lower secondary education.

Providing girls and women with adequate opportunities for education could have large positive impacts on many development outcomes, including higher earnings and standards of living for families, ending child marriage and early childbearing, reducing fertility, on health and nutrition, and on well-being, among others.

It observes that gains made in earnings are substantial, especially with a secondary education, noting that women with primary education earn more than those with no education, "but women with secondary education earn more than twice as much, but gains with tertiary education are even larger."

Each additional year of secondary education for a girl could reduce their risk of marrying as a child and having a child before the age of 18.

"Universal secondary education could virtually end child marriage and reduce early childbearing by up to three-fourths. By contrast, primary education in most countries does not lead to large reductions in child marriage and early childbearing," it declares.

strong case for the importance of secondary education for girls, explaining that universal secondary education would also have health benefits, including increasing women's knowledge of HIV/AIDS by one-tenth, increasing women's decision-making for their own healthcare by a fourth, helping reduce under-five mortality by one-third, and potentially lowering under-five stunting in infants by up to 20 percent.

In addition, secondary education while ending child marriage could reduce fertility—the number of children women have over their lifetime nationally by a third on average—slowing population growth and enabling countries to benefit from the "demographic dividend."

Other benefits include a reduction in "intimate partner" violence, an increase in women's decision-making in the household by a fifth and the likelihood of registering children at birth by over 25 percent.

To remedy the crisis, there was a need to improve the attractiveness of the teaching profession as one way of getting more females heading schools, Wodon, Director of UNESCO's International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA), said during the report's launch at the conference.

"Virtually all teachers are dissatisfied with their job, meaning that there is a need to improve job satisfaction in the profession besides improving salaries," he noted.

While retaining girls in school lowered fertility rates by up to a third in some countries, the study's aim for advocating for more education for girls had nothing to do with the need for lower fertility but was in the interest of empowering girls and women in decision-making.

Empowering girls through education places them in a better position in society in terms of power relations between them and males, observed Lorato Modongo, an AU-CIEFFA official.

"It is a fact that we cannot educate girls without challenging power dynamics in patriarchal settings, where men make decisions for everyone," she noted.

Overall, the report regrets that gender imbalances in education and beyond, including in occupational choices, result from deep-seated biases and discrimination against women, which percolate into education. It is therefore essential to reduce inequality both in and through education, acknowledging that education has a key role to play in reducing broader gender inequalities in societies.

"While educating girls and ending child marriage is the right thing to do, it is also a smart economic investment."

IPS UN Bureau Report

Need for regional authorities to further beef up security of people with albinism as tension rises

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

MURDERS of people with albinism have re-emerged in the country after the spate of killings became notorious a decade ago and the movements were lawfully suppressed by security forces after a serious debate on human rights issues in Africa and the world at large.

Media reports published during the time under review between 2009 and 2014 on albino murders in Tanzania showed that the situation was alarming and pathetic. Diverse activities that unfolded in response to the attacks were numerous in those days despite cries by human rights activists.

During the particular period, the spate of killings that occurred at unprecedented time had grown into a high level to the extent that the country's image was tarnished in the eyes of the international community.

Currently there is a mounting pressure on the government authorities who have ensued serious reactions to confront the situation which has become a threat as people with albinism are in the state of fear following the recent spate of abductions and subsequent killings of a two-year-old girl – Asimwe Novath which occurred in Kagera Region in May this year.

The deliberate action has caused endless debate throughout the country as the public had forgotten the situation amid tightened security but to their great dismay, are now surprised to see the situation taking a momentum with highly respected people taken to task for their involvement.

Public debates about albino killings in Tanzania and other African countries had been dominated by media reports rather than academic writings that have caused further harm to victims and their families whereby their loved ones are kidnapped and hacked to death.

The tragedy shocked the President Samia Suluhu Hassan who for the first time since she clung to power over three year ago expressed her disappointment and sympathy on the situation which happened when the nation prepares for civic polls later this year and General Election next year.

The Head of State who is also the



The late Asimwe Novath was abducted on May 30th, 2024 at Bulamula village in Muleba District, Kagera Region.

Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, pleaded to security forces including human rights activists to be alert as well as taking care of the people with albinism following the abduction of a two-year-old girl, describing the killings as 'disgusting and a big embarrassment to the nation'.

The two-year-old innocent child was abducted from her mother's arms late in the evening at their home in Mbale hamlet, Bulamula village, Muleba District Kagera Region on May 30, 2024.

Members of security forces react-

ed quickly and managed to uncover the child's mutilated body which was dumped in a forest at Makongora village with several of her body organs missing on June 17, 2024. The discovery of her remains was made successful after an intensive search was mounted that lasted within two weeks' time from the day of her disappearance.

Members of Parliament were shocked and ordered an immediate search for the suspects who detailed their involvement in the grisly incident. Among the nine ar-

rested suspects, one is a Priest of Bugandika Parish of a Roman Catholic Church Reverend Elipidius Rwegoshora.

Others are Desideli Evarist, a traditional healer residing in Nyakahama who is alleged of orchestrating the crime by persuading Asimwe's father to engage in the sale of human organs.

Rwegoshora allegedly financed the services of a traditional healer and was found by the plain clothed police officers in possession of some body parts believed to be Asimwe's stored in plastic containers while seeking a buyer. Other suspects are Dastan Kaiza, Faswiru Athuman, Gozibert Alkadi, Rwenyagira Burkadi, Ramadhani Selestine, and Nurduni Hamada all of whom are under police arrest.

Police spokesperson, Senior Assistant Commissioner of the Police (SACP) David Misime confirmed to the general public the arrests and the subsequent recovery of the body parts at a press briefing held in the country's capital – Dodoma. However, he warned against superstitious beliefs and practices that led to such heinous crimes, emphasizing that these acts are both illegal and morally reprehensible.

The belief that one can gain wealth through such means is a dangerous superstition. If it were true, families with albino members would be extremely wealthy in this world which is not the case, he stated and described the crime as a barbaric act that dishonors the nation and the sanctity of human life.

According to the criminal laws governing the country, the Parish Priest who has been suspended from giving God's services by a Catholic Church, alongside with other suspects will face legal action for their involvement in the crime before the court of law once the investigations are complete.

The police reiterated their commitment to bringing all perpetrators of such crimes to justice, regardless of their position or status bearing in mind the fact that this kind of crime is a disgrace to humanity and an affront to the country's values.

Past reports by the United Nations on human rights showed that attacks on people with albinism have claimed the lives of at least 75 people in Tanzania since the spate of killings were started to be reported in 2009 and it's very astonishing to see that, the country has not passed a death sentence to any suspects up to now.

Members of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities arrived at the conclusion after authorities allegedly indicated unwillingness to follow up on three petitions filed to the committee concerning the mutilation of people with albinism that occurred in Tanzania between 2009 and 2014 and the lack of accountability for such abuses in Tanzania.

In March 2015, the BBC reported that more than 200 witchdoctors including traditional medicine men were arrested in Tanzania within the said period in a crackdown to find out the perpetrators or murderers.

Last month, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa ordered all District Commissioners (DCs) and regional authorities in the country to take care of people with albinism at all levels to suppress such movements coordinated by bad people in local communities.

He told Members of Parliament during the question and answer session in the National Assembly that the untimely and horrific murder of a two-year-old albino girl, Asimwe Novath will most likely confirm and strengthen fears that some actors might misinterpret that authorities in Tanzania have failed to ensure the safety of people with albinism.

This failure might constitute the violations of the country's national and international obligations to protect people with disabilities, he added.

The Premier denounced the belief advanced by some witchdoctors, that albino body parts have properties that confer wealth and good luck, and has also pleaded to police force to take actions to remedy the situation that has driven these killings, as people are optimistic that justice will be served and prevail.

Godson Mollel, The National Chairperson of the Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS), a nonprofit that supports people with albinism in the country, has asked law enforcement authorities to prioritize the plight of people with albinism as the situation has shamed Tanzania in the eyes of international community.

African economies still grappling with public debt burden

By Telesphor Magobe

A world of debt report 2024 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) says "public debt can be a powerful tool for development, enabling governments to finance critical expenditure and invest in a better future for their people. However, when public debt grows excessively or rapidly, it becomes a heavy burden, particularly for developing countries."

In 2023, says UNCTAD, global public debt, comprising domestic and external general government debt, reached \$97 trillion, a \$5.6 trillion increase from 2022. In developing countries, it reached \$29 trillion, accounting for 30 per cent of the global total debt.

"In contrast, economic performance in Africa has faltered due to global shocks, resulting in a heavier debt burden. The median public debt-to-GDP ratio has continued to increase, reaching 61.9 per cent in 2023. As a result, an increasing number of developing countries with high debt-to-GDP levels are concentrated in Africa."

Thus, according to UNCTAD, the increase in interest rates by central banks worldwide since 2022 is having a direct impact on public budgets in developing countries, including sub-Saharan Africa. "Net interest payments on public debt reached \$847 billion in 2023, a 26-per cent increase compared to 2021."

Although lending money to developing nations helps them to cope with their financial needs and services, experts say it is only so in the short run,



but not in the long run. Like UNCTAD, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) too suggests that countries often rely on debt as an instrument for financing growth and development.

"Public borrowing is a means to engage in large and costly growth-accelerating investments that are expected to generate sufficient resources for future debt service. At an early stage of development, when domestic savings are inadequate or local markets are underdeveloped, external borrowing remains a key option, as it enables governments to bridge the gap between domestic savings and investment."

Nevertheless, the external debt impact can be different from what was expected before due to "a weak institutional framework as the high debt burden and debt-service obligations tend to impede

investment, leading to large distortions in the business environment and the balance of payments." UNECA says in the African context, there has been the adverse effect that the accumulation of unsustainable external debt has on growth through its direct effect on productivity.

In this way, Edo et al. (2020) suggest that "debt has a negative impact on growth in the long run, but not in the short run." Citing the European Central Bank (2016), UNECA says since the mid-2010s many developing economies used borrowing in four ways, namely 1) to bridge the financing gap in infrastructural and economic development, 2) to finance the rising fiscal deficits resulting from the 2014-2016 oil price shock (mainly affecting net oil exporters), 3) to bolster foreign-currency reserves and 4) to limit currency risks.

"In Africa, the overall economic slowdown and persistent fiscal deficits have led to rapid debt accumulation and an increasing debt burden. Specifically, the five-year average public debt-to-GDP ratio of Africa from 2015 to 2019 was 16.7 percentage points higher than during the previous five-year period, compared to a rise in 6.8 percentage points for South Asia and 1.3 points for East Asia and the Pacific." Thus, given its situation Africa bears more of the debt burden than any other continent or regional grouping.

According to UNECA, between the start of the century and the early 2010s, there was a decline in the public debt burden of Africa, as measured by outstanding debt as a percentage of GDP, thanks mainly to debt relief obtained by a number of low-income countries under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative (HIPC) and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI).

Of the 39 eligible heavily indebted poor countries across the world, UNECA further explains, 34 participating countries were from sub-Saharan Africa, with 23 reaching the decision point in 2000-2005.

"Countries, including Burundi, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone and the United Republic of Tanzania reduced their external debt by more than 80 per cent, thus creating substantial fiscal space for growth-promoting investment," says UNECA. As a result, a favourable external environment, with high commodity prices and low interest rates, also contributed to the decline in the debt-to-GDP ratio of Africa.

It says large improvements to terms of trade and stable income inflows led

to substantial reductions in current account deficits and improvements in the fiscal position of many countries. "Improvements in budgetary balances and debt relief initiatives, therefore, created substantial fiscal space in the 2000s, allowing African countries to source external funding and bridge the financing gap in infrastructure and economic development." But following the 2008-2009 global financial crisis, there was a reversal of favourable external conditions, leading to slower growth and weakened external and fiscal positions for many African countries.

"With the decline in export revenue and investment inflows, governments resorted to greater external borrowing to cushion the negative effects of persistently lower commodity prices." This has aggravated the debt situation of many developing countries, especially those in Africa, as "higher interest rates on private loans reflect greater debt burdens and increased risks of default," according to UNECA. This translates into high debt servicing and less spending on basic social services like healthcare and education which do not bode well for human development.

To address the debt problems, UNECA advocates this position: 1) developing countries must not be forced to choose between servicing their debt or serving their people and 2) the international financial architecture must change to ensure a prosperous future for both the people and the planet.

HIV breakthrough: Drug trial shows injection twice a year is 100% effective against infection

By Linda-Gail Bekker

A large clinical trial in South Africa and Uganda has shown that a twice-yearly injection of a new pre-exposure prophylaxis drug gives young women total protection from HIV infection.

The trial tested whether the six-month injection of lenacapavir would provide better protection against HIV infection than two other drugs, both daily pills. All three medications are pre-exposure prophylaxis (or PrEP) drugs.

Physician-scientist Linda-Gail Bekker, principal investigator for the South African part of the study, tells Nadine Dreyer

what makes this breakthrough so significant and what to expect next.

Tell us about the trial and what it set out to achieve

The Purpose 1 trial with 5,000 participants took place at three sites in Uganda and 25 sites in South Africa to test the efficacy of lenacapavir and two other drugs.

Lenacapavir (Len LA) is a fusion capsid inhibitor. It interferes with the HIV capsid, a protein shell that protects HIV's genetic material and enzymes needed for replication. It is administered just under the skin, once every six months.

The randomised controlled trial, sponsored by the drug developers Gilead Sci-

ences, tested several things.

The first was whether a six-monthly injection of lenacapavir was safe and would provide better protection against HIV infection as PrEP for women between the ages of 16 and 25 years than Truvada F/TDF, a daily PrEP pill in wide use that has been available for more than a decade.

Secondly, the trial also tested whether Descovy F/TAF, a newer daily pill, was as effective as F/TDF. The newer F/TAF has superior pharmacokinetic properties to F/TDF. Pharmacokinetic refers to the movement of a drug into, through, and out of the body. F/TAF is a smaller pill and is in use among men and transgender women in high-income countries.

The trial had three arms. Young women were randomly assigned to one of the arms in a 2:2:1 ratio (Len LA: F/TAF oral: F/TDF oral) in a double blinded fashion. This means neither the participants nor the researchers knew which treatment participants were receiving until the clinical trial was over.

In eastern and southern Africa, young women are the population who bear the brunt of new HIV infections. They also find a daily PrEP regimen challenging to maintain, for a number of social and structural reasons.

During the randomised phase of the trial none of the 2,134 women who received lenacapavir contracted HIV. There was 100 percent efficiency.

By comparison, 16 of the 1,068 women (or 1.5 percent) who took Truvada (F/TDF) and 39 of 2,136 (1.8 percent) who received Descovy (F/TAF) contracted the HIV virus.

The results at a recent independent data safety monitoring board review led to the recommendation that the trial's "blinded" phase should be stopped and all participants should be offered a choice of PrEP.

This board is an independent committee of experts who are put in place at the start of a clinical trial. They see the unblinded data at stipulated times during the trial to monitor progress and safety. They ensure that a trial does not continue if there is harm or a clear benefit in one arm over others.



What is the significance of these trials?

This breakthrough gives great hope that we have a proven, highly effective prevention tool to protect people from HIV.

There were 1.3 million new HIV infections globally in the past year. Although that's fewer than the 2 million infections seen in 2010, it is clear that at this rate we are not going to meet the HIV new infection target that UNAIDS set for 2025 (fewer than 500,000 globally) or potentially even the goal to end Aids by 2030.

PrEP is not the only prevention tool.

PrEP should be provided alongside HIV self-testing, access to condoms, screening and treatment for sexually transmitted infections and access to contraception for women of childbearing potential.

In addition, young men should be offered medical male circumcision for health reasons.

But despite these options, we haven't quite got to the point where we have been able to stop new infections, particularly among young people.

For young people, the daily decision to take a pill or use a condom or take a pill at the time of sexual

intercourse can be very challenging.

HIV scientists and activists hope that young people may find that having to make this "prevention decision" only twice a year may reduce unpredictability and barriers.

For a young woman who struggles to get to an appointment at a clinic in a town or who can't keep pills without facing stigma or violence, an injection just twice a year is the option that could keep her free of HIV.

What happens now?

The plan is that the Purpose 1 trial will go on but now in an "open label" phase. This means that study participants will be "unblinded": they will be told whether they have been in the "injectable" or oral TDF or oral TAF groups.

They will be offered the choice of PrEP they would prefer as the trial continues.

A sister trial is also under way: Purpose 2 is being conducted in a number of regions including some sites in Africa among cisgender men, and transgender and non-binary people who have sex with men.

It's important to conduct trials among different groups because we have seen differences in effectiveness. Whether the sex is anal or

vaginal is important and may have an impact on effectiveness.

