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NMB Bank Foundation chairperson Ruth Zaipuna (2nd-L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday when announcing that they had begun receiving scholarship applications for the Foundation's 'Nuru Yangu' programme. She is with Foundation members Juma Kimori (L) and Filbert Mponzi (2nd-R) as well as secretary Consolatha Masha. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

MPs approve 2.7trn/- bill in defence, food security costs

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

THE National Assembly yesterday approved 2.7trn/- in Budget estimates for the Ministry of Defence and National Service for financial year 2022/2023.

Dr Stergomona Tax, the minister, said that this amount translated into an increase of 354bn/- from the previous estimates.

She said, among other things, the budget prioritises the Chita paddy irrigation farming for food security project, for whose implementation

9.5bn/- was requested.

The project is managed by the ministry's National Service 'wing' and is executed on a 12,000-acre farm in Morogoro Region's Kilombero District.

It is meant to produce 62,500 polysacks of the crop weighing 100 kilos each per season on a farm covering 2,500 acres, part of the 12,000-acre farmland set aside for the purpose.

Strengthening innovation and product development projects by the Nyumbu and

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NMB Foundation eyes 200 students sponsorship batch

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Foundation, through its sponsorship and mentorship programme for this year, is set to sponsor 200 Form Five students as well as first year university students in a bid to support education sector development.

Ruth Zaipuna, the bank's CEO and chairperson of the foundation, said at the launch in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the scholarship programme is part of a series of initiatives by the foundation directed at supporting agriculture, education, health, environment and entrepreneurship in the country.

The programme targets bright but needy students so that they can realize their full potential, she said.

Zaipuna said the programme was mooted at the last year's launch of the foundation, thus kicking off with the 2022/2023 financial year.

"The sponsorship is an all-expenses paid programme reaching 150 Form Five students and 50 university students this year," she noted.

It will cost up to 450m/- covering tuition fees, study materials, transport, health insurance, practical training and laptop computers for first year students.

She elaborated that this covers all direct costs, with the foundation seeking to mentor those it is sponsoring "so as to nurture the next generation at the NMB".

For the university group, priority goes to programmes like accounts and statistics, economics, engineering, information and communication technology along with oil and gas financing.

"The foundation is determined to work with education stakeholders at the

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Govt cuts Mtwara, Tanga port charges

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

PORT charges at the Mtwara and Tanga facilities will be reduced by 30 per cent to attract more transporters to make greater use of the recently revamped facilities.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said in his question and answer session in the National Assembly yesterday that the ports can attract

... coffee is a strategic cash crop and is not isolated in grant schemes for farmers

more traders in neighboring countries such as Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Democratic Republic of Congo and even South Sudan, when their competitiveness is aligned with the port of Dar es Salaam.

The government had sunk billions of shillings in their rehabilitation, he said in responding to Abdallah Chikota (Nanyamba) who demanded what the government intends to do to attract more transit goods traffic from member countries of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) apart from neighbouring EAC members.

All levies upon port users will be deducted, while the government plans to buy cargo loading and off-loading equipment to speed up work, noting that the levy deductions will

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15 scribes from IPP Media units listed for 2021 awards contest

By Guardian Reporter

FIFTEEN journalists from IPP Media have been selected for the 2021 Excellence in Journalism Awards Tanzania (EJAT) nomination for awards by the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT).

The journalists, quarter of the grand total of 60 nominees, include seven from 'Nipashe', five from 'The Guardian' and three from ITV channel.

Kajubi Mukajanga, chairman of the EJAT organizing committee, said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that 598 entries were received for 20 nomination categories, whereupon a panel of judges pored over the entries to come up with 60 nominees.

Nominees from 'Nipashe' newspaper are Agusta Njaji, Sanula Athanas, Sabato Kasika, Mary Geoffrey, Marco Maduhu, Elizabeth Zaya and Halfani Chusi, while those filing entries from 'The Guardian' are Muhidin Msamba, Francis Kajubi, Beatrice Philemon, Jenifer Gilla and Christina Mwakangale. ITV entrants retained are Peter Rodgers, Masekepa Masekepa and Jackline Silemu, the organizer noted.

The wider nomination list includes eight nominees from 'Zanzibar Leo', seven from 'Mwananchi' newspaper, one each from 'Uhuru', 'Habari Leo', 'The Citizen', 'Jamhuri' and TBC.

There are four nominees from Star TV, two from UFM radio and Dar24 online channel and Chanzo online, along with one nomination each from diverse media like Azam TV, ZBC FM, Zanzibar Cable TV, Shamba FM, City FM, Highlands FM Radio, CG FM Radio, Tifu TV online, Watetezi

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Chief Justice Prof Ibrahim Hamisi Juma (in tie, foreground) exchanges greetings with Lushoto District court staff yesterday. He is on a working visit during which he is expected to assess the state of the administration of justice in the district. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla



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MPs approve 2.7trn/- bill in defence, food security costs

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Mzinga companies in Kibaha and Morogoro respectively, while a substantial chunk of funds will go to build the Kikombo military base and prospective army headquarters;

The three projects are being implemented in collaboration with the Tanzania Automotive Technology Centre (TATC) also known as Nyumbu Co. based in Coast Region, while Mzinga is a military ammunition plant, she said, noting that the country's borders are safe with mild tensions created by terror groups operating in neighboring Mozambique.

Joseph Mkundi (Ukerewe), chairman of the Foreign Affairs, Security and Defence parliamentary committee said in presenting its report on the implementation of the 2021/21 budget, that disbursement of the funds is vital as the army's food supply project will help safeguard the country's food security.

"At the time of inspection the committee was informed that there is a shortage of funds in financing the building of irrigation infrastructure," he said, pointing at the fact that the world is facing climate change effects like drought that threatens food security;

Irrigation farming is best suited to ensure safety from food insecurity, he said, urging MPs to approve allocation of the required funds in the

2022/23 financial year to enable the implementation of the project.

In the outgoing fiscal year, the ministry had received 88.65bn/- for development projects by end of February, lower than the 95.91bn/- disbursed in 2020/21, an 8.2 percent deficit, he said, expressing displeasure at the deficit.

The committee similarly found out that Defence revenue collection increased by 2.9 percent from the previous financial year, he said, praising the use of the Force Account model in building the Kikombo military base and headquarters.

The ministry saved 69bn/- for this reason, after construction started in March 2020 and is likely to be finished next October. Regular construction costs were projected at 127bn/- but the project had so far claimed 58bn/- with construction reaching 41.5 percent of completion, the MPs' report intoned.

During debate, Fakharia Shomar Khamis (Special Seats), a committee member, urged the ministry to conduct a survey on land occupied by the military and issue proper title deeds to prevent disputes between local residents and military camp administrators in some parts of the country.

The ministry needs to fence areas surrounding military barracks for instance in Zanzibar as the level of exposure to civilian residences and land grabbing is high, she added.

NMB Foundation eyes 200 students sponsorship batch

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grassroots level to ensure that the selection of students is transparent, with only eligible students sponsored," Zaipuna said.

Ward officials will be involved, while internal controls will be exercised to prevent diversions, she added.

She said that since this is the first phase of the programme, sponsored students will be scaled up in the near future.

Zaipuna further reaffirmed the bank's commitment to liaising with other stakeholders locally and outside Tanzania to enhance education sector development in the country.

"To help the development of robust education sector, the foundation will identify stakeholders for partnerships," she elaborated, saying sponsorship application forms for this year would be available at the bank's branches and the foundation's website.

EAC partner states' blue economy policy to boost nations' economic growth

By Henry Mwangonde

EAST African Community (EAC) partner states are working to come up with a common blue economy strategy that will align all the key sectors to boost its contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

This follows a move by the African Union (AU) to prepare a draft strategy on the blue economy, a programme which is overseen by experts in the fisheries sub-sector who are meeting in Dar es Salaam to discuss and improve the document before coming up with a final copy.

They are also discussing how to improve awareness on the potential of the sub-sector in Africa, identify policy and knowledge gaps among Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as well as how partner states will implement the blue economy strategy.

Addressing delegates at the opening of the meeting, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Dr Rashid Tamatamah said the aim is to see more key sectors linked to the blue economy.

"By the end of the day we want more sectors such as transport and others to be aligned to the developed strategy to help in formulating a national blue economy policy," asserted the PS.

Dr Tamatamah said the draft is designed to trigger and amplify exchanges between actors and users of maritime and blue economy goods and services to ensure an inclusive and sustainable implementation of the Africa blue economy strategy.

He gave an example of Zanzibar which has a specific ministry to deal with the blue economy, expressing hopes that the outcomes of the expert's discussion will help EAC partner states to improve marine resources management, increase fish stock and production, access markets

and expand economies.

Dr Mohammed Seisay, a Senior fisheries expert from AU said the programme which is under the African Union - Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) aims to identify opportunities and constraints for the implementation of the blue economy strategy in the continent and set up a coordinated mechanism for implementation of the Africa blue economy strategy to facilitate sharing lessons and best practices.

According to him, the plan is to have a full strategy that will be implemented by all African countries in the next few years.

The concept of the blue economy was first highlighted at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012.

Regarding UNCTAD, blue economy is defined as the economic and trade activities that focus on the ocean-based marine environment, associated biodiversity, ecosystems, species, and genetic resources whilst ensuring conservation.

In terms of Africa, the prospects of blue economy to influence Africa's economic growth was first highlighted in the AU Integrated Maritime Strategy (AIMS) of 2050 and advanced with the adoption of the African Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa (or the Lomé Charter) by the African Union Assembly in 2016.

As set out by the African Union's Agenda 2063, the blue economy is perceived as the continent's future because its benefits extend beyond the shores of coastal states and create opportunities for adjacent landlocked communities and countries.

South Africa, Seychelles and Mauritius are the success stories as far as the blue economy is concerned in Africa.



Switzerland's Ambassador to Tanzania, Didier Chassot (3rd-R), makes a point at a meeting held at the Tanzania Investment Centre offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The envoy led a business delegation of French businesspersons out to explore investment opportunities in Tanzania. Third-left is Ally Gugu, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Industry, Trade and Investment ministry. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt cuts Mtwara, Tanga port charges

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not be applicable to other ports as it only seeks to enhance competitiveness in the two ports.

The government is improving the two ports' functions by installing new flow meters and building more fuel storage facilities, as liaisons are set up with Tanzanian envoys in the targeted countries to promote the use Tanga and Mtwara ports.

Esther Maleko (Special Seats) asked the premier what the government plans to do to provide farmers with grants in the coffee cash crop value chain in 15 regions cultivating the crop. The PM said that coffee is a strategic cash crop and is not isolated in grant schemes for farmers.

Grants for farmers in the coffee value chain depend on regional characteristics, as Kagera coffee

farmers need grants for warehouses and seedlings, while in Mbinga they need improved seeds. Grants are not issued in uniform as for other strategic crops, he explained.

Adding to the response, Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe said that during fiscal 2022/23 the ministry intends to start building new coffee warehouses while removing hundreds of old warehouses across the country. Stella Ikupa (Special Seats) sought for assurances that the disabled are not left behind in public job vacancies, the techniques the government is deploying to ensure inclusiveness.

The premier cited the regulation that in every 20 job vacancies handled by the President's Office (Public Services Management and Good Governance) three ought to be reserved for disabled people in public entities and even in private organisations.

15 scribes from IPP Media units listed for 2021 awards contest

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online channel, Nukta Blog and BBC Swahili online.

"Judges spent nine days instead of eight due to an increase of 202 entries compared to those submitted for EJAT 2020," he said, noting that among the nominees 28 are women (47 per cent), an increase of three per cent from the 26 retained for EJAT 2020 awards, while men scribes field 32 entries (53 per cent).

This year's entries showed an improvement in quality from previous years, with online journalists showing visible competence in producing their programmes, he affirmed, hinting that President Samia Suluhu Hassan is likely to grace the EJAT 2021 event, where a 2022 lifetime achievement award is also lined up.

The event is slated for Saturday May in Dar es Salaam, the 13th edition since its inception, with next year's entries being billed to take a digital format.

Journalists shall fill the forms online and submit them, the reason being to control the use of papers and enabling judges to play and listen to the videos and sounds submitted on CDs.

Mkumbwa Ally, chairman of the panel of judges, said they encountered a number of challenges which included difficulties in playing some of the submitted CDs, thus failing to get the targeted message.

Some journalists made mistakes in filling the forms, hindering communication on the media house publishing or airing that entry, he said.

"Stories lacked good presentation from the beginning to the middle," he said, explaining that judges had to fiddle to figure out what the journalist was aiming at. Some writers skipped journalistic writing criteria, he added.

"Judges spent nine days instead of eight due to an increase of 202 entries compared to those submitted for EJAT 2020"



Iringa regional commissioner Queen Sendiga (C) pictured at Ikanga village in Mbabulo ward, Mufindi District, yesterday inspecting an avocado farm owned by beneficiaries of Tanzania Social Action Fund support. Photo: Correspondent Francis Godwin

MPs: Empower cooperatives registrar to punish embezzlers

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

MEMBERS of Parliament have called upon the Ministry of Agriculture to bring the Cooperative Societies Act No 6 of 2013 for review so that it gives the cooperatives registrar powers to hold accountable embezzlers of public funds.

Debating the 2020/23 agriculture budget, legislators pointed a finger to greedy officials in cooperative societies who take the Act's weakness for granted by swindling farmers' money.

"The whole law needs an entire review because it provides a room for cooperative officers at the ward and district levels to misuse public funds anyhow they want. We plead for the

minister to immediately bring this law for fresh tabling," said Katani.

Liwale Legislator Zuberi Kuchauka had the same view that cooperatives workers are playing the game of benefiting from farmers' hard earned money. "As the government maintains pace in encouraging farmers to join cooperative unions as we ought to amend this law for the best of their lives," said Kuchauka.

Ushetu Legislator Emmanuel Charahani had made the same observation as he stressed that funds embezzlement in cooperatives need to be protected by the law.

According to him, the cooperative law that also covers duties of extension officers has posed a dilemma of which ministry they belong to.

"Extension officers are under the Ministry of State, President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government but their functions are subject to the Agriculture ministry, I suggest that since their direct role is to serve farmers they have to be swapped to the respective ministry," said Charahani. He also suggested that research institutions such as Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) and Tobacco Research Institute of Tanzania (TORITA) to be allocated with more funds to extend their research results to farmers at the grassroots level.

The idea of allocating more funds to research institutions was also supported by Special Seats Legislator (CCM) Regina Ndege who suggested

that technical facilities imported into the country by research institutions should be exempted from taxes to enable the institutions to operate smoothly.

According to Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC), cooperative societies registrar Dr Benson Ndiege, as of June 2021 TCDC has registered 9,185 Co-operatives of which 3,000 are dormant without any active economic activities.

"Most of these dormant co-operatives are within the Tobacco value chain because regulations require that farmers must first find buyers of their produce by identifying estimations of their harvests before cultivation," asserted Dr Ndiege.



Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe (R) receives a gift from Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank managing director Frank Nyabunde during his visit to the bank's pavilion at the National Assembly grounds in Dodoma city earlier this week. It was shortly after the minister had tabled the Agriculture ministry's Budget estimates for financial year 2022/2023. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Katanga wants Kwala dry port to start functioning

By Correspondent James Kandoya

HEAD of public institutions have been directed to finalise installation of necessary infrastructure at Kwala Dry Port in Coast Region for the facility to start operating.

Chief Secretary Hussein Katanga made the directives yesterday after inspecting the dry port and workshop in Coast region.

Kwala dry port is one of the strategic areas to ferry cargo to upcountry and the bordering countries of Uganda and Rwanda.

Ambassador Katanga said the aim of his tour was to connect all institutions responsible to develop Kwala dry port to set a joint modern plan that will enhance business opportunities for the public, private and the community in general.

"I want to see business take place

in the area. I'm going to inform the president that the workers are ready to ensure all operations take place and will continue," he said, tasking the Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) staff to protect the infrastructures.

Katanga further urged TRC's staff to work diligently and professionally to bring about utilities.

During the tour, Ambassador Katanga was accompanied by permanent secretaries of ministry of Works and Transport, ministry of Land, Housing and Human Settlements, President Office's Administration and Local Government Authority (PO-RALG) and the ministry of Industries and Commercial.