How long until the drug is rolled out?

We have read in a Gilead Sciences press statement that within the next couple of months the company will submit the dossier with all the results to a number of country regulators, particularly the Ugandan and South African regulators.

The World Health Organization will also review the data and may issue recommendations.

We hope then that this new drug will be adopted into WHO and country guidelines.

We also hope we may begin to see the drug being tested in more studies to understand better how to incorporate it into real world settings.

Price is a critical factor to ensure access and distribution in the public sector where it is badly needed.

Gilead Sciences has said it will offer licences to companies that make generic drugs, which is another critical way to get prices down.

In an ideal world, governments will be able to purchase this affordably and it will be offered to all who want it and need protection against HIV.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND COMMISSIONING OF TELEHANDLER TO SANDVIK MINING & CONSTRUCTION TANZANIA LTD

Sandvik Mining and Construction Tanzania Limited (THE COMPANY) is located in Mwanza, on the edge of Lake Victoria.

The purpose of this EOI is to invites bids from experienced local companies to supply, deliver and commissioning of Telehandler to Sandvik head office Mwanza-Tanzania.

The mandatory description of goods (Telehandler) to be procured are: -

1. Supply, Delivery and Commissioning of Manitou MT-X 1440 100P ST3A S2

Mandatory Pre-Qualification Criteria

1. Business certification (Compliant with all required permits, Certifications and Licenses).
2. Compliant with all National labour Laws and Regulations
3. Compliant with local content regulations.

Expression of Interest

If your organization meets the above pre-qualification criteria, and you would like to be invited to tender, please submit your Expression of Interest, Company Profile, Company registration, and evidence of the above listed pre-qualifications tenders.tanzania@sandvik.com

The Reference "SMCT/MC01/2024" must be quoted in the subject of the email.

Last Date for submission: **12th JULY, 2024.**

Sandvik Mining and Construction Tanzania Limited

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

By Getrude Mbago

Initiative to support access to decent, cheap housing for poor urban dwellers

INADEQUACY of decent and affordable housing in the country has led to the proliferation of squatters and informal settlements in its cities.

Reports show that the national housing deficit currently stands at 3 million units, increasing by 200,000 annually, with approximately 40 percent of this deficit concentrated in urban areas.

The shortage of decent and affordable housing is particularly acute in the informal settlements due to various challenges, including policies, land acquisition difficulties, insecure tenure, complex building permit processes, and limited access to housing credit facilities.

To help address the challenge, the Centre for Community for Initiatives (CCI) embarked in a special project-Chamazi Community Based Affordable Housing Scheme (CCBHS) with the overall aim to support access to affordable housing for poor specifically those affected communities from Kurasini area of Dar es Salaam city whose settlements were demolished as part of Tanzania government port expansion project back in 2006.

In an interview, Dr Tim Ndezi, CCI executive director said inclusive, affordable and adequate housing is the key to sustainable transformation of cities and communities', fighting poverty and other risks.

He said in 2006, the government demolished 7,351 houses in the Kurasini area to expand Dar es Salaam port, leaving about 36,000 people, especially tenants homeless.

This pushed the centre swung into action to support the poorer have somewhere to live. The initiative was developed with an aim of demonstrating a practical approach of engaging displaced communities in the resettlement and relocation.

He elaborated that in the period before their eviction, community members formed a community association called Tanzania Federation of the Urban Poor (TFUP) with over 300 members working to address challenges facing them. This community association started a community savings and loans scheme and set in motion the search for a location to resettle their community.

With TFUP, CCI mobilised establishment of Chamazi Community Based Housing Scheme known as Muungano Housing Cooperative which was initiated with its members contributing funds that reached 24m/- facilitating purchase of a 30-acre land in Msufini Street of Chamazi Ward in Temeke District, Dar es Salaam.

He said the TFUP with support from CCI, also secured a loan from Slum Dwellers International (SDI) and UK-based organization Homeless International (Reall) to facilitate construction of some houses as well as for water and sanitation



and the solar pump for the community borehole from Temeke Municipal Council.

To minimize costs, the two worked with the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development, City Council and Temeke Municipal Council to help in surveying the land, acquisition, developing master plan of Chamazi, designing of housings and providing engineering support. Most importantly, the Ministry granted special permission to reduce the plot sizes from the normal 400 square meters to 144 square meters which is the current plot sizes for Chamazi.

He said the centre trained the community in construction skills, enabling construction materials to be fabricated on-site by community members, who also helped build the houses. Other partners contributed expertise and professional advice on surveying and acquiring land, developing building plans and designing the houses. To date, 75 new homes have been provided.

"Considering the rapid urbanization in Africa and across the globe, plus the growth of urban informal settlements, this would be a highly relevant initiative to replicate for sustainable use of land and to fulfil the right to decent housing for all."

Dr Ndezi said in a bid to ensure decent housing for all, the government, private sector and stakeholders have to work together, increase investments and assist in overcoming blockages and providing diverse financing mechanisms.

He urged the government to put people at the core of decision-making, work closely with local communities by engaging them in various projects that affect their daily lives.

"Tanzania urban poor struggle with issues of poor housing and threats of forced eviction. Government's efforts to address housing problems in urban areas are still insufficient. The urban population struggles very hard to access surveyed plots and when available they are sold at high prices, something which has led them to settle in unplanned and un-serviced settlements," Dr Ndezi said.

He however said everyone should be aware that providing adequate housing is a shared responsibility, which depends on national and local governments, civil society, businesses, and local communities working

together.

"In the project, we have seen over 90 affordable houses of two-bedrooms with modern toilets at a cost between 6m/- and 22m/-. Both housing projects have highly considered and demonstrated the role played by community organizations and participation by purchasing land, planning and participating in construction work with the aim of reducing the cost and creating ownership," he said.

He said the cost is much low as they use materials available in the area such in making bricks but also were purchasing construction materials in bulk as well as engaging members in construction activities.

Saidi Seif, Chair of Muungano Housing Cooperative said: "The Chamazi housing scheme has given us a sense of stability and hope. For many of us who were displaced, this project has not only provided a roof over our heads but also restored our dignity."

He said the Chamazi Community-Based Housing Scheme stands as a powerful example of how affordable housing solutions can be achieved for the urban poor.

By pooling and managing land and financial resources ourselves, we have created a sustainable and resilient model that can be implemented in other informal settlements. This intervention demonstrates the strength of community collaboration and innovation in addressing the housing needs of the most vulnerable, providing a blueprint for future projects aimed at uplifting the urban poor," he said.

Initially, the community wanted the big houses but affordability became an issue of concern to many. Later on the current design of 2 bedrooms, a living room, kitchen and a toilet was agreed by the community with support of professionals.

"I was there when we mobilised resources and procured the 30-acre land back in 2008 here in Chamazi. The process went on for clearing the land, house dreaming where communities discussed together with professionals on what kind of housing they would want to construct including the costing of those houses," he added.

Seif said with a big challenge of lack of sewerage system in many settlements, the Chamazi housing site developed a system

of treating waste water from beneficiary's houses. This is a Decentralized sewerage system (DEWATS) using constructed wetland which treats sewerage water through a natural mechanism and the water can be recycled back for other use in gardening. Each house is connected to the system.

He said community engagement was a very critical issue to ensure that community aspirations are included in the project design, they understand the realities such as the issue of affordability as a critical part of the project and ensure that there is ownership of the project.

He however said that the absence of low interest rates within the financial institution to accommodate the low income people in accessing decent houses has made this project to depend on revolving funds currently used where members take a long time to settle their loans.

This has affected the speed of the construction process. However CCI together with the Housing cooperative have started the discussion with different financial institutions to see the possibilities of supporting the project."

Fatuma Ambade, one of the residents at the area said: "The collective effort and support we have received have shown us that together, we can overcome any challenge. Chamazi is not just a housing project, it's a community unity."

She asked the government to also support the area by constructing a bus stand as well as a market to stimulate economic activities in the area.

Rachel Kaduma, Assistant Director of Urban and Rural Development Department in the President's Office, Regional Administration, and Local Government commended stakeholder's efforts to help improve access to decent housing in the country.

"We appreciate the good job of NGOs in this area of housing; previously, the government was carrying all responsibilities to support development initiatives and CCI is one of organisations which has been very committed in supporting social and economic initiatives for the poor," she said.

According to Kaduma, Chamazi was an area which was even looked to be favourable for establishing settlements, but after mobilisation, planning and improvements coordinated by CCI and TFUP, decent houses have been constructed and now the area looks attractive.

She said the government will continue to work together with the organisations to heighten implementation of various development initiatives in the country.

Hope for African widows as continent moots empowerment fund

By Kamau Maichuhie

DIANA Lukosi was devastated in 2007 after she lost her husband of seven years through a road accident.

Diana could not figure out how she would cope with life now that her family's sole breadwinner was no more.

After the funeral of her husband, things took a more dramatic turn than expected, much to her disbelief.

"I lost all his properties, including land and businesses. I also lost compensation from where he worked and the insurance company," Diana says.

The mother of two says her tender age, coupled with lack of information on succession, led to her losing everything she was supposed to inherit from her husband.

"I did not know anything about succession. I was not aware that after the death of my husband I was supposed to lodge a succession case in court. I was only a 29-year-old housewife who knew nothing much when my husband died. Those who short-changed me took advantage of my ignorance."

She adds that lack of money and necessary resources to undertake succession only fuelled her woes and predicament, much to the advantage of her detractors.

Diana's plight mirrors what millions of widows across Africa face in their day to day life as they press to inherit their late husbands' property.

However, the widows on the continent could soon have a reason to smile after the idea of establishing a continental fund for widows was mooted.

The idea to have the African Union (AU) establish a widows' fund was fronted



ed by Kenya's Second Lady Dorcas Rigathi during the inaugural Africa Widows Summit in Zanzibar.

The summit was themed 'Women in Widowhood: Reforming the African Space'. It was aimed at crafting solutions to challenges.

Rigathi urged the African Union to set up a fund to support widows on the continent. She told the conference she was brought up by a widow. She inspired more than 800 widows who attended the Summit not to give up or lose hope.

"My mother was widowed for 45 years, and I saw the

struggles she underwent bringing up eight children. She was, however, not a victim of her circumstances, but engaged in businesses and we became who we are because she did not see herself as a victim. Widows need empowerment and opportunities, not sympathy."

She called on African nations to organise widows into cooperatives, Saccos and community-based organisations to help harness their potential and take advantage of the entrepreneurial spirit of the African population.

"In Africa, we have the spirit

of enterprise and women are enterprising. Let the Africa Union come with a policy where the widow is at the centre in areas of business and investment.

"Let the African Union also establish a fund where women borrow without all the bottlenecks and hindrances, and be adequately financed to engage in different types of businesses."

Currently, Rigathi has a widow's programme in Nairobi, Kajiado, Migori, Laikipia, Kakamega, Bungoma, Trans Nzoia, Nandi, Bomet, Kilifi and Nakuru.

The projects include economic empowerment through fish farming, tree nursery establishment, goat keeping, beekeeping, bead-work, agribusiness, dress-making, soap and detergent making, and candle manufacturing, and psychosocial spiritual support.

Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, opened the three-day summit that was attended by more than 800 widows from Nigeria, Cameroon, Tanzania, Zanzibar, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Uganda, and Sierra Leone.

He identified with the plight of widows, and urged nations to look more keenly into their suffering and ways of alleviating the difficulties they face.

"Widows should be legally recognized and respected, economically empowered, and availed of the necessary health interventions, and also education. It is our responsibility to ensure widows are not stigmatized, they are not looked down upon, taken advantage of or humiliated," Mwinyi said.

Former Tanzania First Lady Anne Mkapa identified with the struggles and challenges that widows go through. She lost her husband, President Benjamin Mkapa, in 2020.

"Addressing the issues affecting widows in Africa requires a multifaceted and comprehensive approach that addresses the root causes of widowhood, and empowers the widows to access

their rights and resources. It may be useful if African countries were to enact and enforce laws that protect the rights of widows," Mkapa said.

She noted that such initiatives can help prevent exploitation and mistreatment and ensure widows have access to the resources they need to support themselves and their families.

Mkapa added that countries should also raise awareness of the challenges faced by widows and help change cultural attitudes and practices that stigmatise and exclude them.

Other delegates at the conference included former Zanzibar First Lady Mariam Mwinyi, Zimbabwe First Lady Auxillia Mnangagwa, former Zanzibar First Lady Mama Shadia Karume, and Union of African Widows president Hope Nwakwesi.

One in 10 African women above the age of 14 is widowed, according to a 2018 World Bank report.

Most of them struggle with serious economic constraints, especially if their husbands were the sole breadwinners for their families.

Rural widows in Kenya are particularly disadvantaged by patriarchy, harmful cultural practices and poverty. There are about 258 million widows around the world, and nearly one in 10 live in extreme poverty.

Tanzanian seafarers plead for better working conditions as blue economy investments grow

By Adonis Byemwela

IN marking the International Seafarers' Day on June 25, 2024, Tanzanian seafarers made a call to the government to boost their job prospects and improve their working conditions. Amid the celebrations themed 'Navigating the Future: Safety First' local seafarers highlighted their struggles with safety, benefits, and employment opportunities.

The five-day event, which kicked off on June 22, reached its peak in Bagamoyo, Coast Region. As Tanzania pours substantial investments into its blue economy, focusing on new ships, ports, and shipyards, seafarers are hopeful that these advancements will extend to better working environments and more robust support systems.

Despite the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) theme for this year's celebrations, 'Navigating the Future: Safety First' local seafarers feel neglected in terms of safety, benefits, and job opportunities.

As Tanzania invests heavily in its blue economy infrastructure, including the construction of new ships, ports, and shipyards, the country's seafarers hope to see parallel improvements in their working environment.

"Tanzania's watersheds form the basin areas for three of Africa's longest rivers, including the Nile, Congo, and Zambezi, in addition to several prominent trans-boundary lakes such as Lake Victoria, Malawi, and Tanganyika," states a 2021 USAID report on Water Resources Profile Series.

With a 1,420-kilometer coastline along the Indian Ocean, Tanzania's coastal communities are naturally inclined towards water-based occupations. However, many young Tanzanians, despite dreaming of seafaring careers, end up as unskilled fishermen due to a lack of training and modern tools.

"Challenges faced by seafarers include weak maritime management tools, a lack of maritime employment policies and regulations, oppressive maritime recruitment practices, poor seafarer entitlements, and poor working and living conditions, particularly for young people and women," said the Tanzania Seamen's Union (TASU) in a press release. TASU urged the government to address these challenges to ensure more Tanzanians can access



profitable seafaring careers.

Despite the vast water resources, Tanzania experiences significant fatal accidents on its rivers, lakes, and oceans. Data from the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) reveals that in 2023 alone, seven people died, and 57 were injured in water-based accidents.

Tragic incidents like the 1996 MV Bukoba sinking, which claimed over 800 lives, and the 2011 MV Spice Islander disaster, which killed 243, highlight the need for stricter safety measures.

Dr Wifred Kileo, Acting Principal of the Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI), emphasized the importance of regulatory advocacy to safeguard human life and ensure safe cargo transportation. "All of the major deadly accidents in the vast Indian Ocean, lakes Victoria, Tanganyika, and Nyasa were due to human behavior rather than mechanical or infrastructural failure," he said.

The government's investment in the blue economy includes renovating defunct ships and constructing

new ships and ports.

Projects like the nearly completed MV Mwanza passenger ship for Lake Victoria and the new cargo ship for Lake Tanganyika are expected to create more seafaring opportunities.

Renovations and new constructions at major ports, including Dar es Salaam, Tanga, and Zanzibar, and new ports on Lake Victoria, underscore this commitment.

With over 8,000 registered marine officers, including more than 2,300 seafarers, according to TASAC, these numbers are anticipated to grow as Tanzania's blue economy expands.

As TASU continues to push for better conditions, there is hope that the future of Tanzanian seafarers will be brighter, safer, and more prosperous.

In his opening remarks at the World Seafarers' Day event, Zanzibar's Minister for Infrastructure, Communication, and Transport, Dr. Khalid Salum Mohamed, hailed the efforts of ZMA and TASAC in promoting seafarers' well-being. He emphasized the government's commitment to investing in the maritime sector to enhance

trade and create more jobs for seafarers.

"Seafarers are the backbone of the maritime industry, working tirelessly to transport goods and services across the globe.

However, their work often comes with significant challenges, including long working hours, isolation from family and friends, and exposure to hazardous conditions," said the Director General of the Zanzibar Maritime Authority (ZMA), Mutumwa S. Sandali, in her opening speech. She highlighted the need for decent working conditions and support services for seafarers, including access to quality healthcare, education, and social protection.