Other leaders were TRC director general, Tanzania Port Authority, (TPA) Dar es Salaam Water and Sewage Authority (DAWASA), Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO)

and officials from the Coast region.

TRC director general, Masanja Kadogosa said that construction of rail infrastructure for the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and Meter Gauge Railway (MGR) was over.

Coast Region Commissioner Abubakar Kunenge said that all plots at Dry Kwala dry port are strategically placed to enable investors to operate their business easily.

He said the region has surveyed land categorized into three, residential, industries and business areas.

The target of the Kwala dry port was to reduce congestion of cargo at the port of Dar es Salaam and promote economy through transporting goods to other regions and neighbouring countries.

When it is over, Kwala dry port will have rail, water, road, electricity and community infrastructure that will

simplify operations at the port and the project area in general.

The impending functioning of this dry port, located in Coast region, would usher in a new era of carrying cargo by train from the Dar es Salaam Port, thus, relieving roads from serving heavy cargo trucks from the country's mega port.

According to officials, the dry port master plan will help to ease transit cargo handling at the port of Dar es Salaam.

The dry port would also help to decongest Dar es Salaam City since the shipment of containerized cargo by customers will start in the Coast Region.

Currently, long vehicles swam Dar es Salaam every day to load containers before shipping them to the neighbouring countries, jamming city roads.

Mpango urges TARI to bring avocado, pomegranate cultivation to Dodoma

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has tasked the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) to embark on a special research programme to promote cultivation of pomegranate fruits and avocado in Dodoma Region.

Dr Mpango said the region's weather and soil are potential for cultivation of the two fruit trees, insisting on the state-owned agro research institute to focus on improving cultivation of the cash crops.

He was concerned that cultivation of grapes is a bit expensive hence most of the farmers cannot afford, challenging TARI to mull over promoting other cash crops to help farmers to graduate from poverty and stimulate the region's economy.

The VP made the call when he visited TARI pavilion at the climax of the Innovation Week 2022 held in Dodoma recently. The event was organised by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. "I personally have a farm in Dodoma in which I have planted avocado and pomegranate trees and they are performing well. Make sure you conduct intensive research to promote and assist farmers in Dodoma to adopt cultivation of the two cash crops," he remarked.

He also directed TARI to conduct a countrywide soil research to determine which cash crops flourishes in each region; the initiative he said would enable the country to effectively benefit from the agriculture sector.

"Research is essential in helping to promote the agriculture sector, most parts of the country are endowed with enormous potential for cultivation of key cash crops, but production is still poor over lack of enough research," he stated.

TARI Coordinator of Research and Innovations, Dr Joel Meliyo promised to work on all the directives, adding, they have already started to conduct researches with an eye to promote cultivation of all crops that flourish in Dodoma and other central zone regions.

"We have been conducting research on crops such as grapes, sorghum,

sunflower, safflower and pigeon peas. We will immediately start to research if avocado and pomegranate can perform well in Dodoma," he added.

Dr Tulole Bucheyeki, Director of TARI Uyole in Mbeya said the centre is currently undertaking a special research and soil testing programme to establish regions where avocado can be grown.

Dr Bucheyekisaid the robust program also targets to develop numerous technologies for improving various levels in the avocado production, such as seed preparation and availability of quality seedlings, agronomic practices and pests' management.

In targets is also improvement of harvesting techniques to mitigate fruit loss, processing and innovation of avocado products, marketing research on new opportunities for avocados, and alternative consumption of new products of avocados.

TARI has so far researched, approved and introduced to the farmers more than ten seeds varieties of improved avocado in Tanzania. The varieties include Hass, Fuerte, Weisal, and Pinkerton, X - IKULU, Booth 7, Simmonds, Nabal, X- Mwaikokesya, Uyole line and Duke.

Currently, regions where avocado is grown include Mbeya, Njombe, Songwe, Iringa, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Tanga, Kigoma and Kagera in the northwest and Morogoro in the eastern side.

Netherlands is the leading buyer of avocados from Tanzania with an untapped potential of USD 1.8 million, while the second-largest market is France. The fruits are also sold in Japan, Switzerland, Spain, Germany, the United Arab Emirates, and China.

It is estimated that over 10,000 farmers across the country engage in avocado cultivation. In November 2021 the National Plant Protection (NPPZA) - Department of Agriculture of South Africa granted market access to the importation of avocados from Tanzania.

In November 2021, the Indian Plant Health Authority allowed for the first time to export avocados from Tanzania to India.



DAR ES SALAAM STOCK EXCHANGE PLC

DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2021

The Board of Directors of Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange PLC (DSE) announce that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of shareholders held on 18th May, 2022, approved the Audited Financial Statements and Declaration of Dividend of TZS 100.67 per issued and fully paid up shares in line with the DSE's Dividend Policy. The total dividend declared is TZS 2.4 billion, which is 60 percent of the net profit generated in year 2021.

Pursuant to the Dividend Payment Declaration, the timetable for dividend payment shall be as follows:

Announcement of Dividend Payment:	18 th May, 2022
Trading of Shares cum Dividend:	18 th May - 17 th June, 2022
Trading of Shares Ex-Dividend:	18 th June, 2022 onwards
Closure of the Members Register:	22 nd June, 2022
Dividend Payment on/or about:	30 th June, 2022

Dividend will be paid directly to shareholders bank accounts or mobile wallet, for those who have provided banking information or telephone numbers. Shareholders are requested to communicate their bank account/mobile wallet information to the Registrar:

CSD & Registry Company Limited (CSDR),
2nd Floor, Kambarage House, 6 Ufukoni Street,
P.O. Box 70081,
DAR ES SALAAM.

Telephone: 0746160516 / 0677070414
Email: registrar@cldr.co.tz

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Amref Health Africa in Tanzania Appoints New Chairman of the Board of Directors



We are pleased to announce that, on 4th April 2022, the Annual General Meeting of Amref Health Africa in Tanzania, officially endorsed the appointment of Mr. Anthony Chamungwana, as the **new Chairman for the Board of Directors of Amref Health Africa in Tanzania**. Mr. Chamungwana is taking over from Dr Eric van Praag who ably accomplished his tenure.

Mr. Chamungwana brings on board a wealth of experience from the corporate sector. Currently, Mr. Chamungwana is the Chief Executive Officer of Intercapital Limited Tanzania, a multi-disciplinary Advisory and Investment firm covering Africa region with diversified interest and investment in other key economic sectors; Formerly worked as the Manager, Treasury at National Microfinance Bank; Director of Treasury for CRDB Bank PLC; Group Assistant Treasurer at Tanzania Development Finance Company Ltd; and Investment Manager for Merrill Lynch in the USA.

He is a Member of the Institute of Directors, Kenya; Tanzania Institute of Bankers, Global Association of Risk Professionals, African Venture Capital Association; Energy Council and Climate Council

Mr. Chamungwana is a former Board Chair for World Vision Tanzania, Board Member for HABILITAT for Humanity Tanzania and a Board of Trustee for Simsolar Inc. (USA).

Mr. Chamungwana's expertise spans in the areas of banking, finance, governance and oversight, risk management, fund mobilization and capital raising, strategy formulation and implementation and capacity building. One of Mr. Chamungwana's tasks will be to guide the Board in its Governance role, as the Organization continues to develop and grow in a rapidly changing development sector.

We are delighted to Welcome Mr. Chamungwana as the new Chairman for the Board of Directors of Amref Health Africa in Tanzania


Dr Florence Temu
Country Director,
Amref Health Africa- Tanzania

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TaCRI to produce 20,000 coffee seedlings to meet Mbeya farmers' demand

By Guardian Reporter

IN an effort to ensure that coffee growers in the Southern Highlands particularly Mbeya Region have access to reliable and quality seeds, the Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI) plans to produce 20,000 seedlings to meet the needs of farmers.

According to Tanzania, TaCRI manager in the region, Dismas Pangalasi yesterday said the production of the seedlings will start in the agricultural season of 2022/2023.

He said despite the government instructing the institute to produce 20,000 seedlings for the upcoming agricultural season but they have also set goals to ensure farmers are given the best methods to increase production.

He said among the things they have achieved is the discovery of 19 best varieties of Rabika coffee that are resistant to diseases including rust in leafy plants, stating that the types of seeds including technology used in agriculture have helped farmers get higher yields and helped them get rid of the economy.

He added that in 2020/2021 they produced 3 million seedlings and were able to distribute them to farmers despite the fact that the demand was about 18 million seedlings in the Mbeya Region which shows the need for such seedlings to be high.

He claimed that a total of 77,000 farmers are cultivating the crop with 58,500 hectares being cultivated and producing an average of 18,000 to 19,000 tonnes per year in the Mbeya region.

He added that among the plans to promote the coffee farming sector in the

country the institute plans to produce 30,000 tonnes seedlings over the next five years based on the quality and ability of the farmer to get high yields.

In addition to the production of these seedlings they will also make sure they focus on the ability to resist various diseases that attack the plants of the coffee crop.

"Despite the strategies of this institute to help farmers we still face high demand for modern seedlings for farmers compared to the production itself where it is currently three million tonnes and the demand being 18 million for the Mbeya Region," said Pangalasi.

He also stated: "There is the problem of some farmers and stakeholders not knowing the importance of conducting soil health research despite spraying seedlings to farmers thus contributing to poor yields and high yields."

As a result, he encouraged farmers and other stakeholders involved in the coffee crop value chain to encourage each other to test soil health to determine which seeds should be used in each area.

Café Africa Tanzania manager Dafrosa Sanga said one of the organisation's responsibilities was to encourage farmers to plant quality coffee seedlings to get higher yields.

She said in the farmers' forum with stakeholders involved in the coffee crop value chain, it is an opportunity to discuss together how to meet the needs of seedlings for farmers to increase production and grow crops that will provide better yields that will meet local and foreign market demand.

Pregnancies see over 300 students in Shinyanga Region drop out of school

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

OVER 300 primary and secondary school students in Shinyanga Region are claimed to have been impregnated and discontinued with their lessons, while 29 of them were married.

The statistics are from 2020 to April 2022 submitted by coordinators of the National Committee for Eradication of Gender based Violence and Child Abuse (MTAKUWVA) from five districts of Shinyanga Region.

The statistics on child pregnancies show that Kishapu District had 64 cases of child pregnancies and two child marriages, Kahama Town 52 child pregnancies and two child marriages, Shinyanga Municipality 54 child pregnancies and five marriages while Ushetu District had 30 child pregnancies and no child marriages.

Shinyanga Regional Administrative Secretary, Auwena Omary, speaking here at the weekend at a meeting tasked to assess the MTAKUWVA progress, said the traditional customs are still obstacles

in eradicating these child marriages and pregnancies.

She said even though the region managed to reduce incidences of gender based violence and child abuse, in particular child marriages and pregnancies from the first position to fifth nationally, still more efforts are needed in educating the community against the practices.

She hailed development stakeholders and NGOs in the region for working together with the government in the efforts to eradicate gender based violence and child abuse in Shinyanga Region.

In research done by Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey (TDHS) in 2010 Shinyanga Region took number one position nationally with incidences of child marriages at 59 per cent and child pregnancies at 34 per cent.

State Attorney from Shinyanga Region's National Prosecutions Services (NPS) Wapumbulya Shani said in order to eradicate the practices; the community needs to scream against them.



Kilombero Sugar Company Limited managing director Guy Williams (R), crop removal manager Juma Sheiza (L) and head of corporate affairs Ephraim Mafuru exchange ideas during the launch of the incoming production season at the firm's premises in Kilombero District earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent P4

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

IN what can be regarded as atypical humiliation, financial institutions that provide loans in Shinyanga Municipality are claimed to confiscate teachers' ATM cards whenever they fail to repay their debts.

Some of these institutions have been following teachers at the places of work to demand repayment of loans in front of students without adhering to the terms of contract when handing out the loans.

The situation is mentioned as part of obstacles that had retard education in the municipality as teachers have been performing their duties in difficult environment anticipating humiliation in front of their students, including seizure of their ATM cards.

Tanzania Teachers Union (TTU) in Shinyanga Municipality, Meshack Mashigala revealed this here at the weekend.

Mashigala said every year there have been incidents in which some teachers get 'arrested'

Shinyanga teachers complain of humiliation from loan providers

to the police asking for letters to go to their banks to seek other ATM cards claiming that their original ATM cards were lost.

He said there have been many incidents of such kind, sometimes indicating that they are mere strategies by teachers to avoid their creditors, and warned against such type of punishing loans.

According to service guidelines, the rate of deduction from a worker's salary must not exceed one third of his gross salary.

Shinyanga Regional Commissioner, Dr Sophia Mjema said these teachers are wrong to enter into such loan contracts knowing they stand to punish them, and the worse part of it they even surrender their ATM cards and passwords, and called on the RPC to deal with the situation.

by loan providers in regard to what he termed as punishing loans, get locked up in their offices whenever they fail to repay the loans on time.

"When teachers take up loans at 20 per cent interest, they surrender their ATM cards and reveal their passwords, and during repayment they find the interest rate has risen to 100 per cent, the situation that makes it difficult for them to pay, thereby making teaching careers challenging," he said.

He called upon loans providers to stop taking the law in their hands by locking up their debtors; instead they should file cases thereof in courts instead of humiliating them.

For his part, Shinyanga Regional Police Commander, George Kyando confirmed such incidents, saying teachers have been reporting



Edwin Bakalemwa (R), CRDB Bank Plc's digital services and creative manager, briefs Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (L, foreground) in Dodoma city yesterday at the bank's booth at the ongoing National Science, Technology and Innovation Competition exhibitions. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NBS receives over 500,000 applicants for Population Census temporary jobs

By Polycarp Mchira, Dodoma

AT LEAST 532,347 people have submitted applications for temporary jobs at National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) for various positions in the August Population and Housing Census, it has been revealed.

NBS on 9th May announced recruitment of clerks, census managers, information and technology (IT) and content supervisors for the forthcoming exercise.

Addressing a press here yesterday, the acting Director of Population Census and Social Statistics, Ruth Minja, said as of 16th May, 2022, the bureau had received 532,347 from 119,468 recorded on 9th, May, 2022. She said the NBS needs 205,000 people only. She said out of the 532,347 applicants, 193,548 counted for 36 per cent are employees in both public and private sectors, 58,566 equivalents to 11 per cent are those on self-employment while 280,233, being 53 per cent are not on employment.

"I urge those applying for the advertised positions to follow the laid procedures to the end and attach the necessary documents" she said.

She stressed on the need for the applicants to fill in valid phone numbers and email in the system in order to complete the application.

The acting director insisted that the application forms are free of sale are for free, she said, reminding the possible applicants that the deadline is on 19th, May, 2022 midnight.

PHC is a national exercise conducted across Tanzania every 10 years.

The last census was held in 2012. Thus the 2022 census will be the sixth in the series beginning after the "birth" of the United Republic of Tanzania in 1964. Other censuses took place in 1967, 1978, 1988, 2002 and 2012.

The 2012 population census' results indicated there were 43,625,354 million in Tanzania mainland, and 1,303,569 in Tanzania Zanzibar.

The data, and projections, thereafter are vital in helping the nation execute its national plans in diverse sectors like health and education.

UN data estimates Tanzania 2020 population to be almost 60 million.

Government, GIZ to collaborate in biodiversity safety in Tanga part of the Indian Ocean waters

By Guardian Reporter

THE government in collaboration with German International development Agency (GIZ) has agreed to implement the project for the protection of the biodiversity of the Indian Ocean in Mkinga District, Tanga Region.

This was revealed here Wednesday by Livestock and Fisheries Minister Mashimba Ndaki in his brief meeting with German government representative, Dr Katrina Bornemann.

The minister said the aim of the project to cost 5bn/- is to make sure all the Indian Ocean area bordering Mkinga District is protected and preserved for the people's sustainable development.

"GIZ have agreed to provide 5bn/- for the protection of fish breeding grounds along the coast's reserved areas for the people's benefit and the nation in general," he said.

He added that they have agreed for the project to start immediately and already GIZ has endorsed the funds to be used in the project that will last five years.

"We thank GIZ for deciding to work together with us in the protection of the ocean's biodiversity in the country, we shall implement the project expertly to make sure intended results are obtained especially to our people who will be touched by the project," added the minister.

GIZ country representative Dr Katrina Bornemann arrived in Dodoma for discussions with the Livestock and Fisheries Minister Mashimba Ndaki for the introduction of the project and for it to start as soon as possible.