Tanzania's celebration of World Seafarers' Day aims to raise awareness of the critical role seafarers play in global trade and the importance of ensuring their safety and well-being. The event brought together key stakeholders from the maritime industry, including government officials, maritime organizations, seafarers, and the general public.

Countries with successful maritime industries, such as Norway and Japan, showcase how substantial investments in training and safety can elevate the seafaring profession into a lucrative and esteemed career path. Emulating these models, Tanzania's ongoing investment in its blue economy heralds a promising future for its seafarers.

Enhanced working conditions and rigorous safety measures will allow more Tanzanians to secure profitable maritime careers, fueling the nation's economic growth

and development. With these advancements, Tanzania's maritime sector is set to flourish, offering seafarers not just jobs, but secure and rewarding futures.

The day of the seafarer, observed on June 25, was established by a resolution adopted at the 2010 Diplomatic Conference in Manila to recognize the unique contributions of seafarers to international trade, the global economy, and civil society. The resolution encourages governments, shipping organizations, companies, and shipowners to promote the Day of the Seafarer and celebrate it meaningfully. Recognized by the United Nations as an observance day, it underscores the vital role seafarers play worldwide.

Tanzania's commitment to improving the lives of its seafarers marks a significant step towards a brighter future for the maritime industry. As the country continues to invest in its blue economy, these efforts aim to create safer, more prosperous careers for its seafarers, driving national growth and development. The government's focus on enhancing training, safety, and working conditions is set to transform the seafaring profession into a beacon of opportunity and success, ensuring that Tanzania's maritime sector thrives globally.

To address the challenges facing seafarers in Tanzania, strategic measures are being implemented. The establishment of comprehensive maritime training programs is crucial. By partnering with international maritime institutions and incorporating modern technologies, Tanzania can equip its seafarers with the skills and knowledge required to excel in a competitive global market. The Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) is already playing a pivotal role in this regard, offering advanced training and certification courses.

Improving safety standards on vessels and in ports is also essential. The introduction of stricter safety regulations, regular inspections, and the use of state-of-the-art safety equipment will significantly reduce the risk of accidents. Learning from countries like Norway and Japan, Tanzania can adopt best practices in

maritime safety management, ensuring a safer working environment for its seafarers.

Addressing oppressive recruitment practices and ensuring fair treatment and entitlements for seafarers is vital. The Tanzania Seamen's Union (TASU) is actively advocating for the rights of seafarers, pushing for the implementation of fair maritime employment policies and regulations. This includes ensuring timely payment of wages, adequate rest periods, and access to healthcare and social protection services.

Fostering a supportive community for seafarers, especially for young people and women, is critical. Initiatives such as mentorship programs, career counseling, and providing modern tools and resources can help aspiring seafarers transition smoothly into the industry. Ensuring gender equality and inclusivity in the maritime sector will also open up more opportunities for women, empowering them to pursue successful careers at sea.

The government's investment in renovating defunct ships and constructing new vessels and ports demonstrates a long-term commitment to strengthening the maritime infrastructure. Projects like the nearly completed MV Mwanza passenger ship for Lake Victoria and the new cargo ship for Lake Tanganyika are expected to create numerous job opportunities. Enhancing major ports, including Dar es Salaam, Tanga, and Zanzibar, further underscores this commitment.

Tanzania's celebration of World Seafarers' Day underscores the nation's dedication to recognizing and improving the vital role of seafarers. By addressing challenges head-on and implementing robust measures, the country is paving the way for a thriving maritime industry.

With these advancements, Tanzanian seafarers can look forward to secure, rewarding futures, contributing significantly to the country's economic growth and development. The government's strategic efforts ensure that Tanzania's maritime sector will not only survive but flourish on the global stage.

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS/WORD FIT - 127

1 Across:

1 a location

6 something easily done

7 a mild Indian curry of meat or fish marinated in yogurt

8 emerge in Kiswahili

10 keep safe

11 American actor

13 admit as legal

14 a possibility of something happening

1 Down:

1 Country with the World's largest deep sea port, Gwadar

2 the action of arriving

3 coomb

4 Hunter, Isaac's son

5 largest continent

9 used to lock and unlock doors

11 one of two children or animals born at the same birth

12 in addition

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

- EREMITE
- MORE
- UHT
- TSAR
- ENDED
- THEME
- NORTH
- NEAREST
- BEMA
- ALL
- IRE : AINU
- EAT
- INDIE
- ENDURED
- TANZANITE
- ENABLED

Yesterday's solution

S	A	L	T	S	P	B	E	A	R	C	A	T
T	E	R	I	N	I	C	A	I	D	L	E	O
R	E	S	I	N	I	C	A	I	B	I	A	S
A	N	O	C	E	A	N	I	T	S	E	L	F
N	O	T	E	G	O	T	I	E	R			
G	H	N	E	D	P	R	O	T	E	A		
E	R	O	D	E	H	A	L	U	R	K		
R	M	O	S	C	O	W	T	D	A	D	A	

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I BBC	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I BBC	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I BBC	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I BBC	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I BBC	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I BBC	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I BBC
06:30 AM NIPASHE	06:30 AM NIPASHE	06:30 AM NIPASHE	06:30 AM NIPASHE	06:30 AM NIPASHE	06:30 AM NIPASHE	06:30 AM NIPASHE
07:00 AM MATANGAZO	07:00 AM MATANGAZO	07:00 AM MATANGAZO	07:00 AM MATANGAZO	07:00 AM MATANGAZO	07:00 AM MATANGAZO	07:00 AM MATANGAZO
07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI	07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI	07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI	07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI	07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI	07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI	07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI
07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI	07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI	07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI	07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI	07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI	07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI	07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI
07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II	07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II	07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II	07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II	07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II	07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II	07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II
08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI	08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI
08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III	08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III	08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III	08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III	08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III	08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III	08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III
08:15 AM HABARI ZA BASHARA	08:15 AM HABARI ZA BASHARA	08:15 AM HABARI ZA BASHARA	08:15 AM HABARI ZA BASHARA	08:15 AM HABARI ZA BASHARA	08:15 AM HABARI ZA BASHARA	08:15 AM HABARI ZA BASHARA
09:00 AM BRAND TALK	09:00 AM BRAND TALK	09:00 AM BRAND TALK	09:00 AM BRAND TALK	09:00 AM BRAND TALK	09:00 AM BRAND TALK	09:00 AM BRAND TALK
10:00 AM VAIYOMO YAMO	10:00 AM VAIYOMO YAMO	10:00 AM VAIYOMO YAMO	10:00 AM VAIYOMO YAMO	10:00 AM VAIYOMO YAMO	10:00 AM VAIYOMO YAMO	10:00 AM VAIYOMO YAMO
10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS	10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS	10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS	10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS	10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS	10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS	10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS
10:10 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA	10:10 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA	10:10 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA	10:10 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA	10:10 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA	10:10 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA	10:10 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA
11:00 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL	11:00 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL	11:00 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL	11:00 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL	11:00 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL	11:00 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL	11:00 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL
13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN
13:30 HRS DJ SHOW	13:30 HRS DJ SHOW	13:30 HRS DJ SHOW	13:30 HRS DJ SHOW	13:30 HRS DJ SHOW	13:30 HRS DJ SHOW	13:30 HRS DJ SHOW
16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF
16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO	16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO	16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO	16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO	16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO	16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO	16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO
18:30 HRS DJIA YA DUNIA BBC	18:30 HRS DJIA YA DUNIA BBC	18:30 HRS DJIA YA DUNIA BBC	18:30 HRS DJIA YA DUNIA BBC	18:30 HRS DJIA YA DUNIA BBC	18:30 HRS DJIA YA DUNIA BBC	18:30 HRS DJIA YA DUNIA BBC
19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO	19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO	19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO	19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO	19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO	19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO	19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO
20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN	20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN
21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR	21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR	21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR	21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR	21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR	21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR	21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR
21:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF	21:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF	21:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF	21:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF	21:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF	21:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF	21:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF
21:15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ	21:15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ	21:15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ	21:15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ	21:15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ	21:15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ	21:15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ
22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)	22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)	22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)	22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)	22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)	22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)	22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)
22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI	22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI	22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI	22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI	22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI	22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI	22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI
23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF	23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF
23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI
23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI	23:05 HRS AFRO TIZI
01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One

Radio One

By Guardian Reporter

GOVERNMENT TO APPEAR AT ICSID OVER BRITISH PROPERTY DEVELOPER'S COMPENSATION CLAIMS

The Solicitor General (SG) faces another task at the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) on July 5 on the arbitration proceedings involving compensation claims by the British property developer against the government of Tanzania.

The arbitration proceedings of case No ARB/23/26, between Brian Malcolm Thomson and his Mauritians registered Pennyroyal Limited, the former developer of Blue Amber Resort in Zanzibar, was suspended on April 29th, 2024 at pursuant to parties' agreement.

Details available on the ICSID website show that the claims were registered on July 20th, 2023, before the tribunal's first session which was held by video conference in mid-December last year.

On February 15th 2024, the tribunal, under Michael Collins, the presiding arbitrator, issued the decision on the claimant's request to address quantum in separate phase of the proceeding.

The claimant filed a claim against the government of Tanzania, through the office of Solicitor General, for alleged breaching the bilateral investment treaties that Tanzania entered into with both the United Kingdom and Mauritius.

In 2014, the Mauritius registered Pennyroyal Limited and its predecessor acquired consolidated leasehold for 411 hectares, from Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar (SMZ), for purposes of developing the Blue Amber Resort.

Pennyroyal reported that had



spent a reported US\$54 million at the site to develop the Blue Amber resort, worth a reported US\$1.6 billion.

Due to open in phases from 2021, it included plans for five-star hotels and thousands of villas and apartments, as well as a private airport, school, underwater nightclub and sleeping pods.

The resort construction, which was planned to take at least 15 years, also would have consisted five global leading ho-

tels - including the Ritz Carlton and Anantara - an aqua park.

However, Pennyroyal says that it was informed in 2021 by the government of Zanzibar that it planned to give some of the land under its leasehold to "investors from Dubai".

This was followed by a letter from the Zanzibar government that it was seeking to execute a High Court decree where a third party company had won a dispute involving Plots No. 1107 and 1118.

Pennyroyal claims that the two plots were part of its leasehold as approved by the investments promotion authority.

"It later transpired that in the case that was being referred to, the government abandoned the case, failed to appear in Court, and the court had issued a one-sided decision," Pennyroyal said in a statement.

"The Government has failed or refused to take any action to assert its rights or at least to appear in Court, to date. No expla-

nation has to date been given as to why Pennyroyal Limited, being the registered Leasehold owner, was neither joined to the case nor informed of the proceedings."

According to Steptoe & Johnson, the law firm representing Pennyroyal at the ICSID, the breach concern the revoking of the title deed on which the Blue Amber Resort was being constructed, claiming what is termed as hundreds of millions of dollars.

Early in 2022, the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, through the ministry of land terminated a land lease held by Pennyroyal Limited in Matewe, after it claimed that an area of 20 hectare out of 411 hectare inside the project was owned by another third party.

The Blue Amber Resort project was under construction with first phase delivery of units initially set for December 2022.

The termination was followed by a letter on July 25, 2022, from ZIPA informing Pennyroyal Limited that it will not renew its construction permit following termination of lease hold by the ministry of land.

The company said in 2022, it had abandoned operations at the site when both leases were terminated entirely by the land ministry in January that year.

In June 2023, the High Court

of Zanzibar temporarily stopped the ministry of land for interfering with the ownership of 411 hectare of land owned by Pennyroyal Limited, where Blue Amber Resort was under construction.

The decision followed an application by property developers Pennyroyal that sought court's intervention to top another company- Aecus Limited- from taking over section of land located at Matemwe Muyuni and Tazari area, north region, Zanzibar.

The government argued that Pennyroyal's lease on the land was invalidated by a court order in 2018 and the company must have applied to "reinstate" the lease.

The state claimed that Aecus had made a bona fide purchase of the land from the original landowner.

The court reportedly blocked Aecus and the government from altering the rights to the land pending a trial on Pennyroyal's removal from the project and loss of its investment.

Steptoe & Johnson previously helped Italian-owned Sunlodges win an UNCITRAL award against Tanzania.

The state paid US\$22 million to satisfy the award in 2021 to avoid the seizure of three aircraft it had purchased.



Credits to building, construction hit four-month high

By Guardian Reporter

Credits to building and construction increased to four months high at 20.7 percent during the fourth quarter of last year, the real estate sector activity, which involves selling or buying of properties, building, renting, providing real estate services by 4.3 percent in the fourth quarter 2023, compared to 4.4 percent observed in the corresponding quarter in 2022.

The growth was attributed to an increase in demand for accommodation especially in urban areas. The NBS shows the construction activity recorded a growth rate of 2.7 percent in the fourth quarter 2023 compared to 2.5 percent in the corresponding quarter in 2022.

The growth was attributed to an increase in local production of construction materials including iron and steels which are proxies for construction activities. The construction industry in Tanzania is expected to grow by 5.8 percent in real terms in 2024, supported by investments in the industrial, infrastructure and energy sectors. According to the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC),

According to TIC, 161 projects worth 3.6trn/- (\$1.4 billion) were registered in the fourth quarter of 2023, marking a year-on-year (YoY) growth of 54 percent compared to a registration of 235 projects in 2022.

In Q4 2024, manufacturing, transportation and tourism were the top three sectors in terms of registered number of projects.

Of the total projects registered in Q4 2024, the domestic investments in the country accounted for 49.7 percent and foreign direct investments (FDIs) accounted for 50.3 percent.

The Tanzanian construction industry is expected to register an average annual growth of 7.9 percent between 2025 and 2028, supported by investments in transport infrastructure, coupled with the 35.1trn/- (\$13.5 billion) Tanzania Water Investment Program (TanWIP) that aims to strengthen the clean drinking water infrastructure by developing water supply schemes and a national grid by 2030.

Dar es Salaam, which is the country's primary commercial hub, is undergoing a thorough revamp of its road infrastructure, encompassing

the construction of flyovers, a bus rapid transit system, and upgraded roads.

In February 2024, the government signed a 1trn/- (\$385.5 billion) agreement to support development of second phase of the Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Development Project (DMDP), aimed at transforming the city's road network development in Dar Es Salaam.

The Residential Real Estate market in Tanzania is projected to reach a value of US\$0.59tn in 2024.

This market segment is expected to show an annual growth rate (CAGR 2024-2028) of 4.74 percent, resulting in a market volume of US\$0.71tn by 2028.

Tanzania Real Estate market is experiencing a surge in demand for various investments opportunities, tourist attractions like national parks and luxury beachfront due to its stunning coastline and growing economy and tourism industry in general.

The rise of urbanization in both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar is also continuing to stimulate investment in real estate.

Dubai's residential sales deals hit new high

DUBAI

The total number of residential transactions in Dubai for May surged to hit 15,766, the highest monthly figure on record to date, up 44.2 percent over the previous year, according to CBRE, a global leader in commercial real estate advisory services.

The volume of sales transactions during the first five months soared to 62,180, thus registering a marked increase of 384.3 percent from the 2019 comparable figure, while outperforming the 2023 record-high by 30.0 percent, stated CBRE in its latest edition of Dubai's Residential Market Notes.

This year-on-year growth has been supported by a 42.6 percent increase in off-plan sales and an 11.3 percent rise in secondary market sales.

According to CBRE, Dubai's residential market has begun seeing a significant upward shift in which price brackets that transactions are happening, but the importance of and available opportunities in the affordable and core market segments cannot be understated.

In May, the number of transactions prices below AED1,000 per sq ft registered a decline of 19.3 percent from the comparative period a year earlier.

The core market continues to grow and has marked a year-on-year increase of 64.1% in the number of transactions priced between AED1,000 and AED2,000 per sq ft.

Given the upward pressure on prices and strong demand for upper-mid-end properties, the AED2,000 and AED3,000 bracket registered an increase of 154% in activity levels in the 12 months to May 2024.

The lack of available stock in the higher-end segments of the market is impacting activity level, with sales of residential properties priced between AED3,000 and AED8,000 per square foot registering a drop of 19.5 percent in the year to May, stated CBRE in its report.

Residential properties were priced at AED8,000 per sq ft and above only represent 0.2 percent of total sales registered in May, down from 0.3% a year earlier, owing to the limited levels of demand and availability of such assets.

Elevated levels of activity have also continued to underpin stronger-than-expected price growth, stated the property expert.

In May, average residential prices in Dubai registered a year-on-year increase of 20.1 percent, down from the 20.7 percent growth recorded a month earlier.

Over the same period, average apartment and villa prices increased by 19.8 percent and 21.8 percent respectively. In both apartment and villa segments of the market, Palm Jumeirah recorded the highest sales rates per sq ft, with average rates reaching AED2,804 and AED5,228, respectively.

CBRE said in the rental market, robust levels of demand continue to drive performance, where in the year to May 2024, average residential

rents in Dubai increased by 21.1 percent.

This increase has been underpinned by a 22.2 percent increase in average apartment rents and a 13.1 percent rise in average villa rents. Higher rents within Dubai's core and prime residential areas have led to a spillover into secondary communities which are now recording considerable increases in rents on an annual basis, stated CBRE in its report.

Looking ahead, the property group expects rental rates to continue its robust growth; however, not at the same pace, where already it has been seeing several key and prime residential neighborhoods heading towards single-digit growth. Affordability constraints are beginning to catch up, it added.

Taimur Khan, the Head of Research Mena in Dubai, said: "Demand in Dubai's residential market continues to record unprecedented numbers, where in the month of May 2024, the highest monthly figure on record has been registered in May 2024, with a total of 15,766 transactions."

"For the year to date to May, this brings total transaction volumes to 62,180, up 30 percent from 2023, and a staggering 384.3 percent from the same period in 2019," stated Khan.



GIRLS NEED SUPPORT TO STUDY WASTE MANAGEMENT COURSE

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIAN policy makers have been advised to come up with new policy that will prioritize disbursement of soft loans to girls and young women to study waste management course and environmental monitoring, evaluation and assessment courses to prevent environmental pollution and solid waste.

Humphrey Mrema, Youth Survival Organization (YSO)'s chairperson made the statement recently when speaking to Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)'s members who attended a feminist awareness training on climate justice.

"The new policy will be a roadmap for higher learning institutions or colleges to

attract girls and young women to apply for a loan/subsidy to study these courses to prevent environmental pollution and help the projects to be performed well," he said.

The event was organised by Women Action towards Economic Development (WATED) with funding from Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFTT).

The main goal is to have highly qualified waste management women's specialists similarly to men and later on allow them to control waste that damage environment, affect marine resources and contaminate water sources in areas where we are.

"We need policy makers' intervention because; so far there is a few qualified

waste management women specialists and environmental monitoring, evaluation and assessment women specialists in Tanzania.

He also called on financial institutions and Savings and Credit Co-operatives (SACCOS) to come up with new education subsidy or loan package that will provide priority for girls and young women to access funds to study these courses.

"Providing subsidy or loans to them will increase an educated women who can contribute significantly to the social and economic development and enhancing national prosperity," he said

According to him, in Tanzania we have a lot of projects that these spe-

cialists can help the government or any organization to collect, track and analyze data to assess the value and impact of different projects or programmes and interventions as well as translate these report or assessments into actionable insights and strategies to increase the impact of an organisation or allow the government to take actions on what has been identified.

Also they can contribute their skills and knowledge gained from the school to come up with new waste management technologies, plan and even coordinate comprehensive waste management systems that can prevent solid waste in Tanzania.

A report from the Vice President's of-

fice indicate that eighty percent of the Local Government Authorities (LGAs) have inadequate waste treatment facilities and therefore dispose off untreated sewage into the open environment and water bodies such as rivers and the ocean.

On solid waste, Solid waste generation is nearly 7 million tons per annum. However, it is only 32.72% of the generated waste is collected countrywide.

On Environmental challenges in cities and municipalities, Tanzanian cities and urban areas face challenges which include solid waste management, whereby solid waste generated in cities accounts for nearly 10 per cent of the total generated waste in the country.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan shares a word with Imrani Karmali, executive director of vehicle assembling firm during the president's visit to the 48th DITF on Wednesday. Left is visiting Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi. Photo Courtesy of GFA.

By Francis Kajubi

Vehicle assembler supports govt's investment approach

THE Kibaha-based vehicle assembling company has pleaded for the government to make consideration of purchasing its vehicles as it looks forward at widening its vehicle assembling scope to assembling cars.

The company which has been operational to Tanzania for 16 years now specializes in assembling trucks for customers in the construction and mining sectors.

In his plea to President Samia Suluhu Hassan on Wednesday at the ongoing 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) who visited the company's booth, Imrani Karmali, Executive Director, GF Trucks & Equipment Limited, told the President that the company is negotiating with Hyundai for an agreement of as-

sembling the brand's vehicles at Kibaha plant.

"Hyundai has given us a condition that we must be capable of selling between 200 and 300 units of assembled Hyundai cars a year. In that case, we need a guaranteed market and that's why we are pleading for you madam president to support us with the government being the key customer of the vehicles that shall be assembled," said Karmali.

Karmali said that the company has been through the years closely collaborating with the ministry of industry and trade in its operations and as it plans at widening

its assembling activities, the company needs serious commitment by the government.

He commended the government for creating a conducive environment for investment and doing business which has been a motivation for foreign investors to inject reasonable capital in the country's automobile industry.

"Tanzania is currently increasingly guaranteeing the security of investors' capital and generating opportunities for investment capital growth. The conducive business environment has attracted my company to invest more than \$2million in the vehi-

cle assembling sector," said Karmali.

He said that after 16 years of investment in the country, the company has succeeded in winning the trust of stakeholders in the construction and mining sector, thus the government's support in its new deal with Hyundai will further boost its investment in the country.

In her response, President Samia directed the minister for industry and trade to make sure that he sits down with the investor and find a way of assisting him in making the new investment a reality.

EU's airline deal demands fuel doubts over further attempts

LONDON

It took a year of wrangling with the European Commission for Germany's Lufthansa to gain approval to buy 41 percent of Italy's ITA Airways, and only after it accepted big concessions.

While the deal expands Lufthansa's footprint in the lucrative southern European market, the combined group will have to cede some routes and slots to rivals for it to proceed.

Industry executives, investors and experts say greater scrutiny of such tie-ups by European regulators and demands for remedies could deter major airlines from further deals.

British Airways-owner IAG ICAG.L has been in the crosshairs since 2019 when it announced plans to buy Spanish carrier Air Europa, with an EU deadline of Aug. 20 for concessions, while regulators are also expected to probe Air France-KLM's plan to buy 19.9% of Scandinavian carrier SAS.

Airline executives have long said consolidation is needed to help offset soaring operating costs, helping carriers recover from the COVID-19 pandemic which brought global travel to a halt and the travel sector to the brink.

But regulators worry Europe's three largest groups, IAG, Air France-KLM and Lufthansa, are becoming too dominant, potentially hurting consumer choice and making flying less affordable.

"We can see that Europe is becoming more and more cautious about this wave of consolidation," said Piotr Grobelny at aviation data analysis firm IBA.

The next candidate for privatisation is Portugal's TAP. But Lisbon's plans have been thrown off course by political turmoil, despite interest from Air France-KLM, Lufthansa and IAG.

TAP CEO Luis Rodrigues said last month that the new centre-right government should not sell 100% of the airline and should also bring in non-aviation investors, like private equity.

That could ease concerns in Brussels about the potential for an industry dominated by a handful of big airline groups.

One banker working on mergers said that airlines are wary of losing time, money in legal fees and having to give up valuable take-off and landing slots in order to get clearance for deals.

More complicated deals can take up to two years to complete, said Martina Farkas, M&A partner at Linklaters, adding: "Deals are taking longer and are becoming more complex and expensive".

"It cannot be ruled out that strategically important deals attracting regulatory attention may have the potential to be delayed and face further hurdles," Farkas told Reuters.

NO CONCESSIONS

Dealmaking can also be complicated because governments often hold stakes in national carriers which they view as strategic assets too important to fail.

Britain's Monarch collapsed in 2017 and FlyBe has gone into administration, but many other airlines were kept afloat with taxpayer funds, especially during the pandemic.

Former EU antitrust commissioner Didier Reynders told the Financial Times last year that regulators would seek tougher concessions from those looking to merge to ensure fair competition and reduce market concentration of the big three.

This has been at the heart of IAG's battle to buy Air Europa. It has offered more concessions, such as making 52% of Air Europa's flights available to rivals, to ease concerns over its Iberian market dominance, and assuring regulators it will not reduce competition on long-haul routes to South America.

IAG said on Wednesday it was glad that the Commission recognised the benefits of airline consolidation. Its shares rose more than 5 percent on anticipation that the ITA deal approval made its takeover of Air Europa more likely to be given the green light.

IAG has 50 percent of slots at Madrid's main airport and 47 percent at Barcelona's main airport, according to an analysis of IBA data.

Executives worry that the Commission will make demands that are practically impossible to meet, halting dealmaking.

"The alternative to consolidation taking place is that airlines will continue to be funded by governments, and that's just worse," easyJet CEO Johan Lundgren told Reuters.

BUDGET CARRIERS

Other analysts point to the rise of low-cost carriers as an area overlooked by competition authorities.

In Lufthansa's ITA purchase, many have pointed to Ryanair's dominance in Italy, where it has a more than 40 percent market share.

But competition authorities had not factored the Irish budget airline into their assessments because they do not consider Lufthansa and ITA to be direct rivals.

Ryanair offers more flights than any other airline in Europe with 11.49 percent of the total, an IBA analysis shows. Lufthansa and IAG are just behind, with 9.54 percent and 8.2 percent respectively.

Africa-Caribbean trade could hit US \$1.8bn by 2028, study shows

By Guardian Reporter

Trade between Africa and the Caribbean could rise to \$1.8 billion per year by 2028 if value addition, trade facilitation and improved logistics are prioritized, according to new research by the International Trade Centre (ITC) and African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank).

Current bilateral trade in goods between the two regions is worth \$729 million.

These preliminary findings were released in Nassau, the Bahamas, as part of the launch of the ITC-Afreximbank 'Strengthening AfriCaribbean Trade and Investment' project during the 31st Afreximbank Annual Meetings and the third AfriCaribbean Trade and Investment Forum (ACTIF).

The research shows that the travel and transport sectors offered the greatest potential contribution to that growth, making up two-thirds of the potential 'services trade' between the two regions.



These latest findings also show that, in the goods segment, minerals and metals; wood, paper, rubber and plastics; processed food and animal feed are the three most important sectors.

The objective of the project is to boost trade and investment in Africa and the Caribbean, and to enhance cooperation between the private sectors of the two regions.

Following this launch, Afrex-

imbank and ITC will develop in-depth profiles of sectors in the two regions to map out these five promising value chains and identify barriers to, and requirements for, growth. The results of this analysis will be featured in a comprehensive report that will be published at the Fourth ACTIF in 2025.

Prof. Benedict Oramah, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Afreximbank, reacting to the findings, said: "The

report confirms the vast Africa-Caribbean trade and investment opportunities that remain untapped. It provides a strong validation of Afreximbank's Caribbean Strategy. With a project pipeline of \$2.5 billion and an investment pipeline worth \$1.5 billion, the Bank has demonstrated its commitment to realizing opportunities across the two regions. The productive collaboration between Afreximbank and ITC is a testament to this, as it aims to bridge the knowledge gap and build capacity among small and medium-sized enterprises, which are critical for the growth of Africa-Caribbean trade and investment."

ITC Executive Director Pamela Coke-Hamilton said: "Small businesses can be among the first to drive and benefit from increased trade between these two regions, as they form the backbone of both African and Caribbean economies. There are huge growth opportunities if the right sectors are prioritized for development and investment."



CONSTRUCTION

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

WOMEN local contractors have been advised to participate tendering road construction projects particularly those projects which are funded by the Tanzanian government.

Minister for Transport Innocent Bashungwa made the call on Friday last week when speaking to contractors, graduates, financial institutions, The Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA)'s management, architects, engineering consultants,

WOMEN CONTRACTORS URGED TO TENDER FOR PUBLIC WORKS

and insurance firms and other professionals who attended two-day's symposium for Contractors and Allied Services providers.

"We encourage women-owned firms in the construction industry to participate in road construction activities because

in 2024/2025 financial year, the government has announced to build 120km of tarmac road network, among those 20 kilometers has been set-aside for women local contractors that's why we invite them to utilize this opportunity," he said

According to him, since 2014,

the local contractors have constructed a total of 102 kilometers of tarmac roads that bring economic and social benefits within the country.

The event was organized by Tanzania United Contractors and Allied Services Association (TUCASA) with funding from

different stakeholders engaged in construction industry and financial institutions. "You have your own construction companies that can build high quality road, show your expertise and knowledge you have to build best road that in turn will inspire many women and girls who are pursuing careers in con-

struction," Bashungwa said

Elaborating on construction projects undertaken by local contractors, he said since 2006 to June this year, a total of 36,105 construction projects worth 30 trillion that is equivalent to 96.2 percent were registered at Contractors Registration Board (CRB).

Among those, a total of 1435 construction projects worth 37tr/- that is equal to 3.8 percent were implemented.

Also a total of 355 construction projects that is equal to 2.8 percent were implemented by foreign contractors.



Half of Nigeria's population can't afford houses - minister

LAGOS

The Minister of Housing and Urban Development Ahmed Dangwa has stated that the population of Nigerians cannot afford houses because they have weak purchasing power.

He made this known while delivering a keynote address at the maiden Kaduna International Housing Exhibition, held at Umaru Musa Yar'Adua Hall, Kaduna.

According to him, the major issue governments at all levels have to address in their desire to deliver sustainability to the citizens is the issue of affordability.

The Minister added that statistics have shown that almost half of Nigeria's population of over 201 million are poor and have weak purchasing power. "In fact of the 43 million households, over 85% have less than N1.1 Million Purchasing Power. Of this 40 percent (about 17.2 million households) fall into the poverty income group and 47 percent (about 20.2 million) fall into the low-income group.

"On the whole, statistics reveal that Nigeria is a low-income country as it has only 13% of its population as middle class. The recent macro-economic challenges including inflation have made things worse," he said.

He however said that, it is against that background that the President Bola Ahmed Tinubu-led government through the Ministry of

Housing and Urban Development is planning to establish a National Social Housing Fund (NSHF).

Arc. Dangwa explained that, under the NSHF, the Federal Government is aiming to pull funds from the government budget, philanthropic organizations and well-meaning Nigerians towards providing decent shelter for Nigerians with no income, low income and vulnerable brackets who simply cannot afford to own their homes.

According to him, "Some of these units will be delivered at no cost. We have developed the concept note that is undergoing review. Once concluded we will present it to the Federal Executive Council (FEC) for approval and legislation.

"Social housing is not only a necessity it is also a security insurance for the rich and the poor. Because housing is capital intensive and the government has limited funds, we must find alternative collective avenues to help our brothers and sisters who are underprivileged. It is for our collective good.

"In this way the underprivileged will know that we are one, that we are our brother's keeper and that will help social cohesion, understanding and peace. This is because home ownership gives individuals a sense of belonging and a stake in the community," the Minister said.

He however commended the Governor Uba Sani-led government of Kaduna State for its practical, inclusive and pragmatic vision for

housing delivery, part of which led to the organization of the maiden Kaduna International Housing Exhibition. Earlier in his address, Governor Uba Sani who was represented by his Deputy, Dr. Hadiza Balarabe said the provision of affordable houses for Kaduna State citizens was a key priority of his administration and committed to addressing the housing deficit across the State in line with President Bola Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda.

He said that Kaduna State government had adopted a holistic approach towards filling the identified gap through partnership with local and international investors to frontally address its housing deficit.

According to him, "Qatar Charity, in partnership with the Kaduna State Government, is constructing Mass Housing for the Less Privileged and Kaduna Economic City, all in Millennium City, Kaduna. I recently performed the groundbreaking for the construction of the 3319 Hectares Nuru Suraj Ungwar Dosa New Extension Layout. This project is being executed through a Public-private partnership. Nuru Suraj and Kaduna State Government are working together to develop 35,000 plots for our people"

In his welcome address, the Managing Director Kaduna State Development and Property Company (KSDPC), Arc. Abubakar Rabiu Abubakar announced the launch of two social initiatives: the Arewa Construction Academy and the

KSDPC Housing Cooperative Society, demonstrating the state's commitment to social investment, skill development, and addressing the housing needs of low and middle-income families.

He also said that, KSDPC was set to embark on certain key housing and housing infrastructure projects, including the Ultramodern Mechanics Village for the Eastern Sector of Kaduna metropolis, featuring an Electric Vehicle (EV) Assembly Plant, CNG Conversion Stations, EV Charger Manufacturing, and strategically located EV charging points, A 5-star Hospital with Doctor Quarters.