GIZ have agreed to provide 5bn/- for the protection of fish breeding grounds along the coast's reserved areas for the people's benefit and the nation in general

DANISH
REFUGEE
COUNCIL

TENDER NOTICE

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) intends to procure char production tools.

Therefore, the Danish Refugee Council in Kibondo request vendors to submit their prices for the above services.

The bidding documents can be collected at the Danish Refugee Council Office in Kibondo from **20th May, 2022** during the working days and hours. **8:00 Am to 4:30 Pm** in the following address: Old IRC Road Area, Kibondo. You can call on: **+255624 399 911** or through email **josphat.mwangi@drc.ngo** to receive the soft copy by email.

The closing date for the submission of the bids is **2nd June, 2022 at 4:30 Pm.**

The ITB will be opened on 3th June, 2022 at 10:00 AM at DRC Kibondo Office by DRC Tender opening committee only because of pandemic disease vendors will not be allowed to participate, PO Box 177 Kibondo by the DRC Tender Opening Committee.

You can return your bid form through RFO.TZA@drc.ngo OR DIRECT TO THE DRC OFFICE otherwise is void



Christina Manyenye (3rd-L), KCB Bank Tanzania's head of marketing & corporate affairs, makes remarks in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday at the launch of Bancassurance services to be offered to the public under a partnership with key insurance firms. The Bank of Tanzania and the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority are reported to have approved the procedure. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Lack of infrastructure hinders Africa's intra-trade expansion

By Correspondent Rose Mwalongo in Kisumu, Kenya

LACK of infrastructure to connect African countries has been cited as one of the stumbling blocks for intra-trade flourishing in the continent.

The intra trade in Africa remains at 15 percent lagging behind Europe whose intra trade stands at 70 percent respectively.

The AU High Level Representative on Infrastructure Raila Odinga, made the remarks in Kisumu yesterday during the first day of the 9th Africities Summit at a High Level Dialogue on Infrastructure and Urban Development on Wednesday.

"Infrastructure development is a priority and key ingredient for economic development. The major reason for low intra trade in the continent is the lack of infrastructure to connect its countries. There is a need to come with the African infrastructure fund to be self-sufficient in terms of

funding," said Odinga, who is also the Kenyan presidential candidate.

Danny Faure who is former President of Seychelles called upon the need for Africa to choose the right infrastructure that will have an effective impact on the continent, citing the case of Botswana, where a new bridge has been built with its length at 71 meters all the way to Zambia providing a hub to Zimbabwe and Namibia.

"The infrastructure is strategic and Africa needs it," said Faure.

The Executive Director of the UN Human Settlement Programme Maimuna Mohamed Sharrif called upon the need for Africa to ensure provision of basic services such as water, health cities, sanitation, health and housing.

"People move from rural to urban areas due to lack of facilities. If they had it, they would not move. We need to look into the intermediary cities in the provision of basic services," she stressed.

The AU Chairperson Mussa Faki

suggested need to develop public private partnership to invest in energy and infrastructure.

The Africities Summit is one of the most concrete initiatives to build African unity. It is a democratic platform and a process for promoting Africa's development and integration from the bottom up and is thus a training platform for African leaders of local and sub-national governments.

It allows them to familiarise taking into account national, pan-African and global debates to which they should bring the point of view of local governments to make these debates more tangible and worry about the concrete impact on the populations on the ground.

This year, Kisumu one of the fastest growing and strategic intermediary cities in Kenya is hosting the 9th summit ever since its inception with the theme being The Contribution of Africa Intermediary Cities to the implementation of Vision 2030 of the UN and Agenda 2063 of the AU.

Uhuru Kenyatta, the President of the Republic of Kenya graced the event which brought together more than 8,000 delegates from all over the region.

WHO supports coordination of environmental survey for polio

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

AS the Ministry of Health launched the second round of vaccination against wild polio the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Tanzania is providing technical support and coordination for the vaccination campaigns in collaboration with UNICEF and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

The supplemental mass vaccination campaign will run from May 18 to 21, 2022 in the country's 195 districts and aims to reach a total of 10, 576, 805 under-five children. The first round of the campaign from 24 to 27 March reached over 1 million children in four regions bordering Malawi, namely: Mbeya, Njombe, Ruvuma and Songwe.

In a statement availed to the media yesterday, Dr Zabulon Yoti, WHO country representative said: "This campaign is an important intervention for Tanzania to make sure that all eligible children get the polio drops.

We are grateful to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and donors that funded this important exercise that is key to maintain polio free Tanzania."

He said apart from supporting the vaccination campaign, WHO has also expanded its support in polio eradication by extending environmental surveillance of polio. Prior to this expansion environmental surveillance for polio in Tanzania was being conducted in four sites in Dar es Salaam. Now nine new potential sites have been validated by experts and ready to start so as to monitor enteric virus circulation and assess the extent or duration of the epidemic poliovirus circulation in specific populations.

"The surveillance drive in Tanzania is part of Africa continent-wide environmental surveillance that was initially planned to be implemented in 46 countries under the auspices of the Global Polio Eradication Programme. After the case in Malawi

the continental surveillance initiative has been expanded to more sites in all countries," he said.

Dr Yoti said the expanded surveillance is set to begin immediately. "Immunisation and surveillance officers will collaborate with the authorities to identify suitable sample collection sites in the sewerage systems," he added.

Spread through contact with infected faecal matter, polio causes sudden permanent paralysis to about half percent of people that get infected. Environmental surveillance involves investigating polio virus in fluids collected from sewage flows at specified sites.

Environmental surveillance complements acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) surveillance-conducted by collecting stool samples and is one of the four strategies of eradicating polio, the others being vaccination campaigns, routine vaccination and mop up vaccination that take place after a detection of a polio case. Surveillance helps tell where the poliovirus is circulating and who is being affected.



Plot 4B, Nyerere Road, P.O Box 911, Dar es Salaam
Telephone: +255 22 2860047/9, Fax: 2 8 64041, E-mail: info@tolgases.co.tz

TOL GASES LIMITED "WE DELIVER"

PLOT 4B NYERERE ROAD, P.O.BOX 911 DSM, TEMEKE DISTRICT, DAR ES SALAM, TANZANIA

BID FOR SALES OF USED VEHICLES, ENGINE & GENERATORS

ITEM NO	VEHICLE REG NO	MAKE	LOCATED	STATUS
1	T836 CUB	TOYOTA CARINA	DSM	RUNNING
2	T384 BYL	NISSAN NAVARA	DSM	NOT RUNNING
3	T628 BYL	NISSAN NAVARA	DSM	NOT RUNNING
4	T588 BYL	NISSAN NAVARA	DSM	RUNNING
5	T178 CZS	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER	DSM	RUNNING
6	T206 DJK	SCANIA 124 TRACTOR	DSM	RUNNING
7	T396 ATS	SCANIA R114	DSM	RUNNING
8	T451 DLD	IVECO TRACTOR	DSM	RUNNING
9	T619 BYL	SCANIA P380	DSM	NOT RUNNING
10	T308 DLH	IVECO TRACTOR	DSM	NOT RUNNING
11	USED ENGINE	SCANIA R440 NW081127	DSM	IMPORTED FROM ENGLAND
12	USED ENGINE	NISSAN NAVARA – EN.AC46500#	DSM	IMPORTED FROM ENGLAND
13	USED GENERATOR	JOHN DEERE, 250KVA-with separated alternator and housing	DSM	NOT WORKING
14	USED GENERATOR	FIAT, 80KVA – complete with alternator	DSM	NOT WORKING
15	USED GENERATOR	FIAT, 125KVA- complete with alternator	DSM	NOT WORKING

The vehicles and generators may be viewed by APPOINTMENT at TOL GASES LIMITED, Nyerere Road, Temeke District, Dar es salaam, Tanzania during weekdays from 9.00 to 16.00 hours and Saturday from 9:00 to 12:30 by contacting mobile number 0685 750 219 (Rajabu Kiweku)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- All bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Managing Director (MD) P.O.Box 911 DSM and clearly marked "Sale of Vehicles", "Sale of Generator" or "Sale of Engine" should be deposited in the Tender Box located at the MD's office, at TOL Gases Ltd in DSM not later than Friday 17th June 2022 at 16:00hrs (local time)
- Nonrefundable tender fees of Tzs 20,000/= should be paid direct to our company cashier or Deposited in our CRDB Account No. 01J1005018900 (Tol Gases Ltd) and the acknowledged payment receipt should be attached to the tender bids.
- Offers received after the specified closing date and time will not be considered.
- The successful bidder shall be required to effect full payment of the bid.
- The Tol Gases Ltd, reserves the right to accept or reject any offer and to cancel the above exercise at any time prior to award without thereby incurring any liability to affected bidder(s).
- All quotes should be inclusive of VAT-18%.
- The sold vehicle will only be allowed to leave the company yard after the transfer of ownership process is completed.
- The Buyer must provide his/her details including TIN and NIDA ID
- It is understood by the Buyer that the vehicle, engine, or generator is sold as seen, tested, and where it is (Tol Gases Ltd yard) and approved without any guarantee, either explicit or implied, after sale. "The Vehicle, engine or Generator is sold as seen condition"

Closing Date: Friday, 17th June 2022.



BARRICK
BULYANHULU

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-22-05-04	Provision of Floatation Advanced Process Control System (APC)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Authorised Dealership in Process Control Systems (APC) from reputable Best-in-Class APC Technologies Prior experience in design, supply, installation, commissioning and Training on APC Systems Ability to provide the required service in three months from order date Capability to operate for a minimum of 15 years Local Content Compliance & Ownership

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, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- BRELA - Register of Companies detailed information certificate
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration
- Years' service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to project
- Required equipment availability to perform the specific work

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest close of business on the **31st May 2022**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered.

Please quote reference number **"BUL-22-05-04 _ FLOATATION ADVANCED PROCESS CONTROL SYSTEM"** in the subject line of your email.

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**

'Govt working on ways of sponsoring Veta students'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has talked of plans to come up with funds to help loan students at the Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA) who cannot afford fees.

The Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa made the remarks in the parliament, saying that is part of the plan to improve provision of vocational education in the country.

He was responding to a question raised by the Tarime Urban MP, Esther Matiku (CHADEMA), during the question and answers session to the prime minister.

She had wanted the government to state whether it is ready to provide loans to vocational education students who cannot afford fees, just as it does to students in higher learning institutions.

"Does the government see it fit to raise funds in effort to help

poor students at VETA get loans like those in higher learning institutions?" she asked.

In response, the PM said the government has started reviewing vocational education system in the country, improving infrastructure and other needs.

He said it started with building VETA centres in every region in the country and now the target is to build in every district in the country.

"The government started with infrastructural work, teaching and learning equipment, and now the focus is how to establish loan fund," he said.

The PM added that there are plans to go through all the centres and establish the number of students who are in dire need of the loan.

He said ministry of Education, Science and Technology in collaboration with ministry of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and

Local Government are in the process of conducting the exercise.

Meanwhile, the prime minister yesterday maintained that the government has in place mechanism to ensure people with disabilities get employment.

He said the policy require that in employment opportunities in the government, at least 3 percent of the slots are given to people with disabilities.

He made the clarification in response to a question raised by the Special Seats MP, Stella Ikupa (CCM), who had wanted to know why the government does not have different employment procedures for the disabled.

"From the look of things may people with disabilities are locked out in the job recruitment system' why can't the government have special procedures for them?" she posed.

But the PM maintained that through the existing system, many people with disabilities have got employment in different government offices.



Road safety enhancement officers inspect buses in Iringa municipality's Igumbilo ward during an operation led by Tanzania Traffic Police Commander Wilbrod Mutafungwa yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Francis Godwin

Former Bulyanhulu Mine workers asked to submit grievances to govt

By Guardian Reporter

FORMER Bulyanhulu Mine workers who have complaints about poor health, non-medical treatment and non-compensation have been required to submit their grievances to the government.

According to a statement issued by the Office of the Prime Minister - Labor, Youth, Employment and the Disabled, on several occasions the ministry has been receiving complaints from employees with such challenges against their employer.

The statement said the government through the ministry responsible for labor and employment affairs has been addressing these complaints through the Occupational Health and Safety Agency (OSHA), and the Commission for Mediation and Arbitration Tribunal (CMA) and

the Department of Labor.

Last year, the responsible ministry received, analyzed and resolved about 150 complaints of former Bulyanhulu employees. However, former employees of the company have continued to lodge complaints with various government authorities.

The office has received a number of complaints that will be analyzed, therefore, I would like to inform all those whose grievances have not been submitted and have decision taken by the Office of the Prime Minister - Labor, Youth, Employment and the Disabled to submit their grievances so that they can be worked upon collectively.

Those complaints should be filed as soon as possible before June 8, 2022 indicating the Name, Employment Number, Residence and Telephone Number.

LATRA discovers 'foul play' on part of minibuses owners

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

LAND Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) has discovered deception done by operators of minibuses for hire - in particular Toyota Coaster buses by carrying normal passengers while displaying khangas and flowers designed to deceive road traffic police that they were carrying mourners.

LATRA Senior Official in Kilimanjaro Region, Paul Nyello, yesterday told transport stakeholders that the authority has impounded the buses that ply between Kilimanjaro and Dar es Salaam regions.

"The drivers have been using various stratagems including forcing passengers

to put on khangas to show that they were mourners going to funerals.

"LATRA, in collaboration with the police force continue with a special operation against these buses that mostly travel during the night between Moshi and Dar es Salaam, deliberately violating laid down procedures," he said.

Nyello said some of bus owners have been transporting passengers during the night, practice that poses danger to the safety of passengers.

"These buses carry bodies of deceased persons when they come to Kilimanjaro Region but when they return to Dar es Salaam they park at Himo at the Marangu-Moshi

junction and carry Dar es Salaam bound passengers.

"Basically these buses are not registered to carry passengers, but only for hire in regard to special trips along the Moshi-Arusha route.

"We have often been impounding them and impose fines thereon, but still they have been repeating the same offences," he added.

At the meeting, Kilimanjaro Region Traffic Officer, Pili Misungwi called on bus operators to abide by the laid down procedures.

She said in order to control these transporters who cheat that they carry mourners instead of normal passengers; they will be strict since they have mounted a night road barrier at Mwanaga.

Government: We'll continue to identify, nurture innovators

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has expressed the commitment to identify and develop talents of all innovators as well as putting up a conducive environment that will increase the number of innovators countrywide.

The Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Prof Adolf Mkenda, made the commitment when speaking to stakeholders during the ongoing Innovation Week 2022 which is being held under the theme: Innovation for Sustainable Development.

At the meeting which was coordinated by the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) the minister said innovation was being championed by different people including children and academicians.

"In the ongoing exhibitions of the innovation week, there is a child aged 10 years who discovered a system to identify persons entering the house and their numbers," he noted.

Prof Mkenda added that there were many other innovators in the country who are yet to be identified and that the government was putting up measures in place to ensure that they are identified.

"The CCM manifesto 2020-2025 is clear that innovators who come up with best ideas should be taken outside the country to groom their talents," he said.

According to him, many developed countries took their people outside the country to study different fields, insisting that in the next 10 years the country will have made a major step in innovation.

Earlier, COSTECH Director General, Dr Amos Nungu said that this was the eighth time the innovation week was being conducted in the country and that the government had identified that many innovators were being obtained from the communities.

"As COSTECH we decided to conduct a live dialogue so that many innovators can tap the opportunities of different innovations," he said.



Ado Shaibu, secretary general of the opposition ACT-Wazalendo, contributes to debate at an event held in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday in commemorating Father of the Nation Mwalimu Julius Nyerere's 100th birthday. It was organised by the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Irate villagers torch house, destroy property following death of fellow

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

ANGRY residents from No.2 Village, Mwakitoyo Ward in Shinyanga District have set fire on the house belonging to the Village Chairperson, Shaban Zoro and demolished another house belonging to "Sungusungu" Commander, Buyaga Kazimoto, destroying his belongings in the process, following the killing of fellow villager, Jackson Joseph who was shot to death.

This was revealed at a press briefing by Shinyanga Regional Police Commander, George Kyando.

RPC Kyando said the torching of the house belonging to village chairman and demolition of the house belonging to the "Sungusungu" commander happened following villagers' anger against rampant acts of humiliation by the village officials that culminated with the death of fellow villager.