According to him, the Company is also planning "A private university to be known as ABSAAR University, a Building Materials Village to service the Eastern Sector of Kaduna metropolis, A Trucks and Heavy-Duty Mechanics Village, which are expected to attract and facilitate the construction and delivery of at least 2000 mixed-type housing units across Kaduna metropolis within the next 5 years.

"This exhibition is a testament to our efforts to transform aspirations into tangible results, ensuring that Kaduna State remains a beacon of progress and opportunity for all its residents," KSDPC boss disclosed.

The exhibition is being attended by developers, producers and marketers of building materials and other stakeholders in the housing industry.

Mozambican President invites Tanzanian bank

By Guardian Reporter

MOZAMBICAN President Filipe Nyusi has requested the People's Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ) to consider opening a branch in his country.

With his host President Samia Suluhu Hassan, Nyusi made the request when visited the bank's booth at the 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF).

While at the booth, the two leaders had the opportunity to learn about the various services provided by the bank and listen to its expansion plan, led by PBZ's Managing Director Arafat Haji.

President Nyusi was equally impressed, requesting that the bank consider opening a branch in his country as well.

"I hope that your strategy of expanding in different areas of Tanzania goes beyond the borders of the country. Therefore, I kindly request you to explore the ways in which you can also come to Mozambique and open your first branch for the benefit of citizens, including the business community of both sides," he said.

For her part, President Samia commended the efforts made by PBZ through its expansion plan in various regions of the country, particularly mainland Tanzania.

According to President Samia, the bank's strategy to continue expanding in different areas of the country, especially in mainland Tanzania, allows the bank to fulfill its primary duty of serving the citizens of both sides of the union.

"Alongside your excellent services, I am particularly impressed by your plan to continue expanding in different regions of the country, especially in the mainland Tanzania, as this step will further strengthen you as an institution ready to serve the citizens of both sides of the union," said President Samia.

The bank's managing director stated that the bank would incorporate it into their expansion strategy, aligning with their commitment to serving customers beyond Tanzania's borders.

Haji said the bank, which currently operates 33 branches, has been steadily increasing its footprint, with new branches recently opened in Morogoro and Mbeya, and plans to expand further into Mwanza, Arusha, and Tanga. But the bank's growth strategy extends beyond just physical locations.

"This plan also prioritizes investment in digital services to reach citizens in areas where our branches have yet to reach," explained Haji.

"Additionally, we plan to launch our mobile application, which will be officially introduced soon, with the aim of further extending and facilitating our services to our customers nationwide."

"In order to enhance our relationship with the government, we are prepared to improve various government services, including our government payment system, to facilitate and accelerate various government payments, including taxes and other collections from citizens through our excellent banking services," he said.

AfDB to map association of African women entrepreneurs

ABIDJAN

The African Development Bank has launched a project aimed at mapping 160 women entrepreneurs' associations in 16 African countries.

The mapping project, supported by the Bank Group's Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa initiative and Gender Equality Trust Fund (GETF), aims to strengthen the associations' visibility, improve their institutional capacities, and facilitate access to financing.

By supporting this initiative, the Bank has taken an important step in its commitment to supporting African women entrepreneurs, promoting women's economic empowerment and boosting inclusive growth in Africa.

The Bank's Vice-President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development, Beth Dunford, officially launched the project at a ceremony in Abidjan attended by several associations, umbrella organizations and coalitions of women entrepreneurs, alongside about two hundred others who joined virtually.

"The African Development Bank's Action Plan for Engaging with Civil Society 2024-2028 illustrates our commitment to inclusivity, transparency and accountability," stated Dunford, in her opening speech.

The project will also help to pro-

mote collaboration and networking. "Associations of women entrepreneurs are catalysts for reforms and innovations that support female entrepreneurship and facilitate women's access to the economic resources they need to realize their full potential," said Zeneb Touré, head of the Civil Society and Community Engagement Division at the Bank.

Dagou Yvonne Nivine Gadji, representing the SEPHIS Foundation - which facilitates access to Bank funding for women-led SMEs in sub-Saharan Africa - emphasized that the associations identified for the mapping project would be "catalysts for reforms, a boost to women's empowerment and a crucible for building the capacity of several other networks of women entrepreneurs."

Jacqueline Tientcheu, President of the Federation of Women Entrepreneurs Organizations in Central Africa (FOFAC), said, "We are truly concerned about the issue of access to funding. However, it's very difficult in Africa, because most women don't have a guarantee for raising the funds they need. There are microfinance organizations that support women, but their interest rates are very high. We think that the AFAWA programme, through the Gender Equality Trust Fund (GETF), can help us."

WORLD

Biden rejects growing pressure to abandon his campaign, vows to stay 'to the end'

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden vowed to stay in the 2024 presidential race during calls with campaign staff and meetings with Democratic lawmakers and governors on Wednesday, as he sought to shake off calls for him to drop out after his shaky debate performance last week.

Biden dialed into a call with worried members of his campaign team and told them he wasn't going anywhere, according to two sources familiar with the call.

"No one is pushing me out. I'm not leaving. I'm in this race to the end," Biden said in a separate email blast by his campaign, urging supporters to "pitch in a few bucks" to help defeat his Republican rival Donald Trump in the Nov 5 presidential election.

The president met virtually and in person with 24 Democratic governors and the mayor of Washington, DC, on Wednesday evening to reassure them he is up to the job of standard-

bearer for the party after the faltering debate performance.

Only three of the governors - the leaders of New York, Minnesota and Maryland - met with reporters afterwards, vowing to stand with Biden after what they called an honest discussion about his bad performance in last week's debate.

"The president has always had our backs. We're going to have his back as well," Maryland Governor Wes Moore said.

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, the chair of the Democratic Governors Association, said Biden's Thursday night debate performance against former President Trump was bad, but added that he felt Biden was fit for office.

Concerns about Biden's age and mental acuity exploded after Thursday's debate with Trump, in which the president mumbled under his breath, lost his train of thought at times and, at one point, talked of beating



Medicare. The president has said that he was tired after two foreign trips and the White House has said he had a cold. Asked Wednesday if Biden was considering stepping down, White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said: "Absolutely not."

Soon after she spoke, two national polls suggested Biden's chances against Trump - who rattled off a series of well-worn falsehoods during the debate - had deteriorated.

A Wall Street Journal survey found Trump beating Biden by a margin of 48 percent to 42 percent, up one percentage point, while a New York Times/Siena poll found Trump's lead over Biden had widened by three points to 49 percent to 43 percent.

In a call among House Democrats on Wednesday, Arizona's Raúl Grijalva called for Biden to drop out of the race while Representative Seth Moulton from Massachusetts pointed to Biden's age as a liability.

"The unfortunate reality is that the status quo will likely deliver us President Trump," Moulton said in a statement. "President Biden is not going to get younger."

While the campaign has highlighted fundraising successes with grassroots donors and held damage control calls with donors, Reed Hastings, a major Democratic Party donor and a co-founder of streaming platform Netflix, called for Biden to step aside.

Vice-President Kamala Harris has meanwhile gained support as his potential replacement.

Dmitri Mehlhorn, an adviser to Linde, a co-founder and Democratic megadonor Reid Hoffman, told Reuters his team would "enthusiastically support a ticket led by our tough and savvy vice-president if Biden were to step aside for any reason."

Melhorn said Harris was the only serious national contender who had already been subjected to major attacks by Trump's "Make America Great Again" supporters.

Agencies

Global community must isolate, expose nations harbouring terrorists - PM Modi

ASTANA

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi yesterday said that terrorism in any form or manifestation cannot be justified and called on the international community to isolate and expose the countries that harbour terrorists, provide safe havens and condone terrorism.



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar delivered these remarks on behalf of PM Modi at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation being held under Kazakhstan's Presidency in Astana.

Calling SCO a principle-based organization whose consensus drives the approach of its member states, PM Modi stated, "At this time, it is particularly noteworthy that we are reiterating mutual respect for sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, equality, mutual benefit, non-interference in internal affairs, non-use of force or threat of use of force as a basis for our foreign policies. We have also agreed not to take any measures contrary to the principles of state sovereignty and territorial integrity."

The Indian Prime Minister called for giving priority to combating terrorism, which he termed as one of the original goals of the SCO.

PM Modi stressed that terrorism if left unchecked can become a major threat to regional and global peace. He asserted that cross-border terrorism requires a decisive response and terrorism financing and recruitment must be resolutely countered.

Calling on action by the global community to combat terrorism, PM Modi said, "While doing so, priority must naturally be given to combating terrorism, one of the original goals of the SCO. Many of us have had our experiences, often originating beyond our borders. Let us be clear that if left unchecked, it can become a major threat to regional and global peace. Terrorism in any form or manifestation cannot be justified or condoned."

"International community must isolate and expose those countries that harbour terrorists, provide safe havens and condone terrorism. Cross-border terrorism requires a decisive response and terrorism financing and recruitment must be resolutely countered. We should also take proactive steps to prevent the spread of radicalization among our youth. The Joint Statement issued during India's Presidency last year on this subject underlines our shared commitment," he said.

Stressing that climate change remains another prominent concern, PM Modi said that they are working towards achieving committed reductions in emissions, including the transition to alternate fuels, adoption of electric vehicles, and building climate-resilient infrastructure.

He said, "Another prominent concern before us today is of climate change. We are working towards achieving committed reduction in emissions, including transition to alternate fuels, adoption of electric vehicles, and building climate-resilient infrastructure. In this context, during India's SCO presidency, a Joint Statement on emerging fuels, and a Concept Paper on de-carbonization in the transportation sector were approved."

PM Modi noted that the SCO Summit was being held in the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic impact, ongoing conflicts, rising tensions, trust deficits and an increasing number of hotspots around the world. He emphasised that these events have put significant strain on international ties and global economic growth.

He further said, "They have aggravated some of the problems that have emanated from globalization. Our gathering is aimed at finding common ground to mitigate the consequences of these developments."

Recalling that India became a member of SCO under Kazakhstan's Presidency in 2017, PM Modi said, "India recalls with appreciation that its admission as a Member of SCO took place during the 2017 Kazakh Presidency. Since then, we have completed one full cycle of presidencies in SCO. India hosted both the Council of Heads of Government Meeting in 2020, as well as the Council of Heads of State Meeting in 2023. The SCO occupies a prominent place in our foreign policy."

The Prime Minister also congratulated Iran which is participating in the SCO Summit as a member and offered condolences over the demise of former Iran President Ebrahim Raisi and others in the helicopter crash. He also congratulated Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko and welcomed Belarus as the new member of SCO.

Jaishankar is leading the Indian delegation in Kazakhstan at the 24th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State (SCO Summit).

The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

The economic and security bloc comprises India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

ANI

Xi says ready to join Tokayev for more substantive, dynamic China-Kazakhstan community with shared future

ASTANA

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said here on Wednesday that he is ready to work with Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev to jointly build a more substantive and dynamic China-Kazakhstan community with a shared future, and inject more positive energy to the development and stability of the region and beyond.

Xi made the remarks in his meeting with Tokayev at the presidential palace in Astana.

In their small-group talks, he noted that last year Tokayev and him met twice in Xi'an and Beijing respectively, and made new arrangements and plans for the development of China-Kazakhstan relations, leading the "golden 30 years" of rapid development of China-Kazakhstan relations.

The Chinese side has always viewed its relations with Kazakhstan from a strategic and long-term perspective, and regards Kazakhstan as a priority in China's neighborhood diplomacy and an important partner for cooperation in Central Asia.

Xi said China's will and determination to maintain and grow bilateral relations stand firm, and will not be changed due to any single incident or transformations in the international situation.

China will always be a good neighbor and partner Kazakhstan can rely on and trust, he added.

The Chinese side, Xi also said, will continue to strengthen cooperation with Kazakhstan in traditional energy such as natural gas, expand new energy cooperation including photovoltaic and wind power, encourage more Chinese enterprises to invest in Kazakhstan, and help Kazakhstan convert its resource advantages into development capabilities to achieve green, low-carbon and sustainable de-



Chinese President Xi Jinping shakes hands with Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev in Astana, Kazakhstan, on Tuesday. Xi held talks with Tokayev at the presidential palace in Astana yesterday. Xinhua

velopment.

Tokayev said Xi's state visit to Kazakhstan is of historic significance to the development of Kazakhstan-China relations, hailing China as a friendly neighbor, close friend and important strategic partner of his country.

Based on solid good-neighborly friendship and firm mutual support, Kazakhstan-China relations have shown an unprecedented sound momentum of development, he said, noting that major achievements have been made in cooperation in trade, energy, agriculture, minerals and other fields, which have benefited the two peoples and set a good example for state-to-state relations.

Kazakhstan is ready to work with China to further tap the potential of bilateral cooperation in energy, minerals, new energy and connectivity and push bilateral relations to a new height, he said.

The Kazakh side appreciates China's firm support for Kazakhstan's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, and will firmly abide by the one-China principle, resolutely fight against the "three forces" and

safeguard the common security of the two countries, Tokayev added.

In their big-group talks, Xi said the friendly relations between China and Kazakhstan are rooted in the millennia-old ancient Silk Road, reinforced by 32 years of cooperation after the establishment of diplomatic relations, and have reached the high level of a permanent comprehensive strategic partnership.

Xi reiterated that no matter how the international situation changes, China will remain steadfast in its commitment to the China-Kazakhstan friendship, in its resolve to advance cooperation across the board, in its determination to continue mutual support on issues concerning each other's core interests, and in its confidence in both countries realizing their development goals.

China and Kazakhstan are both at a critical stage of development and revitalization, Xi said, calling on the two sides to enhance the alignment of their development strategies and exchanges of governance experience, and implement more mutually beneficial cooperation

projects to boost the development of their respective countries.

The Chinese side is ready to work with Kazakhstan on boosting economic and trade cooperation, and set a new goal of doubling two-way trade at an early date, he said.

He pledged that China will further expand imports of high-quality Kazakh goods and create new growth drivers for cooperation in e-commerce and digital economy, calling on the two sides to increase the scale of co-operation in production capacity investment, tap the potential of cooperation in scientific and technological innovation, and expand cooperation in electric vehicles, new energy, cross-border e-commerce and satellite communications.

China is willing to work with Kazakhstan to actively promote the construction of the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route and build a multi-dimensional connectivity paradigm, Xi said.

He also said that China supports the holding of China tourism year in Kazakhstan in 2025, and has decided to open a second Luban Workshop in the Central Asian country.

Noting that at the airport after arrival, he was moved to hear a group of Kazakh teenagers sing "Ode to the Motherland" in standard and fluent Chinese, Xi said young people are the inheritors of China-Kazakhstan friendship from generation to generation.

He urged the two countries to give full play to the role of the culture centers and the Kazakhstan Branch of Beijing Language and Culture University to strengthen cultural exchanges, enhance mutual understanding between the two peoples, especially the young generation, and strengthen public support for all-round cooperation between the two countries.

China, Xi noted, will assume

the rotating presidency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) following Kazakhstan, saying that the Chinese side stands ready to jointly build an even closer SCO community with a shared future with the SCO member states including Kazakhstan.

Xi noted that China supports Kazakhstan in hosting the second China-Central Asia Summit next year and is ready to work with relevant parties including Kazakhstan to make the China-Central Asia mechanism better and stronger, and to promote the China-Central Asia cooperation to achieve more new results.

China is willing to work closely with Kazakhstan within the framework of the United Nations and other multilateral frameworks, practice genuine multilateralism and safeguard the common interests of the two countries and other developing countries, Xi added.

For Tokayev, he said Xi's visit to Kazakhstan once again proves that both sides attach great importance to and strongly hope for further enhancement of the permanent comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries.

Kazakhstan and China, he said, enjoy a solid friendship spanning thousands of years and fruitful cooperation in various fields, adding that in recent years in particular, bilateral ties have entered a new "golden era," with smooth progress in major cooperation projects and positive results in agriculture, green energy, people-to-people and cultural exchanges, contributing to the well-being of the two peoples.

Tokayev said his country is a reliable friend and partner of China, adding that it is an unswerving strategic priority for Kazakhstan to deepen friendly and strategic cooperation with China.

Xinhua

Clashes between army, paramilitary forces escalate across Sudan

KHARTOUM

THE clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have recently escalated on multiple fronts across Sudan, notably in Sinnar, West Kordofan and North Darfur states.

The RSF announced on social media platform X that its forces seized an army headquarters and the bridge linking Sinnar and Gedaref states on Wednesday.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), "Over 55,400 people flee Singa," the capital city of Sinnar State, due to the clashes.

OCHA said Singa's residents have relocated to Gedaref, Blue Nile, White Nile, and Kassala states.

Meanwhile, the Humanitarian Aid Commission in Gedaref State predicted that "up to 130,000 people are expected to flee from Sinnar State in the coming days."

Also on Wednesday, the Al-Sinnari Observatory, a local legal organization, warned in a statement of the repercussions of the escalation in the state. "The blackouts and water cuts have continued for five consecutive days after the RSF entered Singa," said the observatory, adding



People fleeing the town of Singa, the capital of Sudan's southeastern Sennar state, arrive in Gedaref in the east of Sudan on July 1, 2024, amid the clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). AFP

communications networks were also interrupted.

Bloody clashes also raged in West Kordofan State in western Sudan, days after the RSF took control of the state's capital city of Al-Fula.

On Wednesday, the SAF declared in a statement the repulsion of an RSF attack on Al Meiram city in West Kordofan.

In North Darfur State, the RSF launched at dawn an intensive artillery bombardment on the capital city of El Fasher, according to the non-governmental Coordination of Resistance Committees in El Fasher.

"The bombardment targeted the southern and western parts

of the city, the livestock and vegetable markets, and the Al-Radeef neighborhood, inflicting casualties among civilians," the resistance committees said in a statement.

As a renewed effort toward a peaceful settlement to the conflict, a conference for Sudanese political forces is scheduled for July 7-8 in Cairo at the call of the Egyptian government. The conference aims to gather concerned regional and international partners to discuss solutions to the Sudan crisis.

On Wednesday, the Sudanese National Umma Party and the Sudanese Revolutionary Front confirmed participation in the conference.

Xinhua



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar meets his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi on the sidelines of the annual Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit, in Astana yesterday. ANI

Jaishankar holds talks with China's Wang Yi

Astana

INDIA External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar held a bilateral meeting with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Heads of State Council meeting, in Astana, Kazakhstan yesterday.

In their meeting, the two ministers discussed an early resolution of the remaining issues along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh and to stabilize and rebuild bilateral relations.

"Discussed early resolution of remaining issues in border areas. Agreed to redouble efforts through diplomatic and military channels to that end," Jaishankar took to X to post after the meeting with the Communist Party of China Politburo member.

The External Affairs Minister said, "Respecting the LAC and ensuring peace and tranquility in the border areas is essential."

"The three mutuals - mutual respect, mutual sensitivity and mutual interest - will guide our bilateral ties," Jaishankar said after the meeting.

In an official statement on the bilateral, the Ministry of External Affairs said "the two Ministers agreed that the prolongation of the current situation in the border areas is not in the interest of either side."

"EAM highlighted the need to re-

double efforts to achieve complete disengagement from the remaining areas in Eastern Ladakh and restore border peace and tranquillity in order to remove obstacles towards the return of normalcy in bilateral relations," the MEA release read.

He also reaffirmed the importance of fully abiding by relevant bilateral agreements, protocols, and understandings reached between the two Governments in the past. "The Line of Actual Control must be respected and peace and tranquillity in the border areas always enforced," the MEA added.

Both Jaishankar and Wang Yi, agreed to continue and step up meetings of the diplomatic and military officials of the two sides to take forward their discussions to resolve the remaining issues at the earliest.

"To that end, they agreed that the Working Mechanism on Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) should hold an early meeting. EAM reiterated that the India-China relationship is best served by observing the three mutuals - mutual respect, mutual sensitivity and mutual interests," the release added.

The two ministers also exchanged views on the global situation, and Jaishankar also extended India's support to Foreign Minister Wang Yi for China's Presidency of SCO next year.

ANI

Inaugural Pan-African conference on women's education calls for equitable access

Addis Ababa

EXPERTS and decision-makers attending the inaugural African Union (AU) Pan-African Conference on Girls and Women's Education have called for equitable access to quality education and skills development for girls and women in Africa.

The July 2-5 continental gathering at the AU headquarters in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, is held under the theme "Prioritizing Girls and Women's Education: A strategy for increased access to inclusive, lifelong, quality, and relevant learning in Africa."

The high-level conference gathered senior officials of the AU and African countries, representatives of various United Nations agencies and other development partners, as well as heads of different civil society organizations, representatives of African girls and women, and academia, organizers said.

Addressing the conference, Monique Nsanabaganwa (pictured), deputy chairperson of the AU Commission, underscored the importance of ensuring equitable access to quality education in Africa and the urgent need to enhance African girls and women's access to quality education.

She said ensuring better access to education and skills development for African girls and women will help create an inclusive continent while boosting women's role in socioeconomic and governance fields.

"Education, as resource, is a game changer in our daily lives, particularly for women's empowerment. Education helps to eliminate gender inequality, closing the gaps in social, economic and political spheres," Nsanabaganwa said.

The inaugural edition of the pan-African conference on girls and women's education is held in recognition of the AU theme of the year 2024: "Educate an African fit for the 21st century: Building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive, lifelong, quality, and relevant learning in Africa."

Mohamed Belhocine, AU commis-

sioner for education, science, technology and innovation, called on African countries and concerned actors to redouble efforts toward ensuring improved access to quality education and skills development, with due emphasis given to girls and women.

Noting education's crucial role for the sustainable development of Africa, Belhocine reiterated the need to strengthen continental commitments to harness the potential of education as a critical enabler in addressing Africa's development bottlenecks and to realize major development aspirations.

In the coming days, conference participants are expected to deliberate on strategic methods in promoting equitable access to quality education for girls and women, and particularly in humanitarian situations, according to the AU.

They are also expected to identify challenges, recommendations, and key solutions for the advancement of girls and women's education and skills development in Africa, while galvanizing sustainable financing to girls and women's education.

The conference is also expected to disseminate continental advocacy toward the adoption of gender transformative and inclusive policies and frameworks.

Various side events and discussions will also be held on the margins of the conference to deliberate on issues such as gender-responsive policies and planning, education financing, tackling gender-based violence and harmful socio-cultural practices, and access and completion of girls' education.



French election: Macron's gamble raises stakes for Europe's future

BRUSSELS/PARIS

WHEN President Emmanuel Macron shocked France last month by calling a snap election, he was gambling with the future of Europe as well as his own country.

While much depends on the second round of voting on Sunday, it already seems clear that Macron's role as a driver of European integration will be significantly diminished.

The two most likely scenarios - a government led by the far-right National Rally (RN) of Marine Le Pen or a hung parliament - would present unprecedented challenges for the European Union.

The big fear for the EU's traditional political mainstream is an outright RN victory, forcing Macron to "co-habit" with a government hostile to his vision of European sovereignty.

Even a parliament with no overall majority, resulting in an unwieldy coalition or parties cooperating case-by-case, would deprive Macron of a government committed to his policies.

In either case, a heavy question mark would hang over some of his boldest initiatives - from joint EU borrowing to fund defense spending by doubling the EU budget to deploying French troops inside Ukraine to train Kyiv's forces.

As France and Germany traditionally form the engine that drives the 27-nation European Union, the bloc could face a double dose of political paralysis as its two most important pro-EU leaders would be on the back foot.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz saw his party crushed in European Parliament elections last month, is struggling to hold his coalition together and is braced for strong far-right showings in upcoming regional polls.

"Macron is severely weakened at home, which will have consequences for his position in Brussels as well as for the Franco-German relationship," said Elizabeth Kuiper, associate director at the European Policy Centre think tank.

While Europe's far-right parties are still far from their goal of taking over the EU and repatriating powers back to the national level, they have wind in their sails. They made gains in the European Parliament elections, where Italian Prime Minister Georgia Meloni's party was a big winner.

A new Dutch government with far-right participation has just taken office. Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has taken over the EU's rotating presidency and announced the formation of a new pan-European "patri-



German Chancellor Olaf Scholz (right) and French President Emmanuel Macron attend a press conference at the German government guest house in Meseberg, north of Berlin, Germany, May 28, 2024. AP

otic alliance".

"A weaker France and Germany coupled with a stronger Italy and Hungary clearly will shape the future of the EU," said Kuiper.

Macron pushback

Macron has told EU counterparts France will continue to play a leading role in the bloc, with a big share of the votes in the European Council of EU leaders and his party at the heart of the pro-EU coalition in the European Parliament, French officials say.

"France remains France, with its weight," said one.

But diplomats say much of the nitty-gritty of EU policy work is done in meetings of government ministers - and the next French government looks certain to be at the very least less Macron-friendly than the current one.

Should the RN's candidate for prime minister, 28-year-old Jordan Bardella, form a government, some diplomats wonder if he may try to adopt an at least semi-cooperative stance with EU bodies - taking a page from Meloni's playbook.

But the party's policies and statements suggest clashes with both Macron and Brussels would be inevitable.

Le Pen has said an RN-led government would nominate France's next European commissioner - a key role in the EU executive. But that is traditionally the president's prerogative - and Macron has already signaled he wants to keep incumbent Thierry Breton.

The RN also wants France to get a rebate

from the EU budget, something the EU is highly unlikely to provide. And while the RN's economic policies have changed repeatedly in recent weeks, they may fall foul of the EU's fiscal rules.

Karel Lannoo, chief executive of the Centre for European Policy Studies think tank, said initiatives to boost European economic competitiveness such as an EU capital markets union would also be at risk.

"The problem for the EU is that if it doesn't have member states strongly supporting it, then it's very hard (to move forward)," he said.

Among diplomats in EU hub Brussels, some are in "wait-and-see" mode, given the outcome of the second round is uncertain.

One described the mood as "nervous but calm". But some Eastern Europeans expressed more anxiety - and concern that Macron had unnecessarily put Europe's future at risk in reaction to a defeat in the European Parliament elections.

Eastern European leaders have been encouraged over the past year as Macron became bolder in support for Ukraine and more willing to question the West's "red lines" with Russia.

"His words were music to our ears ... That was so recent and now it is gone," lamented one senior official from the region.

"It is looking very serious," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"My fear is that President Macron has definitely overplayed his hand."

Agencies

Xi urges China, Russia to continue strengthening alignment of development strategies

Astana

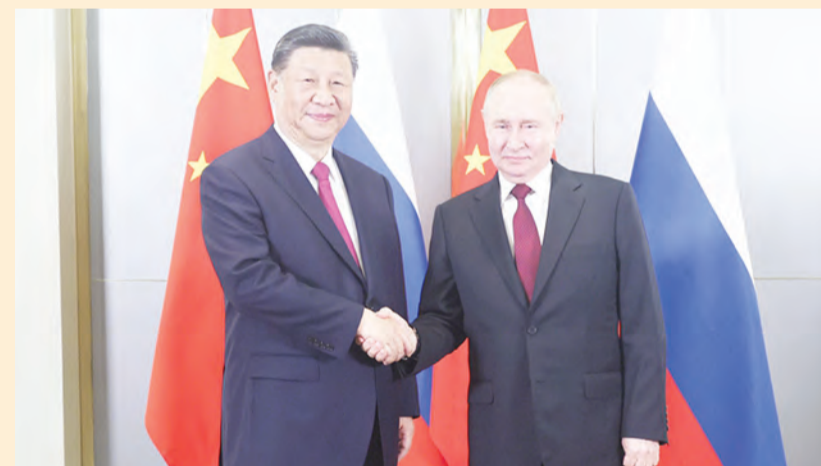
CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Wednesday urged China and Russia to continue to strengthen the alignment of development strategies and international strategic coordination.

Xi made the remarks when meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin ahead of the 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Astana.

He noted that President Putin paid a successful state visit to China this May, saying that the two sides are working together to make plans and arrangements for the future development of bilateral relations at the important historical juncture of the 75th anniversary of diplomatic ties between China and Russia.

Facing an international situation fraught with turbulence and changes, the two countries should keep upholding the original aspiration of lasting friendship, and sticking to the determination of benefiting the people, Xi said.

He urged China and Russia to continuously conserve the unique value in China-Russia relations, and explore the internal driving force of bilateral cooperation, saying that the two countries should also make new efforts to safeguard their legitimate rights and interests and safeguard



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with Russian President Vladimir Putin ahead of the 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Astana, Kazakhstan on Tuesday. Xinhua

the basic norms governing international relations.

China supports Russia in fulfilling its responsibilities as BRICS chair, uniting the "Global South," preventing a "new Cold War" and opposing illegal unilateral sanctions and hegemonism, he said.

Noting that the SCO Astana summit will be held on Thursday, Xi said the Chinese side looks forward to working with Russia and other member states to promote the steady and long-term development of the SCO and build an even closer SCO community with a shared future.

China and Russia, Xi said, should continue to strengthen comprehensive strategic coordination, oppose external interference and jointly safeguard regional tranquility and stability.

For his part, Putin thanked Xi for warmly receiving him on his state visit to China in May, recalling that they celebrated the 75th anniversary of diplomatic ties between Russia and China and made plans for the future development of Russia-China relations.

At present, Russia-China relations are at the highest level in history, Putin said, adding that the two sides respect each other, and treat each other with equality and mutual benefit.

He also said that Russia-China relations feature non-alignment and do not target any third party, which conforms to the well-being of the two peoples.

Russia, he said, supports China in safeguarding its core interests and legitimate rights and interests, and opposes

external interference in China's internal affairs and the South China Sea issue.

Noting that China will soon take over the rotating presidency of the SCO, he said Russia will fully support China's work and work with other member states to continuously enhance the international influence of the organization, safeguard regional peace and security, and promote the development of the international system in a more just and equitable direction.

As the rotating chair of BRICS this year, Russia looks forward to strengthening communication and coordination with China on BRICS cooperation, he added.

The two heads of state also exchanged views on international and regional issues of common concern.

Xi stressed that China always stands on the right side of history, adheres to promoting peace talks, and is willing to continue to make positive efforts for the political settlement of the Ukraine crisis and other regional hotspot issues.

Xinhua

UK PM Sunak urges people to vote for Conservative Party, stop Labour supermajority

London

AS polling began in the United Kingdom yesterday, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak called on people to vote for the Conservative Party and stop the supermajority of the Labour Party, which he stressed would result in higher taxes for a generation.

Sunak (pictured) also shared a picture of himself

with his wife Akshata Murty from outside a polling station. Taking to X, Sunak said, "The polls are open. Vote Conservative to stop the Labour supermajority which would mean higher taxes for a generation."

Polling stations in the United Kingdom opened for voting today at 7 am (local time) in historic snap general elections in the country.



Voters in a total of 650 constituencies across England, Wales, Scotland and

Northern Ireland will cast their votes in the election. A party needs to win at least 326 out of 650 parliamentary seats and the leader of that party becomes the country's PM.

The status of Britain's public services, the cost of living, taxes, immigration, and the economy will remain major subjects, around which much of the debate during the cam-

paigns has revolved, according to CNN.

The subject of the UK's relationship with the European Union, which it left in 2020 following a referendum held four years earlier, has, however, been largely ignored in the discussion. In late May this year, Sunak called for a snap vote, which came as a surprise for many in his party.

ANI

Diarra extends contract with Yanga until 2027

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

YOUNG Africans' first-choice goalkeeper Djigui Diarra has solidified his commitment to the club by signing a new contract extension, ensuring his presence between the posts for the next two seasons.

Diarra, who initially joined Young Africans in August 2021 from Stade Malien, has extended his tenure with the Premier League champions, securing his stay until 2027.

The club's previous agreement with Diarra was set to expire at the end of the 2024/25 season, but this new two-year extension will now see him remain a crucial part of the team for an additional two years.

The Malian international shot-stopper's performance since joining Young Africans has been nothing short of exceptional. His abilities have earned him the Premier League Best Goalkeeper Award (Golden Gloves) for two consecutive seasons, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

Furthermore, his remarkable skills in the 2023-2024 season garnered him the Best African Player Award for Mali, distinguishing him as the top performer among Malian players competing in Africa.

In the most recent season, Diarra's prowess was instrumental in Young Africans' success. He secured 14 clean sheets, leading the Jangwani Street-based side to finish as the team with the fewest goals conceded in the 2023-2024 Premier League season, which culminated in a championship victory for the club.

His defensive fortitude has not only bolstered Young Africans' league performances but also contributed to their impressive runs in continental competitions.

Diarra's impact at Young Africans extends beyond domestic leagues. During the 2022-2023 season, he played a pivotal role in guiding his side to the final of the CAF Confederation Cup. The following season, his efforts were crucial in Young Africans reaching the quarter-finals of the CAF Champions League, showcasing his ability to perform at the highest levels of African football.

Having been with Young Africans for three seasons, Diarra has been a cornerstone of the team's success. His contributions have helped his side clinch consecutive Premier League championships and the Federation Cup. His commitment to excellence and consistency in the goal have made him an indispensable asset to the team.

The extension of Diarra's contract is a strategic move by Young Africans' management, aiming to maintain the stability and strength of their squad. The club's officials have expressed their confidence in Diarra's abilities and his vital role in the team's future successes.