He said on May 17 this year at around 11:00 pm the deceased, Jackson Joseph (35) had a quarrel with his wife, Esther Emmanuel (23), thereafter the latter ran away to seek help from neighbours.

After that the neighbours telephoned

the Sungusungu commander, Buyaga Kazimoto who took with him four fully armed security guards from Light Ndovu Security firm to arrest Joseph.

He said when the guards arrived at Joseph's house, he started running away whereupon one of the guards, Abdul Chacha pursued him and when they caught him and during the scuffle he was shot in the stomach and died on the spot.

The RPC explained that after the tragic incident, the following day, May 18, angry residents in the area claimed they were fed up with humiliation from village officials including the Village Chairman and the Sungusungu commander and decided to destroy their property including their houses and a motorcycle.

"We are holding a guard from Light Ndovu Security firm, Abdul Chacha for the killing of Jackson Joseph and when investigations are over, he will be taken to court," RPC Kyando added.

He also said they were still investigating in regard to people who took the law in their hands for torching the chairman's house and demolishing another one belonging to the Sungusungu commander.



RE ADVERTISED: REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE PROVISION OF SAFETY CULTURE SERVICES FOR EACOP LTD IN TANZANIA REFERENCE NO: 10007720

EACOP Ltd requires the services of an experienced and reputable contractor(s) to assist in facilitating the development of a Safety Culture programme for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) company and project in Tanzania.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The 24 inch buried, heat traced & insulated pipeline will be 1,443 km in length, of which 296 km in Uganda and 1 147 km in Tanzania.

Above Ground Facilities (AGF) in Tanzania include 4 pumping stations (PS) & 2 pressure reduction stations (PRS); Marine Storage Terminal and loading jetty; 12 Main Camps and Pipe Yards (MCPYs); access roads; solar farms. / Above Ground Facilities (AGF) in Uganda include 2 pumping stations (PS); 4 Main Camps and Pipe Yards (MCPYs); access roads.

EACOP Ltd was established on 15 February 2022 and will eventually involve up to 6,000 people from multiple contractors and sub-contractors, with many different nationalities, and different cultures spread across a wide geographical area.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK:

The Company's mission is to ensure the safety of people and property, preserve natural resources and protect both the physical and human environment in coordination with local communities whilst maintaining compliance with all applicable regulations and regulator issued approvals. The Company's objective is Zero Harm to people, environment, the communities in which it works; and its assets and corporate reputation. The company is currently establishing its management systems, processes and would like to create a world class HSE culture.

EACOP requires the services of experienced and reputable companies or organizations to help EACOP Ltd develop an effective safety culture programme for EACOP Ltd company and project. The goal will be for EACOP and their contractors to develop a strong safety culture across the Project, with a common language and shared tools for all contractors.

Key criteria that will be considered in selection of preferred safety culture programme will include:

- A programme that facilitates a strong safety culture which increases employee engagement, and covers safety, environment, social, quality and operational efficiency;
- A programme that creates a 'risk aware' mindset to keep employees and their families safe at work, at home and on the road;
- A programme that is suitable for a large, multi-cultural workforce with many people who have a very low risk awareness and limited safety culture;
- A programme that is simple, flexible and fast to implement (within months not years);
- Suitability of programme for major capital projects and/or start up organisations;
- Programme that can be customised for EACOP and the projects' risks and challenges;
- Programme with excellent track record with HSE performance (major international projects);
- Experience and capabilities of specific consultants / trainers proposed for EACOP.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to document their:

- Experience / performance in delivering similar safety culture programmes outlined above on a large scale in Tanzania / Uganda, or with at least 10 years' experience / performance of similar services internationally.
- Suitably qualified and experienced lead personnel in undertaking HSE culture programmes for major capital oil and gas projects.
- Experience in developing HSE culture programmes that deliver world class HSE performance.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the past three years.
- Registration with the EVVURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database or an approved registration at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Evidence of organization QHSE policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable National and Industry standards for similar works.
- Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending the above documents to procurement.tz@eacop.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before 16:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 31st May 2022.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (C) bids farewell to Tanzania Youth Alliance director Peter Masika (R) after talks with representatives of various NGOs who paid her a visit in Dodoma city earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

12 villages near ANAPA to attain geopark status

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

TWELVE villages surrounding Arusha National Park have officially embarked in the process of being acknowledged as geological and natural areas with various attractions that need protection and recognized internationally, known as geopark.

This was recently disclosed by ANAPA Assistant Commissioner of Conservation Albert Mziray, saying in order to make the residents understand the wider implications of the plan, they brought the villages together and educated them about the process for attaining geopark status.

“Geopark incorporates geological and natural areas with various attractions that need to be protected and recognised by UNESCO, and this national park has all the criteria for having many villages with many geological and natural resources,” he said.

The villages that will be recognised by UNESCO as geopark villages include all villages in Ngarenanyuki and Legaruki wards including Nkwasega, King’ori, Ngurdoto, and Bang’ata villages.

Mziray said the process to attain the status has begun and the provision of education is among the process for UNESCO recognition.

He said the aim is to achieve the status as it will assist tourists visiting ANAPA to also visit the villages to see for themselves traditional activities including traditional dances - i.e. “ngomas” shelters, food and other attractions.

“President Samia Suluhu Hassan has already started advertising our tourist attraction through the Royal Tour documentary hence we must also prepare ourselves for the expected influx of tourists as some of these villages have unique features including waterfalls, atypical trees and many others,” he said.

For his part, TANAPA Assistant Commissioner of Conservation

and Head of TANAPA’s Science of Conservation and Public Relations, Godwell Ole Meing’ataki, said the geopark will assist the residents to have the opportunity to sit together with tourists and earn income.

“Not all tourists come to view wildlife alone, but there are others who like to see other attractions including strange looking trees that have history behind them, caves, thick forests and traditional shelters in the villages,” he added.

He added that apart from the education provided in preparation for geopark status, the residents benefit from education, health and other infrastructures’ projects.

Be considerate while reporting GBV cases, journalists implored

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole, Arusha

JOURNALISTS have been urged to report gender based violence (GBV) matters in a way that will not cause psychological torture and stigma to victims.

The Constitutional and Legal Affairs ministry Permanent Secretary, Mary Makondo, made the call here yesterday when opening the two-day training to editors and journalists.

Organised by the ministry, the training was meant to build capacity to reporters and editors on how they can cover competently gender based violence and protect victims.

Mary said when reporting GBV, journalists need to be very cautious and consider important things like the consequence of mentioning names of the victims, his occupation, age and details on how the event was committed.

“To mention all this information you expose the victims to the predators and continue to hurt them unknowingly. Sometimes by doing so their culprit might follow them again and threatens to kill the prey for exposing the action,” she said, advising journalists to educate the public concerning the availability of call centers and emergency services that the victims can use to get assistance before or after they are offended.

The PS said there must be a proper plan to provide quick cancelling services to the victims of GBV from religious leaders, Ministry of Health and other Councilors to enable them feel better so that they continue with their activities as normal and forget what happened to them.

“But what is important we must ensure that the perpetrators of GBV must be held responsible of their act so

that it become a lesson to others who would wish to do so and this can help to reduce such behaviour,” she said.

The PS said a recent study which was done by the Directorate of Public Prosecution in five District of Dar es Salaam Region Ilala, Kinondoni, Temeke, Ubungo and Kigamboni found that Temeke leads in GBV cases.

She said experience show that many GBV cases were brought before gender help desk in many police stations but few of them were presented to the investigation desk for prosecutions.

She said her ministry through Directorate of Public Prosecution will soon introduce national gender desk which will be one stop center for all gender based violence and will work closely with various stakeholders.

“We plan to introduce this one stop center to ensure that all services are available under one roof. We want to see doctors, social workers, councilors, officials from Ministry of Home Affairs are present at the center to take care of GBV victims,” she said.

The PS said her ministry will conduct regular training to journalist and other stakeholders in every financial years to build their capacity to be competent when addressing GBV issues as a move to reduce this kind of violence.

“But what is important we must ensure that the perpetrators of GBV must be held responsible of their act so that it become a lesson to others who would wish to do so and this can help to reduce such behaviour”

Minister: Ignore online vaccine fear mongers

By Correspondent James Kandoya

HEALTH Minister Umyu Mwalimu has cautioned the public to ignore rumours doing rounds on social media purporting to show people protesting against vaccines.

Mwalimu said that yesterday at a function to launch a vaccine drop against polio to children under five years that was held at Chinangali grounds in Dodoma region.

“We won’t accept seeing some people for their own interest putting the country in danger of polio and call on security organs to take action against those spreading information that is not from relevant authorities,” he said.

She said the aim of the polio vaccine campaign was to increase children’s immunities to protect the spread of the disease.

Mwalimu said the four-day campaign will be held in health facilities and door to door to reach 10,295,316 children in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.

She however called on the president’s office-Regional Administration and Local Government to ensure there is financial discipline in the fund disbursed in the district councils for vaccines.

According to Mwalimu, the second phase of the campaign came after the first one that involved regions bordering Malawi namely Njombe, Mbeya, Ruvuma and Songwe where a total of 1,138,949 children were reached out of 983,542 targeted.

In training to journalists recently, the Immune Vaccine Development (IVD) programme officer at the ministry for Health Lotalis Gadau said vaccine was the only prevention adding that up to date twelve diseases are prevented by vaccine including measles and polio.

She said the aim of the constitution was also to increase the vaccine coverage among the community.

“Our door to door campaign has focused on reaching all children under five years. Also visit all public places including markets and schools,” she

said.

Gadau said that the world health organization (WHO) declared Tanzania as a free state from polio.

According to her, during the campaign, the mobile clinic will be used to reach children in places that have transport challenges.

Tanzania has been certified as polio free. This achievement in turning the tide against polio as a result of political will and government leadership in the country.

The health authorities in Malawi recently declared an outbreak of wild poliovirus type 1 after a case was detected in a young child in the capital Lilongwe.

Malawi last recorded a case of wild poliovirus in 1992. The polio eradication programme has seen importations from endemic countries to regions that have been certified wild poliovirus-free in the past, and has moved quickly to successfully stop transmission of the virus in these areas.



Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Nape Nnauye (in black cap) pictured at Temeke Wailes in Dar es Salaam yesterday inspecting the ongoing countrywide installation of street postcodes. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga



IOM International Organization for Migration
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

INVITATION FOR TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF DISTRICT IMMIGRATION OFFICES AND BORDER CHECK POINT AT MTWARA

Date: 19th May 2022
Ref: IOM/DAR/2022/215

The International Organization for Migration Invites sealed bid document from interested bidders for the construction services as follows.

Item No.	Item Description	Quantity	Unit
1	Construction of Districts Immigration Offices at Tandahimba District	1	District Immigration Office
2	Construction of Districts Immigration Offices at Nanyumbu District	1	District Immigration Office
3	Construction of Districts Immigration Offices at Newala District	1	District Immigration Office
4	Construction of Districts Immigration Offices at Masasi District	1	District Immigration Office
5	Construction of Border Check Point at Mkunya District	1	Border Check Point
6	Renovation of Border Check Point at Kilambo District	1	Border Check Point

Instruction to Bidders:

- Bidders may bid for a single or multiple site.
- The enclosed Bid Form shall be filled and submitted separately for each construction in a sealed envelope addressed to:
Procurement unit
International Organization for Migration
Slipway Road, Off Chole Road
Msasani Peninsula, Plot No. 1365
P. O. Box 9270, Dar es Salaam
- The enclosed bids form must be delivered by hand on or before the deadline of the bid submission date. The currency of the bid and figures should be clearly indicated in order to avoid ambiguity. Bids that do not fulfill this requirement will be disqualified.
- Interested bidders may obtain the Bid Form from the following address:
International Organization for Migration office,
Slipway Road, Off Chole Road, Msasani Peninsula, Plot No. 1365.
Or on the IOM Website: <https://tanzania.iom.int/do-business-us-procurement>
- The deadline for submission of bids is **16:00, on 25 May 2022**. All bids must be registered upon delivery.
- Bids received after the closing date will not be considered.
- The successful bidder shall be notified by a letter of award.
- The IOM reserves the right to accept, reject or cancel any or all bids.

**International Organization for Migration,
Tanzania**

Balancing act necessary in agribusiness planning

SYNERGIES are in acute demand not merely in the pooling of resources but much more so in enabling policy initiatives in various areas.

The idea should be that the current interest on Tanzania among foreign investors, which we dearly need as local industrial uplift is all but at a dead end owing to low market outlets, is not drained away.

The critical issue is the manner in which the country's market is made to grow in tandem with incoming investments.

This is will stand as an especially thorny and difficult issue if regulatory authorities and officials think just about government revenues and the big East African Community and Southern African Development Community markets while each country in the two blocs and beyond also touts those very same markets. Indeed, enabling investments to flow is the critical issue.

How these synergies can be noticed while it also proves difficult to bring different threads together can be illustrated in policy reflections or appeals by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in addresses to residents of areas where she has been launching highway constructions linking regions and nearby countries.

The other occasion was a scene where Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba had an audience with a French delegation where 41 companies are involved. If they find that there is something new in the policy setting, these firms or just a half of them can definitely spur a new situation in capital flows to Tanzania.

Alternatively, they will stand to be treated to 'business as usual' models, like setting aside vast swathes of land while minimally compensating erstwhile residents, thus producing almost entirely for export since local consumption commonly rises minimally in such situations.

In that context, it proves strategically

faulty for the government to look for land and ask investors to open farms there, as this would liquidate the intensity of investment and likewise limit its strategic view and likely impact.

Explaining, like the minister did, that Tanzania has a big deficit in cooking oil and so it wishes production to take place makes little difference except having profit prospects in mind.

For foreign investments help in improving the country's production and consumption structures, it is vital that we change our vision to demand that investors 'fill our people's pockets' with cash.

By leasing out land to them, even by villages, they will have a common corporate entity and succession of ownership rights.

This would be similar to the model touted time and again on US business television that it has worked miracles in the Shenzhen segment of coastal China. One alternative would be that individuals sell own plots, although that would still be problematic with respect to land owned under customary law.

Dar es Salaam's sprawling Kariakoo market area stands as a case in point: for nearly three decades now developers have been contracting with land owners.

As often happens, costs and profit are pegged to shop frames and one or two floors while plot owners take other floors or share out frames and floors. Few court battles are heard on the contracts.

Prevailing conditions point to the difficulty the Lands ministry should expect in redesigning land use plans work wonders, what with the long history of the ownership and use of land in private hands.

This is precisely why the government needs to work especially closely with the people directly concerned with land tenures without expecting too much to pieces of legislation long overtaken by events. There is no escaping the engagement of some "balancing act".

Let World Bee Day provide room for studying honey industry costs

HORTICULTURE enthusiasts are today (May 20) marking World Bee Day. It was on this day that Anton Janša, the pioneer of beekeeping, was born in 1734 in what is now Slovenia.

It isn't surprising that it was his country which canvassed for his day of birth to be taken up as an international day for the beekeeping industry and vocation.

As was noticeably the case for the pioneering beekeeper, the purpose of the Day is to acknowledge the role of bees and other pollinators for the natural ecosystem and realizing the huge economic and other potential of often-forgotten woodlands where bees tend to thrive.

The Day is among the more recent inclusions in the United Nations calendar of international days, having been so adopted in 2017.

To us, this provides an occasion to think of the ecosystem and where we are with the honey industry and its potential, especially in these days of exponential growth of prospects for horticulture exports.

Checking some online data shows that Africa is nowhere on the world map of honey-producing countries, a geographically erratic picture led by China, Turkey, Iran and Argentina, while the woodlands in Tanzania's very own Tabora Region are traditionally best known for quality honey.

Not much is discussed on a routine basis on how to boost natural beekeeping with artificial generation of beehive locations and even the pattern of breeding, whose advances at international level brings some chroniclers to compare chicken breeding with the breeding of bees.

What is less risky to imagine is how

land management in a selected area can lead to vast increases in beekeeping and honey production, considering that contacting firms experienced in the art and knowing the market pays off handsomely.

A recent example is that of an Indian company engaged in the farming of avocados in Iringa Region. It has now obtained tax-free entry of its produce in India, which Tanzanians can do for its own honey as India is also well known in that area.

Despite having youths trained in various agricultural techniques, having foreign investors is more or less indispensable in a certain number of areas.

Tax breaks or holidays are not provided without someone in the country waiving taxes standing to gain.

This means that the country in which the product is produced becomes in economic terms an extension of where it is being directed as its principal market. One may call this a manifestation of globalisation, and it is surely not empty talk.

Meanwhile, there are areas of traditional beekeeping we are doing and can improve upon. However, having a global market strategy with the right incentives, especially leasing out land for long periods, is likely to work.

Investors wish to feel that they are standing on their own two feet and can walk into an international bank in, say, Dar es Salaam and obtain credit with the land as collateral.

If one once considered such scenarios out of bounds, it was an error impinging on our potential achievements. But it is not too right for us to right any such wrongs for our own good.

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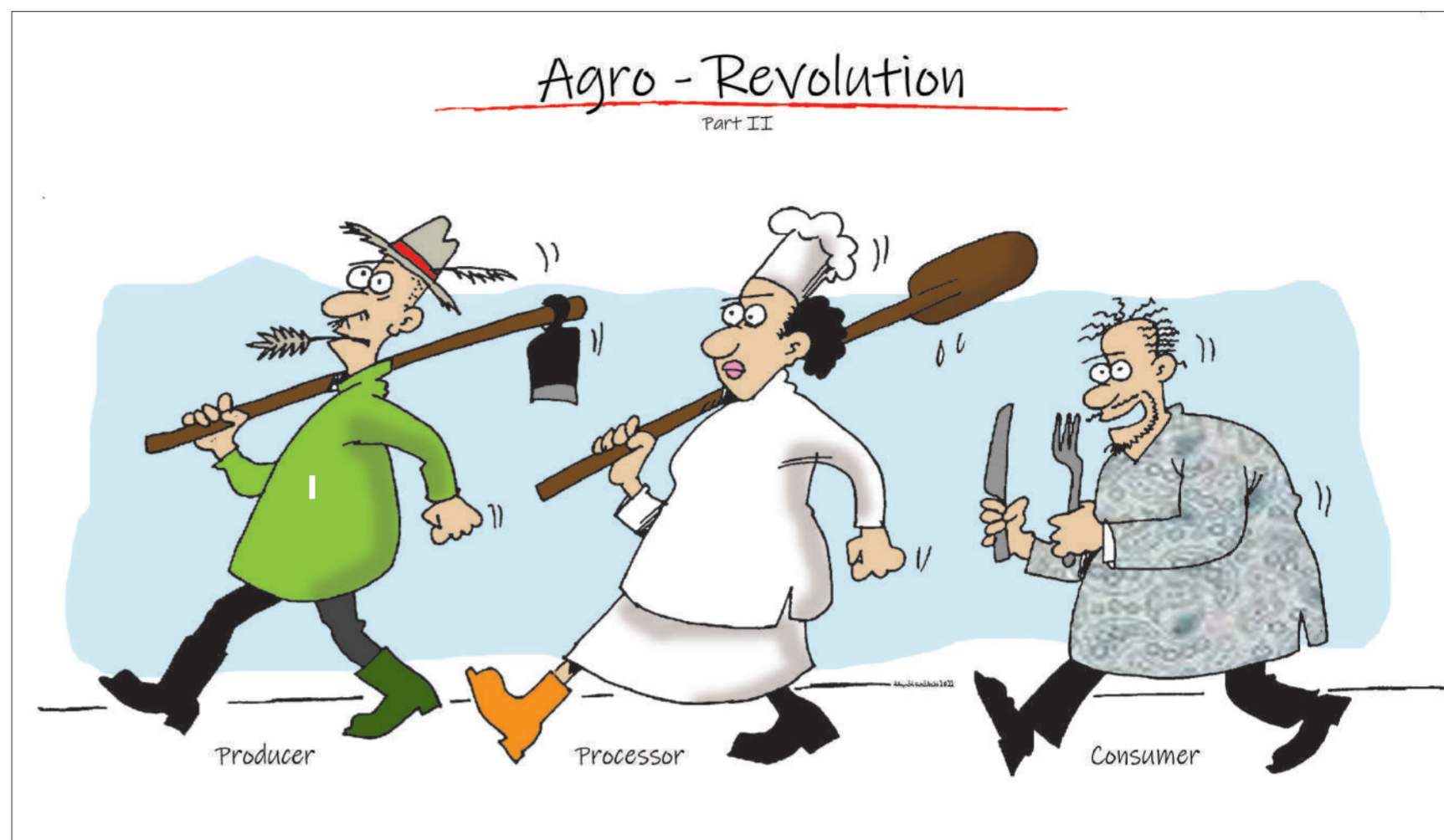
Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com



Transforming or tinkering? Inaction lays groundwork for next pandemic

GENEVA/NEW YORK

ONE year after the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response recommended an urgent, evidence-based transformation of the international system to manage pandemic threats, its former co-chairs have warned that despite having a roadmap and the know-how, the world is hardly better prepared to manage a new health threat than it was when SARS-CoV-2 - that is, Covid-19 - first emerged.

The duo, former Liberian president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and former New Zealand prime minister Helen Clark, are concerned about the waning political focus that is essential to end the worst of Covid-19.

And they caution that at the current pace and approach to change, it could be years before there is a reliable international system that will rapidly identify and contain a new pandemic threat, which could arise at any time.

"While there are laudable efforts to better protect everyone from the current and next pandemic threat, these remain slow, fragmented, and too focused on bureaucratic processes and not enough on results," said Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

"Should a new health threat arise this year, the world would largely have to draw on the same tools it had at the end of 2019," said Helen Clark.

"The weak links that we identified then still exist today, and without more concrete efforts to fix them, we could find ourselves once again scrambling to protect people from a new pandemic threat," she added.

Some hopeful progress, but with caveats

In their new one-year assessment report, entitled 'Transforming or Tinkering?: Inaction lays the groundwork for another pandemic', the former co-chairs also note the progress that has been made.

This includes a recommendation to substantially increase the base funds Member States would guarantee to provide to WHO; plans agreed by the G20 for a new pandemic fund to be hosted at the World Bank; a process at the World Health Assembly designed to produce a new legal instrument by May 2024, changes proposed to the International Health Regulations intended to lead to faster reporting of pandemic threats; and an international partnership that has delivered 1.5 billion doses of vaccines and other tools to poorer countries despite



Former Liberian president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf



Former New Zealand prime minister Helen Clark

constraints.

However, they also caution that these efforts - which are taking place in different organisations, with different timescales, risky processes, and, at times, inadequate charity-based approaches - will fail to result in a cohesive transformed system. What is missing now, they say, is sustained leadership of heads of state and government.

"The G20 consensus has led to concrete plans for an essential new pandemic fund. The Second Covid-19 Summit, held just last week, was led by five heads of state from each region, who galvanised countries, international organisations, funds, foundations, the private sector and civil society to make new commitments to tackle pandemic threats," said Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

She added: "Only the highest-level political leadership has the legitimacy to bring multiple sectors together in this way."

"UN Member States must urgently request a High-Level Meeting at the UN General Assembly to agree to a Political Declaration to set a coherent agenda to end Covid-19 and manage future pandemic threats," Helen Clark meanwhile noted.

"This can include the creation of an inclusive new high-level council that can lead a coherent international system to end this pandemic, and prevent another," she added.

To inform this one-year report, the co-chairs consulted with former panelists, leading academics, civil society and other leaders working directly on the Covid-19 pandemic response.

One of their concerns was the urgent need for countries which have

begun to drive a process towards a UNGA high-level meeting to request such a meeting urgently.

Also, despite the ongoing risks posed by Covid-19, including continued transmission which can lead to new variants, political leadership to end the Covid-19 emergency was flagging everywhere.

There was also concern that processes initiated by the World Health Assembly could take many years to lead to change.

For instance, the increase of assessed contributions to cover 50 per cent of the WHO's base budget was not planned to take full effect until 2030/2031.

It was further feared that new pandemic accord and amendments to the International Health Regulations might take until May 2024 or longer to be agreed, and then require a period of time to come into force.

Efforts to include all pandemic reform issues into a new legal instrument could meanwhile result in a watered-down instrument - or none at all.

Yet another concern was that critical issues, including the WHO's authority to report and investigate health threats based on the precautionary principle, might be lost in negotiation.

The co-chairs stood convinced that if a new grave health threat arose imminently, the WHO must report it rapidly regardless of the status of reform of the UN agency's powers.

They also submitted that a 'charity' approach was not serving the interests of ending the Covid-19 pandemic or tackling future pandemic threats, whereas a global public goods approach was required for success.

With specific reference to this, it was noted that less than 13 per cent of people in low-income countries were considered fully vaccinated.

ACT-A - The Access to Covid-19 Tools Accelerator, or the Global Collaboration to Accelerate the Development, Production and Equitable Access to New Covid-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines, a G20 initiative announced on April 24, 2020 - still faced an enormous funding gap of US\$13.64 billion, particularly for delivery of vaccines, diagnostic tests, therapies and oxygen.

Additionally, there were fears that the new pandemic fund to be hosted at the World Bank risked being funded only through official development assistance. Instead, what was more recommendable was that all countries should contribute based on an 'ability-to-pay' formula, from which all countries would benefit for readiness and response.

The co-chairs led the panel together with 11 distinguished panelists. They spent eight months rigorously reviewing various dimensions of the pandemic.

In May 2021 they submitted their evidence-based landmark report entitled 'Covid-19: Make it the Last Pandemic to the World Health Assembly'.

They made recommendations which, taken as a package, could end the worst of Covid-19 and transform the international system in a way that could make it the last pandemic of such devastation.

The panel was established by the World Health Organisation Director General in response to a World Health Assembly resolution issued in May 2020.

When your dear dream dies, just wake up and dream again

WHEN I was young, I had a dream of becoming a lawyer but gradually, that later changed into becoming the first female Chief Justice in our country. At the end, I became none of that.

I was very determined, ok in my words, but my actions were not collaborating with me. You see, I am a versatile learner. I get easily bored of doing the same thing over and over. So even though I have an absorbing memory and was able to easily remember in the exams what the teachers had said during the term, I never kept still.

I used to skive off through the primary school fence to buy donuts. I also skipped classes in high school and missed evening preps altogether most of the time.

And given the way our country's education system is wired, you either toe the line or fall down the abyss. I fell down the abyss. Never got grades to take me to a public university, leave alone take that law degree.

All did not get lost though; I still made my way through undergraduate and graduate schools.

But in the eyes of my grandmother, I was a lawyer. That is the name she called me to her death bed. Even on her phone book, she had saved me as a lawyer. My loving uncle up until recently still called me Chief Justice!

Over the years, I have had many other dreams which fortunately or unfortunately have come to naught.



Some of those dreams have been very dear and hard to let go while others, well, I easily let slide.

I am sure you have also had your fair share of dreams. Some have lived while unfortunately, others have died. What is important is that you should not stop chasing another dream when one fails to materialize.

When I grow up, I want to be so

and so. By age so, I will be married. I will own my own house. I will have children. I will have traveled the world. I will have lost weight. I will have a six-pack. I will be earning a six-figure salary. I will have published my first book. I will have done this and that.

Then dream killer strikes! It is not an easy thing to acknowledge

the death of a dream, let alone let the dead dream go. If you are like me, you are always resuscitating dreams, putting them on life support, and continuing to pay huge emotional, financial, mental, social, and physical price to keep such dreams alive.

At some point you realize you must face the reality that your beloved dream is no more. And then allow the grieving process to begin: easier said than done?

As I continue to grow, I am daily reconciling with the reality that dreams can and do die. The reality that holding on to some of these dreams to the detriment of even my health is not a wise choice continues to dawn on me every day but the willpower to let go is something else together.

I have been taking stock of my dreams, big and small, consequential and not so consequential, and putting to rest those that are no longer breathing.

One of the things I have realized with the loss of a dream as with the loss of a loved one is that the grieving process swings into action immediately.

As with the loss of human life, the grieving process of a dream does not follow the chatted path.

Instead of moving from one stage to another, it is a mixed-up maze of emotions and stages.

I teach a personal development course 'Integrated Living' and one of the hard lessons is on 'Mortality' which means accepting the fact that one is mortal namely limited in strength, ability, control, and span of life.

It is not easy to accept one's mortality, especially when faced with loss; loss of dreams, loss of life. And that's why the bargaining stage of grief is there. We cannot for the life of us believe that our dream, our loved one is slipping from us and there is nothing, nothing that we can do to stop this.

Gordon Neufeld and Gabor Mate (M.D) in their book 'Hold on To Your Kids: Why Parents Need to Matter Than Peers' call this feeling 'futility'. Realizing your limitation, it is such an asset in life.

Unfortunately, many of us do not acquire this life-giving skill while young and thus struggle through the rest of their lives fighting futilities on a wrestling match with futility and a losing at that.

We never learned early enough that dreams like human beings can say a resounding NO to your advances. That dreams can reject

you and you would do well to reconcile with the rejection rather than engage in the futility of fighting is an important lesson.

Once you engage in the grieving process of your dear dreams, you are on a path toward healing and freedom. Yes, the initial shock might reel you back 100 steps but you will go through if you choose to, even when everything in your system is telling you otherwise.

You may know people who have been stuck in grief stages for years, numb, completely unable to move beyond shock and all through to acceptance. Once again, it is a life skill, one that we'll all do well to cultivate in our lives and intentionally teach the younger ones for their overall wellbeing.

Unlike in the loss of human life where we perform elaborate funeral rites and finally bury the dead, dream corpses are not so easy to bury. All in all, the beauty of dreams is that you can always dream again. You can dream new dreams as long as life is flowing through your veins. You can accomplish your dreams even if you have buried some. So, arise and shine. Dream again and make it a reality.



Debt distress in Africa: Problems and ways forward

PRETORIA

THE COVID pandemic has had a profoundly negative impact on Africa's sovereign debt situation. Currently, 22 countries are either in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress.

This means that African governments are struggling to pay the debts that they incurred on behalf of their states. For example, Mozambique and Zimbabwe are already in debt distress. Others at high risk include Malawi, Zambia and Comoros.

This situation is likely to be exacerbated by the war between Russia and Ukraine. The conflict is causing commodity prices, particularly food and gasoline, to rise. It is also disrupting the supply chains of critical goods like fertilisers.

The ability of countries to manage their debt is complicated by the changing composition of the debt. They now owe more money to a broader range of creditors.

In 2020, sub-Saharan Africa had a total external debt stock of US\$702.4 billion, compared to US\$380.9 billion in 2012. The amount owed to official creditors, including multilateral lenders, governments and government agencies, increased from about US\$119 billion to US\$258 billion.

In the past, official creditors of African countries were primarily the rich Western states and multilateral institutions like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. This group has now expanded to include China, India, Turkey and multilateral institutions like the African Export-Import Bank and the New Development Bank.

In addition, the amount of bonds issued by African states on international markets has tripled in the last 10 years. These bonds are held by a broad range of investors such as insurance companies, pension funds, hedge funds, investment banks and individuals.

In our new book we address the challenges that these changes have created for sovereign debt management for the 16 countries in the Southern Africa Development Community.

We hope the book will stimulate



Food insecurity is affecting millions of people in Burkina Faso. Credit: UNICEF/Vincent Treameau

debate among academics, activists, policymakers and practitioners on how Southern Africa Development Community should manage its debt. Five recommendations emerge from the contribution. These include the need for enhanced debt transparency and an approach to debt management that takes into account a host of factors beyond just finance.

The landscape

The book contains a series of essays initially presented in several virtual workshops held in 2020. The participants sought to understand the debt challenges facing countries in the Southern Africa Development Community. They also offered policy-oriented recommendations for dealing with them.

The book includes contributions from a multi-disciplinary group of international experts as well as African researchers. In their contributions they discuss the complexities of debt management and restructuring – generally and in the Southern Africa Development Community member states.

They pay attention to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the debt situation but also recognise that it is only one factor contributing to the difficult debt situation in the region. Thus, they also focus on the broader domestic and international factors that are shaping debt management in the region.

In an effort to chart a way forward, the contributing authors addressed the following four themes:

- The impact of structural changes in the global economy on the Southern Africa Development Community debt landscape. An example is the increasing importance of finance in the global economy.
- The challenges of sovereign debt management and restructuring in the region;
- The implications of the lack of transparency on the accumulation and use of sovereign debt;
- Options for incorporating human rights and social

considerations into sovereign debt renegotiations and restructuring.