"Diarra is not just a goalkeeper; he is a leader on and off the pitch. His experience, dedication, and exceptional skills are invaluable to our club. We are thrilled to have him with us for the upcoming seasons," said the team's spokesperson Ali Kamwe.

As Young Africans prepare for the next phase of their journey, both domestically and internationally, Diarra's presence will be crucial in fortifying their defense and inspiring confidence throughout the squad. The club's ambitions remain high, and with Diarra at the helm of their defense, they are well-positioned to achieve their goals.



Young Africans shot-stopper Djigui Diarra. Agencies

Mbeya still boasts remarkable consistency in Tanzania's football

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

MBEYA is one of the regions comprising the Southern Highland Zone in Tanzania. Other regions that make the block include Iringa, Njombe, and Songwe. Mbeya covers an area of 35,954 square kilometers, equivalent to 13,882 square miles.

The region is located in a highland valley. Due to its beautiful geographical landscapes such as high mountain peaks, exciting waterfalls, green lakes, a meteorite, and the 'Garden of God', the region is also nicknamed 'Africa's Scotland'.

Apart from other economic activities, Mbeya is extremely famous for rice production and the government has named the region one of the powerhouses for agricultural achievements.

It has played a vital role in diversifying the agriculture landscape and boasts a remarkable contribution to the country's export potential in the cereal market.

Its quality rice has substantially prompted both wholesale and retail traders from some regions to travel in mass to camp in paddy fields and buy rice from both smallholder farmers and big farmers.

Mbeya is further famous for its consistency in soccer development in the country. The region has been successful in the game for over four decades, producing many soccer teams that successfully participated in various football divisions.

It has also groomed footballers who have greatly contributed to the national soccer team, domestic soccer giants Simba SC, Young Africans, and Azam FC, and such outfits as the now-dormant Kajumulo FC and Moro United.

From 1982 to 2024, Mbeya has gone down as the region that has had seven teams in the Premier League, namely Mecco FC, Tukuyu Stars, Mbeya City, Tanzania Prisons, Ihefu SC, Mbeya Kwanza FC, and Ken Gold FC which has got promotion to domestic top flight next season.

Mbeya now has two teams that will feature in the 2024/25 Premier League, namely Tanzania Prisons and Ken Gold FC.

The region's other outfit, Ihefu SC, shifted to Singida after the culmination of the just-ended Premier League's first phase.

The club, now known as Singida Black Stars, was moved to Singida by new investors - replacing Singida Fountain Gate FC which has moved to Mwanza for similar reasons - and competed in the second phase while residing in Singida.

Mbeya's other teams, Mbeya City and Mbeya Kwanza, are participating in Championship League. Other sides - Mecco FC



Prisons' players, defender Jumanne Elfadhili (L) and midfielder Lambert Sabyanka (R) tackle Mtibwa Sugar's player in the just-ended Premier League clash in Morogoro. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MTIBWA SUGAR

and Tukuyu Stars - which were quite famous in the past are no longer active on the region's soccer scene.

TUKUYU STARS

Tukuyu Stars was established early in 1982 and its headquarters were in Bagamoyo, Tukuyu township. In 1985, the outfit won promotion to the Premier League - which was then termed the Mainland First Division League.

The team surprised domestic football lovers when it, against all odds, went on to clinch the Mainland First Division League top honour and went down the domestic game's record as one of the league's winners.

Famous footballers who played a part in turning Tukuyu Stars into a renowned, successful outfit are, among others, Mbwana Makata, Jimmy Mored, Ikupilika Nkoba, Daudi Kufakunoga, Justin Mtekere, John Alex, Godwin Aswile, Asanga Aswile, Steven Musa, and Aston Padon.

MECCO FC

Mecco FC was owned by the then Mwananchi Engineering and Contracting Company Limited (MECCO). The outfit, alongside Tukuyu Stars, brought great competition in Tanzania's soccer landscape during the outfits' heyday.

Famous footballers who donned Mecco FC's kits include Abeid Kasabalala, Rashid Mandanje, Betwel Africa, Ephraim Kayeta, and Danford Ngesi.

MBEYA CITY

It dominated the Premier League for 10 consecutive years after winning promotion to the showdown in the 2013/14 season.

The side's journey in the Premier League was ended by newly-promoted Kigoma's Mashujaa FC when they met in the 2022/23 Premier League promotion/relegation playoffs.

Mashujaa FC, having finished third in the 2022/23 Championship League, garnered the opportunity to take part in the promotion/relegation playoffs against Mbeya City, then sit-

ting in one of the playoff places upon the showdown's conclusion.

JKT Tanzania, Championship League's champion, and runner-up Kitayosce (now Tabora United) won automatic promotion to the Premier League.

The Mbeya City - owned by Mbeya City Council, nicknamed 'Wagonga Nyundo', was earlier known as Rhino Rangers and was headquartered in Tabora.

Rhino Rangers was sold to the game's investors located in Arusha, who opted to move the team to the Northern Tanzania region. Mbeya City Council management then bought the team and moved it to Mbeya.

MBEYA KWANZA FC

Mbeya Kwanza FC was established in 2012. It was owned by Coca-Cola Company and it was formed by the company's workers.

It was previously known as Coca-Cola Kwanza FC and, in 2014, it changed its name from Coca-Cola Kwanza FC to Mbeya Warriors and succeeded in participating in the Regional Champions League (RCL).

In 2021, Mbeya Kwanza FC was promoted to the Premier League after dispatching Tanga's African Sports in the final of the Championship League.

The final at Mabatini Stadium in Mlandizi township, Coast Region culminated with forward William Edgar turning into Mbeya Kwanza's hero after drilling in the lone goal which won the tie for his squad.

Despite putting much effort into seeing that Mbeya Kwanza garners success in the 2021/22 Premier League, the side sadly participated in the domestic top flight for one season.

It was a team that started the league poorly and was relegated to the Championship League after losing 2-1 to Ruvo Shooting on June 25, 2022.

IHEFU SC

Ihefu SC was also established in 2012. It journeyed to the Premier League in 2019 after cruising to victory over Mbao FC of Mwanza in the promotion/re-

legation playoffs.

The Mbarali District-based outfit beat Mbao FC 2-0 in the first leg at the home venue, Highland Estate Stadium, and later succumbed to a 4-2 defeat to the opponent, making it 4-4 and landing promotion to the top flight thanks to the victory in the first leg.

It played only one season in 2020/21 and was relegated to Championship League the following season. It then crawled back to the top flight in 2022/23, with the then DTB FC (now Singida Fountain Gate FC) also getting promotion.

Zubeir Katwila had coached Ihefu SC when it featured in the top flight and remained at the club once it faced relegation, guiding the team to win promotion to the top flight.

Ihefu SC relocated to Singida when it landed new investors and became one of the squads that brought great competition to the 2023/24 Premier League. The squad had, in 2023/24, edged Young Africans 2-1 and drawn with Simba SC at its home ground.

TANZANIA PRISONS FC

Tanzania Prisons FC - owned by Tanzania Prisons Service - is in Mbeya. The squad's home games are played at Sokoine Stadium in the city center. It won promotion to the Premier League in 1995 and, in 1996, took part in the Union League.

It is a squad in the Tanzania soccer landscape, battling it out in the domestic top flight despite its rise and fall. It has hardly been relegated to the Championship League although it has on some occasions turned out to be sluggish.

Its favourite approach is a tough-tackling game, nicknamed 'Pira Gwaride'. Such an approach has made Prisons a threat to opponents, including the most popular sides Simba SC and Young Africans. It also has a good record of beating many of the top-flight teams both home and away.

Apart from taking part in the Premier League, Prisons had featured in the CAF Confederation Cup preliminary stage in 2000.

KEN GOLD FC

Ken Gold FC - based in Chunya District - is a new outfit in Mbeya's soccer scene, having won promotion to the domestic top flight in the 2024/25 season.

It booked a place in the top flight following a 2-0 victory over FGA Talents in the 2023/24 Championship League tie at Sokoine Stadium.

The just-concluded season has seen another Mbeya team continue making Mbeya the leading region in fielding teams in the Premier League since 1982.

LeBron James agrees to a 2-year extension with the Los Angeles Lakers, AP source says

BY TIM REYNOLDS

LEBRON James is making it official: He's coming back for a record-tying 22nd season in the NBA, one where the league's all-time scoring leader could share the floor with his son Bronny as teammates with the Los Angeles Lakers.

James has agreed to a two-year contract to remain with the Lakers, a person with knowledge of the negotiations said Wednesday. The second year of the deal is at James' option and means he could become a free agent again next summer, said the person, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the agreement had not been announced publicly.

ESPN reported that the Lakers and James' agent, Klutch Sports CEO Rich Paul, may agree on a salary slightly less than the max that James could have gotten - a move that could keep the team from reaching the second apron and preserve some roster flexibility going for-

ward.

Either way, the expectation is that James will make around \$50 million - give or take a little bit - this coming season, pushing his career on-court earnings to around \$530 million and making him the first player in NBA history to eclipse the \$500 million mark.

It will be James' 22nd season in the NBA, tying Vince Carter for the league record. The Lakers selected Bronny James last week in the second round of the draft, putting them in position to have the first on-court father-son duo in NBA history.

Bronny James already has signed his first NBA contract, the Lakers announced Wednesday. It is a four-year deal, the last of those years at the Lakers' option, worth \$7.9 million - with about \$1.2 million as his rookie year salary.

Getting his latest deal done clears one logistical hurdle for LeBron James: He needed a contract to be in place before he could take the floor with USA Basketball for the start of its training camp in

Las Vegas this weekend, one where the squad will start preparations for the Paris Olympics. James will play in the Olympics for the fourth time, his first since helping the U.S. win gold at the 2012 London Games.

He'll turn 40 in December and averaged 25.7 points, 7.3 rebounds and 8.3 assists last season - as the oldest active player in the league.

Not only is James the all-time leader in points (40,474), but he's fourth in assists (11,009), sixth in games played (1,492) and eighth in both 3-pointers made (2,410) and steals (2,275).

His 20 All-Star selections is a record, as are his 20 appearances on the All-NBA team. He holds the records for being both the youngest player, and oldest player, to make an All-NBA squad.

James became the youngest to make All-NBA when he was voted onto the team for the 2004-05 season. This past season, he became the first player to be age 39 or older in what became an All-



LeBron James has agreed to a two-year deal that will keep him with the Lakers. AP

NBA campaign.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Tim Duncan were both just a few days from turning 39 when the regular seasons ended in

what became their final All-NBA campaigns, Abdul-Jabbar's being 1985-86 and Duncan's being 2014-15. James played in 71 games this past season, the last 42 of those coming after he turned 39.

Meanwhile, promising wing Max Christie is returning to the Los Angeles Lakers with a four-year, \$32 million contract, a person with knowledge of the deal tells The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Sunday because the Lakers haven't announced the deal for their former second-round draft pick. ESPN first reported it.

The 21-year-old Christie has averaged 3.8 points, 2.0 rebounds and 0.8 assists while playing inconsistently during his first two NBA seasons, but the Lakers clearly believe in his potential.

The Michigan State product is a career 37.8% shooter on 3-point attempts, and he showed promise as a three-and-D wing during his stretches in the Lakers' rotation last season, including seven starts.

Adrien Rabiot and Memphis Depay lead the free agents making waves at Euro 2024

UESSELDORF, Germany

THE players on teams like Germany, England, France and Spain in the Euro 2024 quarterfinals mostly come from the biggest clubs. But some don't have a club at all.

France midfielder Adrien Rabiot and Netherlands forward Memphis Depay lead a small group of Euro 2024 stars who are free agents, following the June 30 deadline for contracts to expire. Each game is a chance to impress new clubs and potentially earn a bigger new contract.

Here's a look at the Euro 2024 free agents: ADRIEN RABBIOT

The 29-year-old midfielder has started all four of France's games at Euro 2024 and was a standout performer in the opening 1-0 win over Austria. A trusted regular for coach Didier Deschamps, Rabiot hasn't missed a competitive game for France in more than a year, but that run will come to an end in the quarterfinals against Portugal today. That's because Rabiot is suspended after picking up his second booking of the tournament for a foul on Belgium's Jérémy Doku on Monday. That was a day after Rabiot became a free agent when his Juventus contract expired.

MEMPHIS DEPAY

Until Sunday an Atletico Madrid player, Depay has started all of the Netherlands' games at Euro 2024 and scored in the 3-2 group-stage loss to Austria. In the 3-0 win over Romania on Tuesday, his movement helped create space for players like Cody Gakpo, Xavi Simons and Donyell Malen to shine. The Netherlands' next game is tomorrow against Turkey for a semifinal spot. The 30-year-old former Manchester United and Barcelona forward joined Atletico in Jan. 2023. Atletico highlighted his goal to level the score against Inter Milan in the Champions League in March as one that "will remain forever in the memory of the supporters."

LUKA MODRIC

The 38-year-old midfield great was still under contract with Real Madrid when he played all three of Croatia's group-stage games at Euro 2024. He broke the tournament record as the oldest-ever goalscorer too. Modric's contract expired Sunday night but he's widely expected to sign a one-year extension to take him into a 13th season with Madrid. He said "see you next season" during the celebrations when Madrid won the Champions League final last month.

OTHERS

Two of Turkey's most experienced players, Yusuf Yazıcı and Cenk Tosun, became free agents during Euro 2024. Both have been fringe players at the tournament and were left on the bench in Tuesday's 2-1 win over Austria in the last 16, though Tosun scored the winning goal against the Czech Republic in the group stage.

Romania had two free agents, goalkeeper Florin Nita and defender Andrei Burca, in the lineup that lost to the Netherlands, while Slovakia and Norbert Gyomber were seconds away from creating a big shock against England in the round of 16 on Sunday, but instead lost 2-1 in extra time. The defender left Italian club Salernitana by mutual agreement the next morning and is now a free agent.

AP

German police investigate video that appears to show Euro 2024 security punching and kicking a fan

FRANKFURT, Germany

POLICE in the German city of Frankfurt are investigating a video that appears to show a fan being punched and kicked while being detained by a group of Euro 2024 security personnel at Portugal's game with Slovenia.

Tournament organizer UEFA said Wednesday it was "aware of an incident which took place between stewards and a fan from the Portugal vs. Slovenia match and condemns any violent behavior."

"The incident in the video is now the subject of a police investigation. UEFA is not in a position to comment further until the investigation has been completed."

The video, which was published Tuesday in Portuguese media, purports to show a group of tournament security staff detaining two people in a concrete tunnel leading toward the field at Monday's game in Frankfurt.

While one person is detained face-down on the floor, a group of people in vests marked "Steward" surround another person against the wall and one of them appears to punch the person three times in the head. That person is later shown on the ground as other security personnel appear to punch and kick them.

"We are aware of this and are already investigating," the Frankfurt police posted on X, formerly Twitter, on Wednesday morning in response to a user who asked about the incident.

AP

Ronaldo vs. Mbappé: Clash of generations at Euro 2024 has just been given some extra spice

HAMBURG, Germany

CRISTIANO Ronaldo vs. Kylian Mbappé. A clash of icons. A clash of generations.

They'll go head to head when Portugal plays France in the Euro 2024 quarterfinals today, and this heavyweight meeting might have got just that little bit bigger.

"It is, without doubt, my last European Championship," the 39-year-old Ronaldo said after his tearful, emotionally charged performance in Portugal's penalty-shootout victory over Slovenia in the last 16.

That may have just confirmed what many were presuming anyway.

Still, there's now a definitive specter of finality to Ronaldo's long, headline-grabbing Euros adventure that could be brought to an end by Mbappé, the heir apparent to Ronaldo and Lionel Messi after their long-time dominance of the sport.

Mbappé grew up with pictures of Ronaldo on his bedroom wall.

A photo is inevitably doing the rounds on social media of what is apparently their first ever meeting, at Real Madrid's training ground at Valdebebas in 2012 when a 13-year-old Mbappé stood beside Ronaldo after a visit to the Spanish club where his sporting hero was the star player.



Portugal's forward #07 Cristiano Ronaldo and France's forward #10 Kylian Mbappe go head to head when Portugal play against France in a UEFA Euro 2024 quarterfinal at the Volksparkstadion Hamburg on Friday. (AFP)

In 2020, Mbappé posted on Twitter, now X, that Ronaldo was his "idol."

And only a few months ago, Ronaldo reacted to Mbappé clinching a highly anticipated move to Madrid by writing on Instagram: "Excited to see you light up the Bernabeu."

That Mbappé can now end Ronaldo's European Championship career – who knows, it might even be his last ever major tournament – adds an intriguing subplot to a match that will be watched around the world.