Contributors make five key recommendations:

The first concerns debt transparency. The recommendation is that countries in the region should adopt comprehensive debt data disclosure requirements and state borrowing procedures that are transparent and participatory. The aim would be to facilitate holding relevant decision makers accountable.

Debt transparency is the cornerstone of reforming debt management. Sovereign debtors should follow well publicised, predictable and binding legal procedures in incurring new financial obligations. In addition, they should disclose the amount and contractual terms of their loans. This should include any arrangements for enhancing the security of the loan.

An example is resource-backed loans. In these loans repayment is either made in natural resources or is guaranteed by the revenues generated by

the sale of the natural resource.

Sovereign debtors should disclose this information to their creditors, the multilateral financial institutions of which they are member states. They should also make the information publicly available through national platforms.

Good governance. This involves strengthening national debt management policies to deal with issues of governance.

Transparency on its own won't ensure responsible borrowing. Debt management frameworks and practices should conform to all the principles of good governance. The list includes transparency, participation, accountability, reasoned decision-making and effective institutional arrangements.

Legal predictability. This involves strengthening contractual provisions in debt contracts.

Debt is a contractual relationship. It is therefore important – for debtors and creditors – to enter into contracts that are as comprehensive as possible. This means contracts should fairly allocate risks between the parties.

This would include, for example, accommodating who is better able and more willing to accept the risks. In addition, contracts should provide the parties with clear answers to issues that could arise between them.

This would require policymakers providing guidance to their debt managers on the terms and conditions they can accept in contractual negotiations.

Comparability of treatment during restructuring. This means that, when needed, all creditors should participate on comparable terms in any sovereign debt restructuring. Southern Africa Development Community sovereign debtors can improve creditor confidence by offering all creditors comparable treatment. This would give them comfort that any relief they provided would benefit the debtor rather than other creditors. This should facilitate the debtor's efforts to reach agreement with all its creditors.

A comprehensive approach. Sovereign debt is not just a financial is-

sue. It has implications for the social, political, economic, cultural and environmental situation in the debtor country. It requires a comprehensive approach to debt restructuring that incorporates all relevant stakeholders.

This includes citizens of the debtor states, multilateral creditors, bilateral creditors, and private creditors such as bondholders, institutional investors of various sorts and commercial banks.

It also requires that all necessary issues are addressed. These range from financial sustainability to the social, human rights and environmental impacts of the restructuring.

The sovereign debtor and its creditors must therefore seek to effectively engage with each of these actors and with all of these issues.

These recommendations show that there is a need for more innovative approaches to sovereign debt. One possible approach is the DOVE (Debts of Vulnerable Economies) Fund. It will use funds raised from all the stakeholders in sovereign debt to buy the bonds of African debtors in distress and commit to only agree to a debt restructuring that complies with a set of published principles based on international standards that support a comprehensive approach to the debt restructuring.

Source: The Conversation which was founded in Melbourne, Australia in 2011 and now operates as a global network of sites with dedicated teams working in Australia, the US, the UK, France, Africa, Indonesia, Spain and Canada.

<https://theconversation.com/debt-distress-in-africa-biggest-problems-and-ways-forward-182716>

Danny Bradlow SARCHI Chair is funded by the National Research Foundation. He received funding from the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) for this book project. Magalie Masamba receives funding from Danny Bradlow's SARCHI Chair and Oxfam South Africa. Magalie is a co-editor and co-author in this book project funded by the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA).

IPS UN Bureau

Floods drive urban solutions in Brazilian metropolis

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil

“We do everything through parties, we don’t want power, we don’t want to take over the role of the State, but we don’t just protest and complain,” said Itamar de Paula Santos, a member of the United Community Council for Ribeiro de Abreu (Comupra), in this southeastern Brazilian city.

Ribeiro de Abreu is one of the neighborhoods most affected by recurrent flooding in Belo Horizonte, capital of the state of Minas Gerais, as it is located on the right bank of the Onça (jaguar, in Portuguese) River, on the lower stretch, into which the water drains from a 212 square kilometer basin made up of numerous streams.

Cleaning up the river and preventing its waters from continuing to flood homes requires actions that also produce social benefits.

“We have so far removed 736 families who were living in high-risk situations, on the riverbank,” Santos told IPS in the same place where precarious and frequently flooded shacks gave way to the Community Riverside Park (Parque Ciliar, in Portuguese), which has a garden, soccer field, children’s playground and fruit trees.

The project, begun by local residents together with Comupra and the local government in 2015 and gradually implemented since then, aims to extend the community park 5.5 kilometers upstream through several neighborhoods by 2025.

This includes doubling the number of families resettled, cleaning up the Onça basin and its nine beaches, three islands and three waterfalls, preserving nature and developing urban agriculture, and creating areas for sports and cultural activities. All with participatory management and execution.

Displaced within the same neighborhood

The families removed from the flood-prone riverbank now live mostly in safe housing in the same Ribeiro de Abreu neighborhood, which had 16,000 inhabitants at the 2010 census, but is now estimated to be home to 20,000 people.

The Belo Horizonte city government has a rule to resettle families from risky areas in places no more than three kilometers from where they used to live, Ricardo Aroeira, director of Water Management of the Municipal Secretariat of Works and Infrastructure, told IPS.

That is the case of Dirce Santana



Soares, 55, who now lives with her son, her mother and four other family members in a five-bedroom house, with a yard where she grows a variety of fruit trees and vegetables.

“It’s the best thing that could have happened to us,” she said. Five years ago she lived next to the river, which flooded her shack, almost always in the wee hours of the morning, every year during the rainiest months in Belo Horizonte - December and January.

“We had bunk beds and we piled everything we wanted to save on top of them. Then we built a second floor on the house, leaving the first floor to the mud,” she told IPS. “But I didn’t want to leave the neighborhood where I had been living for 34 years.” She was lucky. After receiving the compensation for leaving her riverside shack, an acquaintance sold her their current home, at a low price, with long-term interest-free installments.

Bad luck

Soares, who is now a

domestic worker, had a daycare center that started losing money in the face of the increased offer of free nursery schools by the local government, and the COVID-19 pandemic over the last two years.

Itamar Santos, a 64-year-old father of three, has also lived in the neighborhood for almost four decades. Before that, he worked as a mechanical lathe operator in other cities and for three years in Carajás, the large iron ore mine in the eastern Amazon, 1,600 km north of Belo Horizonte.

In 1983, in Carajás, he lost his right leg when he fell into a 12-meter well. “It was night-time, and there was no electricity, just dark jungle,” he explained. After the first painful impact, he learned to live with his disability and regained the joy of living, with a specially adapted car.

He became an activist and among his achievements were free bus tickets for paraplegics and a gymnasium for multiple sports. “Creating conditions that enable the disabled

to leave their homes is therapeutic,” he told IPS.

But the cause that impassions him today is the river, which in January has a heavy flow due to the heavy rains that month, but dries up in September, in the dry season.

“Let the Onça drink clean water” is the slogan of a movement also promoted by Santos, to emphasize the protection and recovery of the thousands of springs that supply the river and its tributary streams.

Every year since 2008, this movement, driven by Comupra, organizes meetings for reflection and debate on the revitalization of the river in riverside venues in different neighborhoods in the basin.

The festivities are also repeated annually, or more often. Carnival brings joy to the local population on the beaches or squares along the banks of the Onça River, and giant Christmas trees are set up for the communities to come out and celebrate the holidays.

The basin, or more

precisely sub-basin, of the Onça River comprises the northern half of the territory and the population of Belo Horizonte, which totals 2.5 million inhabitants. The south, which is richer, is where the Arrudas River is located.

Both emerge in the neighboring municipality to the west, Contagem, and flow east into the Das Velhas River, the main source of water for the six million inhabitants of Greater Belo Horizonte. As they cross heavily populated areas, they are the main polluters of the Velhas basin.

Major floods in the provincial capital occur mainly in the Onça sub-basin. The steep topography of Belo Horizonte makes the soil more impermeable, leading to more disasters.

Other riverbank parks

The Belo Horizonte city government has been working on drainage plans for years and has been implementing the Program for the Environmental Recovery of the Valley and

Creek Bottoms since 2001.

In April it published the Technical Instruction for the Elaboration of Drainage Studies and Projects, under the general coordination of Aroeira.

Since the end of the last century there has been a “paradigm shift,” said Aroeira. Channeling watercourses used to be the norm, but this “merely shifted the site of the floods.” Now the aim is to contain the torrents and to give new value to rivers, integrating them into the urban landscape, cleaning them up and at the same time improving the quality of life of the riverside populations, he explained.

The construction of long, narrow linear parks, which combines the clean-up of rivers or streams with environmental preservation, riverside reforestation and services for the local population, is one of the “structural” measures that can be seen in Belo Horizonte.

The participation of students and teachers

from three neighboring schools stood out in the implementation in 2008 of the Nossa Senhora da Piedad Park in the Araújo Reis neighborhood, home to 8,300 inhabitants in 2010, near the lower section of the Onça River.

Cleaning up the creek that gives the park its name was the major environmental and sanitary measure.

“Sewage from the entire neighborhood contaminated the stream and caused widespread illnesses among the children, such as diarrhea, verminosis (parasites in the bronchial tubes) and nausea,” Maria José Zeferino, a retired art teacher at one of the local schools, told IPS.

The park, which belongs to the municipality, has an area of 58,000 square meters, a pond, three courts for different sports, a skateboarding area and a paved walkway for the elderly. A total of 143 families and one farm received compensation to vacate the area, leaving many fruit trees behind.

“A clean river was our dream. And the goal of the next stage is to have swimming, fishing and boating in the city’s streams,” said Zeferino.

The Primer de Mayo Ecological Park, in the neighborhood of the same name with 2,421 inhabitants according to the 2010 census, was built during the revitalization of the stream of the same name, covering 33,700 square meters along a winding terrain. The novelty is a medicinal herb garden, a demand of the local population.

“We discovered 70 springs here that feed the stream that runs into the Onça River,” said Paulo Carvalho de Freitas, an active member of the Community Commission that supports the municipal management of the park and carries out educational activities there.

“My fight for the future is to remove much of the concrete with which the park was built, which waterproofs the soil and goes against one of the objectives of the project,” which was inaugurated in 2008, said Freitas.

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

Pemba spice farmers embrace organic farming, environmental conservation

By Felister Peter, recently in Pemba

PEMBA is a home to many spices including cloves, vanilla, cardamom, cinnamon and black pepper which are attracting a number of people from outside the island wishing to get involved and gain knowledge about spice farming.

Most of the residents in Pemba engage in spice agroforestry, especially women who are proudly using the generated income to buy food, schooling cost for children and purchase other necessities for their families.

Mohamed Ally Mmanga from Daya village in Mtambwe South ward, Wete District, Pemba North Region describes the forestry spice farming as an interesting activity which he has been practicing since 1992.

Mmanga owns an acre of vanilla farm in the village, but he also practices farming of other spices together with some other 28 villagers through a group—Organic Daya Cooperation.

“We produce one of the best spices in the world; the quality of our spices especially vanilla cannot be compared with spices produced in other countries; we practice organic farming to protect the health of consumers and conserve the environment,” said Mmanga in his explanations to a group of writers from the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) who visited the area with support from the United States Agency for International



Zanzibar spices farmer Bakari Mataka Bakari harvesting cinnamon from his farm in Daya village, Mtambwe South ward. Photo: Felister Peter

Development (USAID).

He, however, said fluctuating vanilla prices discourages farmers from continuing to expand their farms, calling for the government through the Zanzibar commission for tourism to assist them in adding value to the crop.

Mmanga raised concerns that farmers were fetching between 900,000/- and 1m/- per kilogram of vanilla, but the prices have dropped to 500,000/- per kg.

“Value addition would enable us to reap more; our appeal to the Zanzibar

commission for tourism to provide us with a vanilla processing plant so that we can sell and export vanilla powder,” he remarked.

Bakari Mataka Bakari, from the same village, who has been engaging in cloves cultivation for several years, said that

forestry spice farming has enabled him to build a better house and provide for the family.

According to him, although farmers will have to wait for between five and six years to start harvesting cloves; the market for the product is available

through the government’s trading arm—Zanzibar State Trading Corporation (ZSTC).

ZSTC offers 14,000/-, 12,000/- and 10,000/- prices for the first, second and third grade cloves, respectively, he added.

“We also sell clove leaves at a price of between 200/- and 250/- per kilo,” said Bakari, adding, a single clove tree can last for over 70 years.

Amina Ally Mmanga who cultivates cinnamon said decisions to practice organic farming are meant to protect the inherited virgin land, but also ensure consumers get quality spices with a unique taste and smell.

“We don’t cut a single tree during farming because spices can also grow better in a forestry environment. Our products are tested at laboratories before export,” she added.

Khalid Kombo Khamis, Tourism Officer at the Ministry of Tourism and Heritage said they have been taking initiatives to educate farmers on the importance of preserving the environment because its destruction would also affect the tourism sector.

“We insist them to stick to organic farming because there are some tourists who only visit Pemba to learn about spice farming. The uniqueness of our spices has attracted buyers from various countries,” said the officer, adding that most farmers have transformed from subsistence to commercial farming.

Khamis said that most of the land in Pemba is virgin with an enormous percentage of green cover, whereas to protect it, the government has been insisting on organic farming especially for spices cultivation because it is practiced in the forest.

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Ruvuma Commercialisation and Diversification of Agriculture (RUCODIA) is a vocal civil society about the Commercialisation and diversification of agriculture as a pathway to empower smallholder farmers in the country.

The CSO has been working with Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) to catalyze food system transformation, which is essential for inclusive national development.

RUCODIA chief executive officer (CEO) Dr Joseph Mhagama (pictured) said that making collective agricultural transformation work is not an easy task and requires concerted efforts from diverse actors in the sector.

According to him, AGRA 2017-21 strategy for Tanzania implementation has been very supportive in enabling RUCODIA to provide life-changing business development services to small farmers on the input distribution channel.

“Establishing workable input distribution networks has been a key in technology adoption for sustainable and improved food production,” he said.

In implementing the Tanzanian PIATA-TIJA initiative, a part of a Pan-African Partnership for Inclusive Agricultural Transformation in Africa (PIATA), RUCODIA was one of the five members of a consortium supported by AGRA in Western regions.

“We recruited 803 agro-dealers in Kigoma and managed to reach 172,661 farmers along with different components of extension, access to market, access to finance, and distribution of agricultural technologies in around 300 villages. Similarly, in the Kagera region, the initiative supported and capacitated 596 agro-dealers to manage agro-inputs who managed to supply services to 257,921 farmers in 420 villages,” said Dr Mhagama, who is also an MP for Madaba.

“Business development services are about imparting knowledge that becomes a power for the partakers. After we made the new agro-dealers understand the agri-business’s potential and how supporting/advising smallholder farmers would lead to more incomes for them and farmers, we saw increased productivity across the villages involved,” he said.

According to him, with AGRA’s support, RUCODIA has shown how critical agro dealership is as an interphase between the input and output market on disseminating agriculture technologies.

“We trained retail and hub-agro dealers on business management, stock management, and managerial skills. We also had regulatory institutions such as Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI), Tanzania Official Seed Certification (TOSCI), and Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA), among others, on board. The institutions were able to come and show them how to get necessary business permits as per the requirements of the law and procedures.”

Dr Mhagama suggested the need for sustainable food system transformation goes hand in hand with increased incomes for smallholder farmers in the rural areas, which translates into an improved livelihood.

“We managed to improve the availability and accessibility of inputs and extension services. Farmers’ distances to access inputs and extension services shortened thanks to new input outlets (retail inputs shops) in rural areas,” he said, stressing that farmers in the most remote villages in Kigoma or Kagera can access technology - new seed varieties, fertilizers, and crop protection, near their farms/localities.

He also said an increased number and spatial distribution of agricultural inputs through agro-dealers - reduced distances traveled by farmers to access improved seeds and

‘Development partners out to extend more assistance for development of sustainable food systems’

fertilizers from 12 km to 7 km.

With the availability of inputs assured, he said: “There has been a vastly increased uptake of improved seeds, fertilizers, and agronomic practices by smallholder farmers through demos and other promotional activities.”

Most farmers adopted the use of agricultural inputs (improved seeds and fertilizers) because of demonstration and promotional activities; in so doing, productivity and production have increased; for instance, maize productivity moved from 1.5MT/ha to 4MT/ha.

The initiative facilitated the establishment of demonstration plots for increased uptake of improved seeds and agronomic practices by smallholder farmers from a ‘seeing is believing’ perspective. Also, during the agricultural exhibition and rural field days, participants learned the correct usage of inputs, a key factor in increased production.

“Our partnership with input companies revealed you would never walk alone to cascade the distribution of modern agricultural technologies to rural farmers. Technology manufacturers and suppliers worked collaboratively with the consortium to give away small packs. These included new seed varieties, the development of learning sites, farmers’ field days, agricultural shows, and exhibitions paved to promote the best innovation, which increased farmers’ choices and options from a broad array of agricultural products.”

AGRA introduced to RUCODIA the consortium business model, which has played a crucial role in strengthening business linkages and relations between input companies, financial institutions, and farmer organizations. It has made a vibrant ecosystem of agricultural input business, with last-mile delivery through Village Based Advisors becoming a reality.



AGRA’s support in mobilization and enabling actors to play their roles helped create new sustainable dynamics. Most agro-dealers that came to be from 2017 to 2021 as a result of our efforts, and supported by AGRA, are running their enterprises successfully and continue to catalyze and sustain technology distribution for agricultural transformation.

The innovation of agro dealership development accelerated the distribution of technologies in rural areas through normal channels. This involved strengthening the agro-dealer network that facilitated smallholder farmers’ access to agricultural inputs—fertilizer and improved seeds, better extension services, soil management practices, financing, and linkages to output markets.

He also thanked the consortium business model, retail and hub agro-dealers operating their business profitably and sustainably as a result of enhanced business and stock management skills, digitalization of management and supply of inputs, and established and strengthened business linkages amongst inputs companies, agro-dealers (retail and hub), financial institutions and farmer organizations. With the firms running profitably, agro dealerships have become competitive and vibrant, giving farmers more choices.

“We were able to introduce an agro-dealer-led input delivery model whose components for input delivery included training, grant-giving, supporting hub-agro-dealers and facilitating their access to credit from commercial banks,” he said.

He noted that the agro-dealer hubs model—the development of agro-dealer hubs was to strengthen links with seed suppliers, who would advance small amounts of inputs on a consignment basis to start-up agro-dealer retailers, which in turn, translated the benefits to smallholder farmers. Some hubs aggregated crops and established forward linkages

with commodity buyers for output crop marketing.

RUCODIA integrated the Village Based Advisors (VBA) model into upstream and downstream input and output markets. The spirit of agric entrepreneurs of VBA increased the multiplier effect on last-mile delivery of input, increasing the adoption of technologies. At the same time, we established agro-dealers associations and a platform model that gives agro-dealers a voice for negotiating with governments and also helps agro-dealers to police themselves and prevent unscrupulous traders from damaging genuine businesses.

“We had an Agri trade fair and exhibition, which increased competitiveness and provided farmers preference and choice for different technologies. Events such as demonstration plots, field days, input fairs, exhibitions, and market linkages facilitation were instrumental in bridging business to grassroots in terms of technology availability and distribution channels,” the MP said.

Micro-grants were provided to start-up agro-dealers for renovating agro-dealers shops - including improving interior ventilation, business branding, and providing shelves to stimulate faster business growth among women and youths. Around 450 transformed VBA from geographical consortia benefited from the matching grant. At the same time, the program facilitated agro-dealers to access credit from commercial banks by organizing business-to-business (B2B) meetings.

Tanzania has a vast potential to improve food security and uplift most farmers out of poverty. AGRA, in flagship projects, should consider the need to promote recognition and funding of new growth corridors beyond the traditionally widely known Southern Zone Growth Corridor (Ruvuma, Njombe, Iringa, Mbeya, Songwe, Rukwa, Katavi regions)

There is a massive potential for Western Zone Growth Corridor (Kigoma and Kagera regions); Central Growth Corridor (Manyara, Singida, Dodoma); Coastal Zone Growth Corridor (Pwani, Lindi, Mtwara regions), and the Lake Zone Growth Corridor (Tabora, Shinyanga, Geita, Simiyu and Mwanza regions).

AGRA strategy should build on agricultural marketing systems, policy, and agro-infrastructure. These are potent triggers for increased investment in the agriculture sector. Input supply/distribution and agricultural financing need to be enhanced despite past achievements.

“We need a single-digit interest rate from different financial institutions to realize the full potential of the agriculture sector. We have a considerable business financing gap—financing of start-up agro-dealers businesses, expansion of Hub agro-dealers businesses and distribution channels, and building of outputs marketing systems and infrastructure.”

The output market and Agri infrastructure need increased investment and expansion. After all, a reliable and profitable market is the incentive for higher productivity and production.

AGRA should continue offering business development services. Insufficient business skills and ethics in input business. There is a frequency of new entrance of input businesses in rural areas; however, most lack the business skill and stock management to serve farmers in the best ways.

Strengthening established consortiums is vital. Weak integration of business relations, the fragile partnership between agricultural outputs off-takers, processors, aggregators, retail agro-dealers, hub-agro dealers, inputs companies, financial institutions, and farmer organizations, is a component that needs to be addressed.

Another recommendation is for AGRA to support the digitization of the agriculture sector for efficiency and better delivery of service to smallholder farmers. At the same time, AGRA should continue supporting policy change discourse for an improved business environment.

WASHINGTON DC

New medicines may help end Aids, but high prices and monopolies could keep the poor locked out

Here's the good news: there are a new set of breakthrough medicines to prevent and treat HIV, known as "long acting" because they can be taken every few months instead of every day, and they are coming on-stream. If, as they are rolled out, they are made available at scale, they could help save many lives and help end the AIDS pandemic.

But here's the bad news: on the current trajectory, most people who need them will not be able to get them any time soon, because high prices and monopolies will keep people in low- and middle-income countries locked out. That's where we are heading - again.

UNAIDS has been convening some of the world's leading scientists and researchers. They have emphasised to us that long-acting drugs for prevention are available now - an injection every few months that very effectively protects against HIV transmission. It has been approved in the U.S. and the World Health Organization (WHO) is reviewing it now.

there are in addition exciting medicines in development for long-acting treatment - which could make it far easier for people to stay on life-long HIV treatment, even when their lives make getting pills every day difficult.

New HIV prevention tools like long-acting pre-exposure prophylactic (PrEP) are particularly needed to fight the ongoing pandemic. In 2020, a year for which the world had set a collective goal of reducing new infections below 500,000, there were, in fact, 1.5 million; and in too many communities new HIV infections are rising.

Long-acting injectable PrEP could help fill critical HIV prevention needs for those facing the world's highest HIV risks - particularly those whose lives, logistics, and legal contexts make accessing and taking oral prep challenging. This includes people fac-



A man is tested for HIV at a health centre in Odienné, Côte d'Ivoire. Credit: UNICEF/Frank Dejongh

ing discrimination, including gay men, transgender people, sex workers, and people who use drugs in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe. Young African women, facing far higher risks than young men of their age, also need new HIV

prevention options. Studies have shown many people want a long-acting option, and indeed an estimated 74 million people around the world use long-acting injections to prevent pregnancy. Carefully done studies presented at the Conference on Retroviruses

and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) showed long-acting PrEP can prevent more new infections than taking a pill every day. If and when WHO endorses its use, the world should move fast to make it available at scale. The best way to ensure this breakthrough

science translates into a global game-changer it is to make it available free to all who choose it.

UN member states agreed a new Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS last year that sets an ambitious goal of getting access to PrEP for 11 million people by 2025. For this to be possible, the governments and institutions who will need to make large scale purchases will need to be able to do so at a price that they can afford.

Right now, in the U.S. long-acting PrEP costs tens of thousands of dollars. But members of UNAIDS's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) assess that long-acting prep can be manufactured affordably - tens of dollars instead of tens of thousands. It would be possible for prices to come down whilst ensuring continued profitability for producers.

For treatment, the science is also moving rapidly and promising technologies on the way could be transformative. As of last year, 28.2 million people were on HIV treatment - that's over 10 billion times every year people living with HIV take a pill.

But 10 million more people still need access to HIV treatment. If people could choose a pill that lasted a week or an injection that lasted months it would make it easier for many to start and sustain treatment - saving lives and stopping HIV transmission.

One key structural barrier that jeopardizes widespread access is the fact that production of these medicines is so far monopolized by a tiny number of companies based in a tiny number of countries, keeping prices high and limiting (and concentrating) supply. We know from experience (on the first ARVs, on the second generation of ARVs, and with COVID-19 vaccines and medicines) that this barrier can only be overcome through intervention.

When treatment for HIV first became available in the late 1990s, ARV monopolies meant the price was over \$10,000 per person per year, a price far out of reach for the millions of people living with HIV.

As a consequence, 12 million Africans died. Mass use of antiretrovirals to stop AIDS came only when low-

and middle-income countries defied pressure and triggered generic competition, and when global civil society pressured Western governments and companies to stop working to block them. That experience led the world to say never again to allowing people in developing countries to be locked out access to life-saving medical technology. But the same exclusionary and deadly approach has denied Africa access to sufficient vaccines in the COVID-19 crisis.

And on the current trajectory we are on course to repeat the story with new HIV medicines. It could be years before new drugs becoming available in New York or London ever reach those who need them most in Manila, Freetown, Maputo, Sao Paulo and Port-au-Prince.

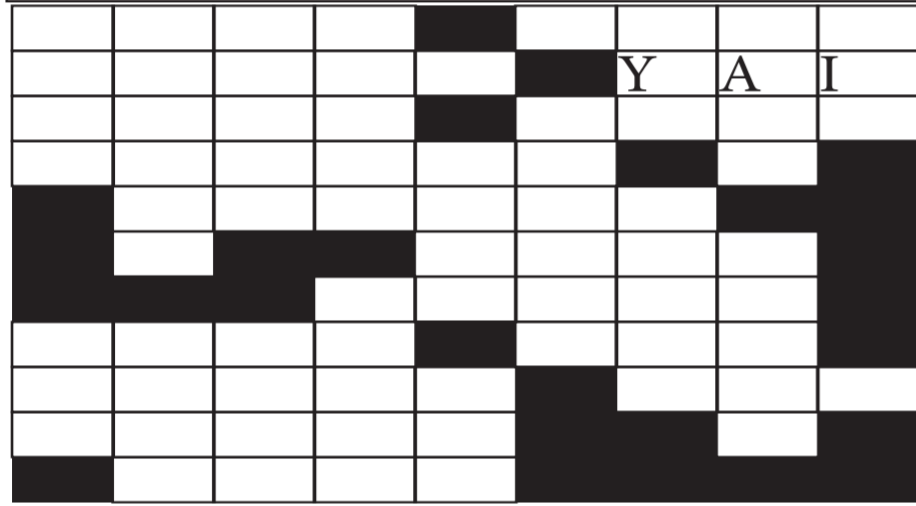
An alternative approach is available, that ensures the translation of science into impact. Manufacturers of HIV drugs can set prices at affordable levels for low- and middle-income countries. To secure this for the long term, generic production in low- and middle-income countries is essential.

To do that we have to overcome monopolies. Pooling patents and pro-actively transferring technology can make it possible for a wider set of manufacturers in Africa, Asia, and Latin America to make long-acting ARVs at low costs. This must be standard practice - and the sharing of information can start even before regulatory approval for use.

Of course, price and local production are not the only barriers to ensuring effective use. Some public health systems may require global solidarity and support to purchase commodities, with logistics and storage, training for effective provision, and engaging communities to ensure demand and treatment literacy for retention. The joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and our partners, are providing support on all of these.

Building from emergency action on COVID-19, we need to end inequalities in access right across health technologies, by spurring the best science and getting it to everyone, investing in all health innovations as global public goods.

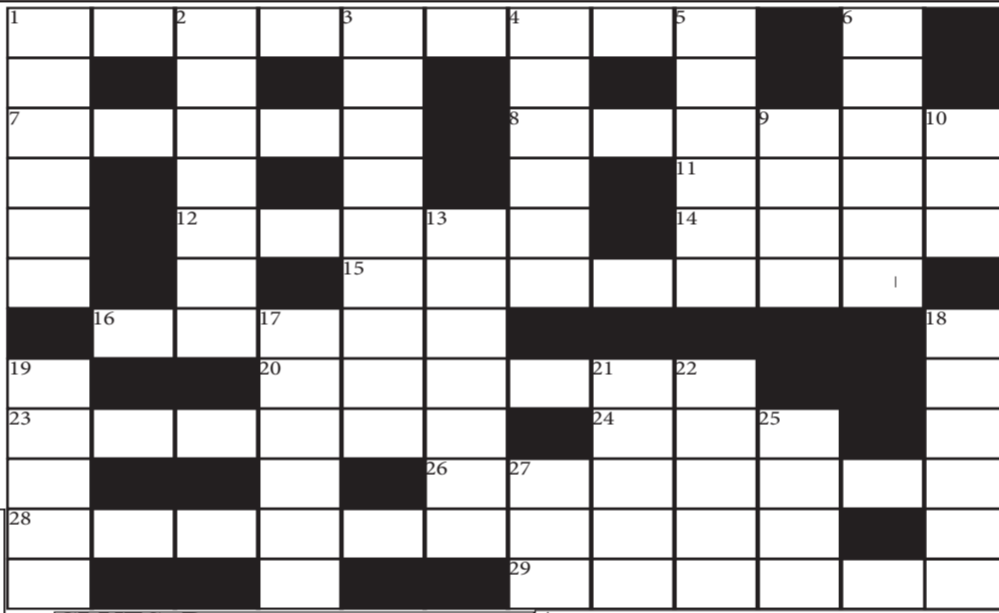
THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 286 00--



3 letters YAI, TED, XIN, ESA, MAR, OYO, EID,
4 letters MAID, SOME, LOUD, MOON, EYRA, MEET, MAUL EDEN, SOIL, DISH, OBOE, OILY,

5 letters ENNUJ, UHURU, ABIDE, ROLES, INERT, DUNES NIREX, LUDIC, UNDER

6 letters TEREDO, AT SIGN, ANDEAN, LOG OUT,



CLUES: Down
1. Protective head covering
2. famous for Dracula
3. steam railway locomotive
4. accept as true
5. make very angry
6. a time of intense danger
9. an expression of grief
10. fashionable style
13. not oiled
17. a metrical unit with unstressed-stressed syllables
18. Biblical town meaning sacred place 19. to cramp
21. ballroom dance in duple time
22. an American Indian
25. buttocks
27. National Health Service

Across:
1. home of one who lives alone
7. place near heaven
8. an inlet
11. in addition
12. "comforter" in Hebrew
14. benefit
15. the state of being unified
16. Egypt's Capital
20. cheese made in Italy
23. the outer covering of teeth
24. Nigerian-French singer
26. make bigger
28. woodchucks
29. a long talk

WORD-FIT SOLUTIONS

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

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 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EAST AFRICAN REAL ESTATE EXECUTIVES HOPEFUL OF RECOVERY AMID COVID-19

NAIROBI

EAST African real estate executives on Wednesday said that they remain hopeful that the sector will recover from the COVID-19 shocks.

Speaking at a forum in Nairobi, Kenya's capital, Tilda Mwai, research lead of pan-African real estate research firm, Estate Intel, said that the regional economic recovery has prompted a lot of interest in the sector from both local and foreign investors.

"East Africa's real estate sector continues to develop and become more resilient and is able to withstand cyclical shocks," Mwai said during the ninth annual East Africa property investment summit.

Over 300 real estate stakeholders from Africa and other parts of the world are gathering in Nairobi from 18th and 19th of May 2022 for the East Africa Property Investment (EAPI) Summit, held at the Kempinski Hotel to exchange views on how to expand the sector.

Mwai observed that the region's diversifying and evolving real estate sector provides some of the most compelling opportunities

across a number of sub-sectors.

She noted that growth of the sector is being driven by demand for quality and the need for flexibility by commercial and industrial sectors.

According to Mwai, despite a glut in Nairobi's office market, Grade A offices have continued to outperform other classes with some office parks recording occupancy rates of up to 90 percent.

She added that in Uganda and Tanzania, the commercialization of the oil and gas sectors has driven up demand for commercial and residential properties.