"Let's go, let's go to war," Ronaldo said of the match against France, whom he considers as the top contender at Euro 2024 along with Spain.

He said he was driven to tears against Slovenia not at the prospect of elimination but because his main motivation these days is "making people happy" and he had a penalty saved in extra time.

"I'm moved by all that football means – by the enthusiasm I have for the game, the enthusiasm for seeing my supporters, my family, the affection people have for me.

"It's not about leaving the world of football. What else is there for me to do or win?"

Ronaldo heads into Friday's game having failed to score in eight straight matches at major tournaments – Portugal's last four at the 2022 World Cup and its four games at

Euro 2024 – and with growing concerns about whether he deserves what appears to be a guaranteed spot in the team under Roberto Martinez.

Things haven't been straightforward for Mbappé, either, at Euro 2024.

He sustained a broken nose in France's group opener against Austria and has since been wearing a vision-limiting protective facemask during games. Mbappé has scored one goal and that was from the penalty spot against Poland – it's the only goal scored by a France player at these Euros.

"He will have to get used to it," France coach Didier Deschamps said of Mbappé and his mask, "because, to protect

(his nose), he will have to wear it for a few weeks – or even a few months."

Few would have predicted the top scorer at the last World Cup (Mbappé) and the record scorer in men's international soccer (Ronaldo) to have just one goal between them heading into the quarterfinals.

But no one will be surprised if they come alive in Hamburg, with the pressure on and the occasion so big.

Mbappé, remember, scored a hat trick in the World Cup final and has been logging Ronaldo-esque scoring numbers in the first part of his career. He's already on 48 goals for France at the age of 25, and is also on 48 goals in the Champions League from 73 appearances.

He is chasing down Ronaldo's scoring records at both international (130) and Champions League (140) level and will likely only succeed by showing the same undimmed passion and desire as the player he used to copy as a kid.

As their countries' respective captains, they'll shake hands and embrace before kickoff. You can bet they'll do the same after the match.

By that time, one of them will be on his way home.

For Mbappé, there will surely be more European Championships down the road.

For Ronaldo, this could be the end of the road.

AP

Win or retire: Germany star Toni Kroos aims to disappoint Real Madrid teammates at Euro 2024

BERLIN

GERMANY great Toni Kroos hopes the next game isn't his last.

Heavyweights Germany and Spain clash at the European Championship on Friday, when the winner will advance to the semifinals.

Kroos is ending his playing career after Germany's last game at Euro 2024. He hopes that will be the final in Berlin's Olympiastadion. But he knows it could be as soon as today if Spain – the most impressive team so far – knocks out the host nation in Stuttgart.

"I'm not nostalgic at all," Kroos said Wednesday at potentially his last press conference as a player. He said he wasn't assuming Spain "will be my last game. So, I think we can all look forward to seeing each other again."

Kroos has played a key role in lifting the pre-tournament gloom surrounding the German team and turning it to optimism that the hosts can go on to win Euro 2024. It would be a fitting sendoff for a player who has already signed off on a glittering club career by winning the Champions League and Spanish league with Real Madrid.

"It's pretty difficult to plan a European Championship title but having it as a goal is of course the case," Kroos said. "I think it will be really difficult to finish more successfully than I left it with Madrid. And now of course I'm trying to do the same here."

Kroos retired from the

national team already in 2021, after Germany lost to England in the last 16 of the pandemic-delayed Euro 2020 tournament. But one of the first things Germany coach Julian Nagelsmann did after his appointment in September 2023 was ask the cool-headed midfielder if he'd consider returning to help Germany's title bid in its home tournament.

Fortunately for Germany – which was really struggling with two defeats and a draw from Nagelsmann's first four games – Kroos said yes.

It's arguably the single biggest factor in the team's upturn as Kroos' experience and calmness under pressure gave confidence to the players around him.

The 34-year-old returned to help Germany beat France and the Netherlands in friendlies in March, and Greece before Euro 2024, then he helped Germany progress from the group stage with wins over Scotland and Hungary, and a draw with Switzerland.

Kroos maintained a calm, assured presence in a turbulent win over Denmark in the last 16, helping Germany get further than it had in the last edition.

"We're now finally in the stages of the tournament that we really wanted to be in, and we can be happy with that," Kroos said. "We're motivated, however, in the team and in the locker room, to get much further. And we're convinced we can manage that."

Kroos will face former Real Madrid teammates



Germany's Toni Kroos applauds fans at the end of the round of sixteen match between Germany and Denmark at the Euro 2024 soccer tournament in Dortmund, Germany, Saturday, June 29, 2024. (AP Photo)

Dani Carvajal, Nacho and Joselu on Friday. The latter said he wants to send him into retirement, but Kroos took it with good humor.

"I know him very well, I know how he meant it," Kroos said. "So, I'll let him wish and do everything I can so that it doesn't come true."

Kroos said his future involves kids, both his own and young players at an academy he plans to open in Madrid.

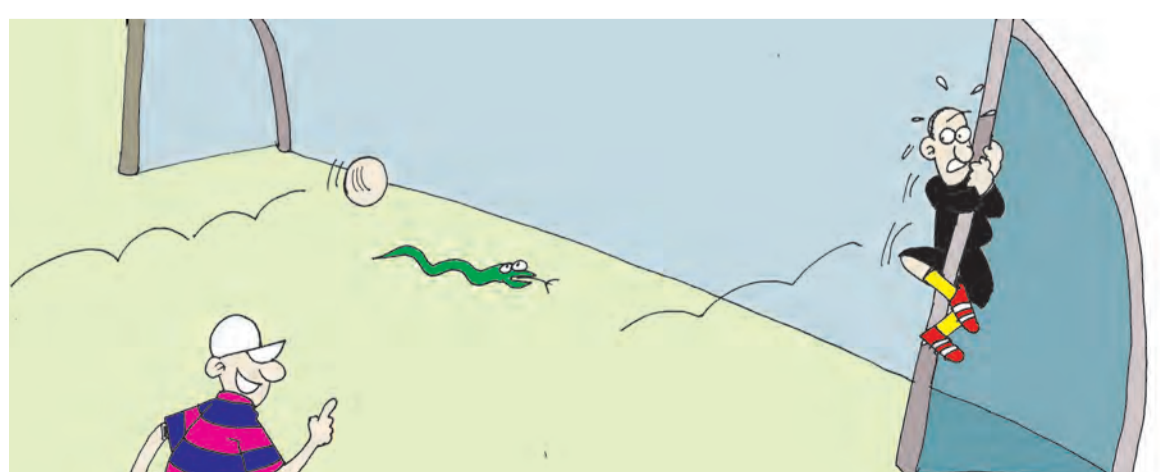
Seemingly unflappable on the field, Kroos appeared at peace with the fact that today's game could be his last, comforted because the decision is not dependent on the whims of anyone else.

"There will never be anything I can do as well as playing football. And this phase will be over," Kroos said. "On the other hand, I'm really looking forward to this new phase, because at some point this day comes for every active player. And I'd rather pick this day out for myself."

Kroos will end his career as he played it – always in control.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Ronaldo vs. Mbappé: Clash of generations at Euro 2024 has just been given some extra spice

PAGE 19

Gymkhana cricketers triumph in 2024 TCA Dar Div B 30 Overs League

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

Gymkhana cricketers lifted the 2024 TCA Dar Div B 30 Overs League title after defeating Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Center (SKLPSC) A by two wickets in the final at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club ground recently.

The spotlight on the recent domestic cricket fixtures was on the highly anticipated Division B final between Gymkhana and SKLPSC A.

The clash certainly lived up to expectations, based on the scintillating skills the squads' cricketers put to show.

Both teams displayed remarkable performances throughout the tournament, and the final clash was set to determine who secured the coveted 10th spot to compete in this year's edition of the prestigious Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup.

Gymkhana, known for their strategic gameplay and robust batting lineup, came up against SKLPSC A, whose consistent performance and agile fielding have made them a formidable opponent, and the former had the last laugh.

For that matter, Gymkhana-led by Amit Raghuvanshi - triumphantly sailed through to the on-going Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup, which is about to reach the knockout phase.

The Naran Vekariya-led SKLPSC A went in to bat first, amassing 134 runs and giving away seven wickets in 30 overs, thanks largely to solid showing by opener Dinesh Rabadiya, and 'night watchman' Vital Lalji Vekariya.

An impressive 66-ball 43 by the opening batsman Dinesh boosted SKLPSC A's optimism but quick dismissals weakened the side's resolve.

The other opening batsman, Ramesh Khimani, and Hiren Kerai, placed at number three, could withstand Gymkhana's bowling attack and failed to post two-digit scores.

Skipper Vekariya (13 runs) and Sailesh Bhimji Varsani (22 runs) sought to make their presence count with two-digit scores, which somewhat improved the batting squad's total.

Arman Khan and spinner Tambwe Rashid had a great game when Gymkhana fielded, given the bowlers grabbed two wickets apiece.

In response, Gymkhana cricketers had to play their hearts out to successfully chase the 135-run target, giving away eight wickets in 29.2 overs.

Much as Gymkhana experienced a wobble during the early stages of the innings, brought about by the early exits of openers Raghuvanshi and Nikila Nishanga, fellow experienced cricketers had the outfit wrestling back control of the clash in the latter stages.

Mohamed Yunus (unbeaten 32-ball 38 runs), Harsheel Shah (64-ball 38), and Khan (34-ball 23 runs), in the end, propelled Gymkhana to a successful chase.

Low-order cricketer, Rashid, wound up the innings with the bat in hand, having notched eight runs and partnered Yunus for the ninth wicket stand.

Although SKLPSC A's Khimani ended his bowling spell with a three-wicket haul and fellow bowler Arjan Rabadiya notched two wickets, they could hardly prevent Gymkhana from mounting the chase.

Khimani (SKLPSC A) was declared the Player of the Tournament, and Khan (Gymkhana) laid his hands on the tournament's Best Batsman prize.

Halidi Amiri (Patel Brotherhood) garnered the tournament's Best Bowler award and Yunus (Gymkhana) walked away with the final Man of the Match prize.

The 2024 TCA Dar Div B 30 Overs League conclusion has had the champion, Gymkhana, entering the Division A TCA Petrofuel Caravans Cup as the 10th team.

Fadlu Davids poised to be named as Simba SC's head coach

mence pre-season preparations with the Msimbazi Street-based side.

Simba have been in search of a new coaching team following the departure of Algerian coach Abdelhak Benchikha in April. The gaffer, who spent five months with the Wekundu wa Msimbazi, left the club for family reasons.

Sources indicate that the 43-year-old coach emerged as the frontrunner for the job and is expected to join the club in time for the pre-season, which begins on July 5.

Davids' appointment follows his successful tenure as assistant coach at Raja in Morocco, where he played a crucial role in securing both the league title and the Throne Cup.

His coaching career also includes a stint as head coach at Maritzburg United and working alongside German coach Josef Zinnbauer at Orlando Pirates and Lokomotiv Moscow.

The appointment of Davids, a retired football striker and the two-time highest goalscorer in the South African National First Division, marks a significant milestone in his coaching career as he takes on the challenge of leading a prominent African club.

Simba, renowned for their passionate fan base and competitive spirit, are



Fadlu Davids (Agencies)

eager to leverage Davids' tactical acumen and leadership qualities to further their ambitions in both domestic and continental competitions.

Details of Davids' contract and an official an-

nouncement are expected to be released shortly, following the conclusion of discussions between him and Simba's management.

This coaching change comes at a critical time for Simba, as they aim to

reclaim the Premier League title from their long-time rivals, Young Africans.

Young Africans have dominated the Premier League for the past three seasons, and the new coach of Simba will be tasked with ending this streak.

In a significant move, Young Africans recently signed Simba's talisman Clatous Chota Chama, signaling their intent to continue their dominance in Tanzanian football.

In preparation for the next season's campaign, Simba have officially announced the signings of Lameck Lawi from Coastal Union, Joshua Mutale from Power Dynamos (Zambia), Steven Mukwala from Asante Kotoko (Ghana), and Jean Charles Ahoua from Stella Club d'Adjame (Ivory Coast).

The club is expected to announce additional player signings before heading to Egypt for pre-season training.

Simba have also released several players, including Henock Inonga, Saidi Ntibanzokiza, Shabani Chilunda, Kennedy Juma, and Clatous Chama, as part of their squad overhaul for the upcoming season.

With these changes, Simba are gearing up for a challenging and competitive season, aiming to reclaim their position at the pinnacle of Tanzanian football.

The club's management and fans are hopeful that the new technical team led by Davids will bring fresh energy and strategic expertise to drive the team towards success.

...Simba unveil fifth signing to bolster defence

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA have unveiled their latest signing as they continue to bolster their squad ahead of the 2024/25 Premier League and continental campaign.

Yesterday, the club announced that they had added defender Abdulrazack Mohamed Hamza from South African side SuperSport United.

"We are officially announcing the signing of midfielder Abdulrazack Mohamed Hamza from South Africa's SuperSport United on a two-year contract.

"Abdulrazack is a young Tanzanian player who plays professional

football in South Africa with great quality while in the first team," read a short statement from Simba yesterday.

The 21-year-old centre-back has signed a two-year contract with Simba. He becomes the club's fifth signing during the current transfer period following the addition of Coastal Union centre-back Lameck Lawi, winger Joshua Mutale from Red Arrows of Zambia, striker Steven Mukwala from Asante Kotoko and Ivorian attacking midfielder Jean Charles Ahoua.

At the same, Said Ntibanzokiza, Shabani Chilunda, Kennedy Juma, Luis Miquissone and John Bocco

have been released while defender Henock Inonga has been sold to Moroccan side ASFAR.

Hamza made nine appearances for SuperSport United in all competitions last season as he struggled for game time.

He made only three appearances in the league as SuperSport United coach Gavin Hunt mainly used him in cup competitions.

He joined SuperSport United at the start of the 2023/24 season as a free agent from relegated Mbeya City.

Hamza has also played for KMC and Namungu in the Mainland Premier League.

Hamza adds options for Simba

who already have Che Malone, Hussein Kazi, and another new arrival Lawi as their centre-back options.

Simba players are expected to report back this weekend before taking a trip to Egypt for their pre-season training on Monday.

Last season, Simba finished third in the league, 11 points behind champions Young Africans. They are rebuilding their squad as they look to reclaim their lost glory next season.

In addition to playing in the CAF Confederation Cup, Simba will represent Tanzania in the second edition of the African Super League later on this year.

Tanzania handed fair AFCON draw, set to face DR Congo again

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TAIFA Stars have discovered their opponents in the qualification journey towards the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations.

The draw was conducted in Johannesburg yesterday afternoon by reigning CAF AFCON champions coach, Emere Faé of Ivory Coast, and Moroccan legend, Marouane Chamakh.

The draw included a total of 48 teams which saw teams seeded according to latest FIFA Rankings issued on June 20, 2024.

The 12 Groups of four teams (Group A to L), will see the first and runners-up in the eleven (11) groups that do not

involve tournament hosts Morocco gain qualification to the competition.

Taifa Stars, who qualified for the last edition of the continental championships in Côte d'Ivoire, have been drawn in Group H and will face DR Congo, Guinea and Ethiopia to determine their qualification for the 2025 showpiece in Morocco.

Tanzania and DR Congo were in the group in the last AFCON this year and they are pooled together in the 2026 World Cup African Qualifiers.

The qualifiers start in September 2024 and end in November 2024 in what will mark the fastest-ever qualifiers for the tournament.

The opening two rounds of quali-

fiers are scheduled for the next FIFA international window, September 2-10, 2024, with double match days scheduled for the preceding windows in October and November 2024.

CAF further confirmed the dates of the tournament, which will kick off on December 21, 2025, and conclude on January 18, 2026 - less than five months before the start of the 2026 FIFA World Cup in the USA, Canada and Mexico.

Group A has Tunisia, Madagascar, Comoros and Gambia.

Group B is made up of hosts Morocco, Gabon, Central African Republic and Lesotho

Group C includes Egypt, Cape Verde,

Mauritania and Botswana while Nigeria, Benin, Libya and Rwanda make up Group D.

Algeria, Equatorial Guinea, Togo and Liberia find themselves in Group E while Group F has Ghana, Angola, Sudan and Niger.

Group G brings together Côte d'Ivoire, Zambia, Sierra Leone and Chad.

Group I has Mali, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau and Eswatini.

Group J has Cameroon, Namibia, Kenya and Zimbabwe while South Africa, Uganda, Republic of Congo, South Sudan complete Group K.

Group L: Senegal, Burkina Faso, Malawi and Burundi

Flexibles by David Chikoko