Somaya Joshua, head of commercial property finance, Africa Region at Absa Group, said that sustained investments in infrastructure development as well as new statutory reforms supporting the real estate sector are expected to underpin the growth of real estate.

Joshua noted that a lot of funding will be extended in the East African region across the various sectors in the real estate industry in order to meet growing demand for property development.

Gerhard Zeelie, divisional



A real estate project in Dar es Salaam city. Real estate executives say a lot of funding will be extended in the East African region across the various sectors in the real estate industry in order to meet growing demand for property development. PHOTO/FILE

executive for property finance Africa, at Nedbank corporate and investment Banking said that real estate developments that adhere to environmental and sustainable principles are likely to drive future growth of the sector.

Niyi Adeleye, head of real estate finance, Africa Regions, Standard Bank

said that the preferred real estate segments are those that are relevant to domestic and international capital sources in the mid to long-term horizon.

Adeleye said that property development that achieves environmental and social impacts as well as a positive impact on the quality of life will remain resilient in the post

COVID-19 world.

Tanzania's real estate sector contributed 3.1 percent to the country's real GDP with \$1.5 billion in 2019, compared to \$1.2 billion in 2015, an increase of 25 percent.

The ninth edition of the EAPI Summit is sponsored by Pan-African lender, Absa Group and bring together real estate developer-investors, realtors and lenders.

Absa Bank Kenya Managing Director Jeremy Awori said the EAPI Summit presents an opportunity for the bank to create strategic conversations for Africa's most resilient and diversified real estate markets.

"As a bank, we are proud to partner with API Events in hosting the East Africa Property Investment Summit that avails opportunities to explore the activity within the commercial property sector across East Africa. We believe this will continue to position Kenya as a launching hub for innovative financial solutions in the broader East Africa market that support the implementation of affordable housing projects," Awori said.

Gateway Real Estate Africa to develop large contact centre in Kenyan city

NAIROBI

CCI Global, the largest international contact centre operator in Africa, will move to a purpose-built, state-of-the-art office at Tatu City in Kenya.

The five-storey Grade A office building will be developed by Gateway Real Estate Africa (GREA).

Construction is scheduled for completion in late 2023.

"The building is custom-designed for CCI, with large floor plates for flexible call centre operations, rapid lifts for seamless shift changes, ample natural light and employee welfare at its core," said Greg Pearson, co-founder, and CEO of GREA. "We are pleased to develop this spectacular building for a world-class client like CCI in Africa".

As part of the development, Tatu City, which is owned and developed by Rendeavour, Africa's largest new city builder, will construct a transport hub to accommodate CCI's thousands of employees.

"The Tatu City ecosystem - with homes, businesses, schools, parks and other amenities - is the ideal location for CCI's operations and employees," said Stephen Jennings, Founder and CEO of Rendeavour. "A first mover in all aspects, CCI embodies the global shift of businesses from congested urban areas to decentralised environments like Tatu City that provide live-work-play solutions for employees and investors alike".

CCI has grown rapidly in Kenya since entering the market in 2016, specialising in the operation of outbound, inbound, and web chat multi-channel contact centres, service leading international brands primarily in the mobile, technology, telecom, and financial sectors.

The company's expansion is a result of its workforce which has swelled to over 2 000 agents over the past year. The facility at Tatu City will double the firm's capacity to more than 4 000 seats in one location.

"CCI's business in Kenya, which serves well-known American, British, Australian and other international brands, continues to accelerate, thanks to our dynamic workforce, quality assurance and operational excellence," said Mark Chana, CCI's Chief Operating Officer. "We are excited to build CCI's home at Tatu City, in a business-friendly environment that focuses on the welfare of our employees".

CCI's contact centre will provide business process outsourcing, or BPO, that supports the whole customer lifecycle in both traditional voice interactions as well as digital.

Gateway Real Estate Africa (GREA) has raised more than \$200m in equity and debt to fund its expansion in Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana and Mauritius, CEO Greg Pearson told The Africa Report.

New vehicle sales in Africa increase by 32 pct in 2021

PRETORIA

THE African Association of Motor Manufacturers (AAAM) has just released the new vehicle sales volumes as compiled for AAAM by the Africa Automotive Data Network for Africa (AADN). Sales have clearly started to recover from a disastrous pandemic hit in 2020, where only 856,133 new units were sold in Africa, in comparison to sales of 1,131,249 in 2021.

While this recovery is very welcome the 2021 figure is still some twenty thousand units below that of the 2019 figure of 1 150 842.

Commenting on the 2021 new vehicle sales results for Africa, David Coffey the CEO of AAAM said "The improved new vehicle sales volumes are encouraging and show that the markets are recovering, as life on the continent and many other places in the world are slowly normalising after the COVID pandemic."

These numbers represent total industry sales volumes as reported by manufacturer by market. For Sub Sahara African only, the volumes exclude Heavy Commercial Vehicles as these are not reported but estimated by



In the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa, sales increased by 15 percent but were down by some 10 percent over the 2019 volumes. PHOTO/AGENCIES

AADN to be less than 5000 units per year.

Of the 1,131,249 new vehicles sold in 2021, some 548 504 were sold in North Africa, and 499,087 were sold within the Southern African Customs Union, with the balance of 83,658 new vehicles being sold in the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa.

While new vehicle sales in

all North African countries improved in 2021 over 2019 Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia managed to increase their new vehicle market in 2021 over 2020 despite the pandemic with only Algeria and other smaller North African countries showing a decline in new vehicle sales volumes.

New vehicle sales volumes

in South Africa improved by 32 percent in 2021 but were still down by 7 percent over 2019. In the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa, sales increased by 15% but were down by some 10% over the 2019 volumes.

"We believe that this positive trend of vehicle sales will continue into 2022 with the reported quarter 1 sales

for 2022 some 9 percent up over 2021 and growth will start to accelerate as more countries in Africa embrace the industrialisation and growth opportunity presented by the continental automotive strategy which could see new vehicle sales reaching 5 million units per year by 2035," he concluded.

Housing market remains resilient in the face of potential rate hike

New York

JOHANNESBURG

ALTHOUGH economists predict another interest rate hike this week, BetterBond CEO, Carl Coetzee assures homeowners that the property market is still stronger than it was in 2008.

With economists predicting that the repo rate could increase by as much as 50 basis points on Thursday, taking the prime lending rate to 8.25 percent, it's understandable that homeowners are concerned about the impact this will have on their bond repayments," says Coetzee.

"Of course, the increase will mean a change in monthly repayments, and we encourage homeowners to factor this into their budget calculations. But we are still in a far better position than we were in 2008 when the property market collapsed and



Low cost housing project in South Africa PHOTO/AGENCIES

inflation was at 11.5 percent."

By way of explanation, the monthly repayments on a R2m bond in 2008, at the height of the property market's implosion when the prime lending rate was at 15.5 percent, was just over R27,000.

If the repo rate increases this week, the monthly repayment on a home of the same value at a prime lending rate of 8.25% will be R10,000 less than it was 14 years ago.

Furthermore, the recent increase in interest rates has not dampened the banks' appetite to lend, says Coetzee. "BetterBond has seen an almost 10% increase in the ratio of formally granted bonds for

April, year-on-year, which is significant coming off the high base set last year," says Coetzee. With some banks offering loans of up to 105% for qualifying applicants, there are options for aspirant homeowners.

Buyer activity remains strong, especially in the middle-priced segments, says Coetzee. Re/Max reports that in real terms (inflation adjusted rand values), sales values for 2021 grew by 60.9 percent compared with 2008.

"I do expect that buyer activity will take a knock if there is a hike, but the demand for homes priced at fair market value should not be negatively affected following

this week's announcement. This is where pricing a home correctly becomes so much more important," says regional director and CEO of Re/Max of Southern Africa, Adrian Goslett.

"We are still in single digit territory with the prime lending rate below the 10 percent it was before the pandemic, and there are opportunities for buyers across all price bands to invest in property," says Coetzee. "Working with a bond originator will also help secure a lower interest rate which will have a favourable impact on bond repayments as the interest rate cycle moves upwards."

PAN-AFRICAN LENDER ROOTS FOR INTERMEDIARY CITIES TO HELP REGULATE RURAL-URBAN INFLUX

NAIROBI

AFRICAN countries should upgrade critical amenities like housing, education, clean water and health in the continent's intermediary cities and enable them act as buffers against uncontrolled rural-urban migration, senior officials from a pan-African lender said on Wednesday.

Babati Mokgethi, senior urban development officer at the African Development Bank (AfDB) said the solution to population explosion, crime, poverty and pollution in the continent's large metropolises lied in revamping intermediary cities.

"It is crucial to redirect a huge chunk of rural population in Africa to intermediary cities in order to reduce pressure on the big cities," Mokgethi said on the sidelines of the Africities summit underway in Kenya's western city of Kisumu.

Mokgethi said that investing in medium-sized cities will boost economic vitality in Africa's rural hinterland while acting as a holding ground for skilled workforce that migrate to metropolises in search for elusive jobs.

He said that intermediary cities that



are currently home to about 15 percent of Africa's populations required modern transport infrastructure, reliable water supply and affordable housing for them to thrive.

Nnenna Nwabuo, managing director for East Africa at AfDB, said that by absorbing the bulk of Africa's rural population, intermediary cities could shield the continent from unsustainable

urbanization.

Nwabuo said African governments should come up with innovative financing, legislative and policy tools to enhance sustainable growth of intermediary

cities and leverage them to help tackle poverty, unemployment and ecological degradation.

According to Nwabuo, the intermediary cities were key to the vitality of Africa's agro-processing sector, indigenous manufacturing, cross-border trade and skills transfer.

She called for investments in essential services like clean energy, safe drinking water, health, sanitation and fiber optic cable in order to attract investments in the intermediary cities.

Kenya is hosting the ninth edition of Africities summit under the theme of "The Role of Intermediary Cities of Africa in the Implementation of Agenda 2030 of the United Nations and the African Union Agenda 2063."

More than 4,000 delegates, including former heads of state and government, ministers, mayors, investors and campaigners, are expected to come up with new strategies for hastening urban renewal in the continent.

UK new home registrations reach 45,991 in Q1: NHBC

LONDON

NEW home registrations in the UK have increased by 25 percent in the first quarter of 2022 compared to the same period last year, according to new data released by the National House-Building Council (NHBC).

The data found that 45,991 new homes were registered to be built in Q1, compared to 36,665 in Q1 last year. NHBC said the increase demonstrates the house-building sector's commitment to respond to demand.

Meanwhile, private sector registrations were a key driver of growth with an increase of 31 percent to 35,134 from Q1 2021 as builders continue to respond to high consumer demand for new homes.

The rental sector also increased by 10 percent from 9,892 in Q1 2021 to 10,857 in Q1 2022, driven in part by the growth in Build to Rent.

London bounced back to growth with a 51 percent rise in new home registrations in the quarter.

Wales also experienced growth with an increase of 84 percent while East Midlands saw a rise of 65 percent and West Midlands of 52 percent.

There were small dips in registrations such as Northern Ireland with a decrease of 8 percent; Scotland saw a 6 percent drop and the East with a 16 percent decline.

New home registrations were up for every house type with detached homes reaching a 20-year high of 16,090 registrations in Q1 2022, as housebuilders continue to respond to buyers looking for extra space as many continue to work from home.

New home completions saw a slight decrease of 4 percent from 33,222 in Q1 2021 to 31,874 in Q1 2022, which NHBC said was caused by material shortages and supply chain challenges.

NHBC chief executive Steve Wood says: "We have seen a strong start to the year with a 25 percent uplift in new home registrations in the quarter, reflecting a reasonably buoyant new build market and strong forward sales."

"Material and labour supply shortages continue to be a challenge, but this is now being managed by housebuilders as 'the new normal'."

"Inflationary pressures and the strain on household budgets may yet impact market activity, with this likely to be dampened by continued strong demand in both private sale and rental sectors," Wood adds.



London bounced back to growth with a 51 percent rise in new home registrations in the quarter PHOTO/AGENCIES

Opportunities emerging in the South African commercial property sector post lockdown

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH Africa's commercial property market remains a more reliable form of investment with capital growth over time, according to Orion Real Estate CEO Franz Gmeiner.

All industries and businesses have been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic in some way, including how their commercial properties are being utilized.

The rise of remote working, the boom in online shopping, and the heightening of environmental awareness - have all influenced the commercial property market providing many challenges and opportunities. As we embark on the new post-pandemic era, which is accelerating developments towards the fourth industrial revolution, commercial properties will remain good assets to invest in.

As per the latest Global Commercial Property Monitor (GCPM), sentiment improved in the final quarter of last year among professionals working in the global commercial real estate sector, returning to positive territory for the first time since the onset of the pandemic (-28 in Q1 2020 to +01 in Q4 2021).

Optimistic about the opportunities in South Africa's commercial property market, Orion Real Estate CEO Franz Gmeiner, says given the country's tough economic conditions, compared to high-risk stocks and shares, commercial property remains a more reliable form of investment with capital growth over time, especially with



certain sectors such as industrial and offices.

"The key is to stay focused on the long-term future and being versatile."

As firms adopt a hybrid approach to remote working and adjusted lockdown regulations boost a return to the office, the commercial office space is far from being a relic of a bygone era. Many companies are repurposing their spaces or have added new amenities to accommodate the new workplace norms.

"It has become apparent that the commercial office has a role to play for team meetings and other collaborative endeavors. The market is telling us that while

many folks will still work from home, office space is also helpful for colleagues to interact and enhance teamwork, innovation as well as productivity", says Gmeiner.

However, Gmeiner predicts that offices will now be smaller, with social distancing in place. "Hot desk type services and systems that allow workers to book a desk for a day will also play an increasingly vital role in commercial properties of the future."

Another trend that will impact the commercial and industrial property sector in 2022, which had already gained momentum in recent years, is the repurposing

of commercial property into warehousing space and last-mile distribution centres to meet the burgeoning online shopping market.

A functionally obsolete building can easily be repurposed into a productive, profitable space," said Gmeiner. However, he cautioned that there was a desperate need for the government to intervene in some areas which are facing a climate of disintegrating infrastructure that was not conducive to business.

South Africa's commercial and industrial property sector is on the path to rapidly increase its green building credentials.

Local property firms have

noted an uptick in demand for commercial and industrial properties that are more environmentally sustainable.

In April 2021 MSCI South Africa Green Annual Property Index results reinforced the association between quality and green-certified buildings, as reflected by a higher capital value per square metre, more resilient capital growth, and a higher net operating income per square meter compared to the non-certified office buildings.

"There is definitely a business case for leasing and buying properties with environmentally sensitive features. A fair amount of research has repeatedly shown that firms that are proactive regarding environmental sustainability tend to achieve higher financial returns. There is also for example, the day-to-day financial saving on the cost of energy, due to the use of more cost-effective renewable energy," he commented.

A concern for Gmeiner, is our country's infrastructure "Currently we are seeing in KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng, North West and the Free State in particular that poor performing municipalities and provincial governments are not keeping up with road maintenance and water service delivery requirements. This has a negative impact on businesses in the region, which then seek greener pastures in other provinces and shut-up shop, resulting in job losses.

Nigeria to inaugurate diaspora housing mortgage scheme



Nigeria Diaspora Commission chairperson Abike Dabiri-Erewa

LAGOS

NIGERIANS in Diaspora Commission (NiDCOM) says a comprehensive Diaspora Housing Mortgage Scheme will soon be inaugurated.

Chairperson of the Commission, Abike Dabiri-Erewa, stated this when she paid a working visit to the Management of the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMBN) in Abuja.

This is sequel to an agreement reached by both agencies on the final stages of the Diaspora Housing Mortgage Policy.

Dabiri-Erewa, maintained that

Nigeria, being the highest diaspora-remitting country in sub-Saharan Africa with over \$19 billion in 2021, assisting the Diasporas to own houses of their own, is the least of incentives they can get.

In addition, the NiDCOM Boss disclosed that the move will further encourage Nigerian Diasporas to do more for the country, thereby, creating a win-win situation.

Dr Dabiri-Erewa added that the Scheme was aimed at enabling Nigerians in Diaspora to have mortgage accounts, participate in the National Housing Fund scheme, access loans up to N50 million, and

own homes through certified developers all from the comforts of their locations.

Giving further insights, the NiDCOM Chairman/CEO, explained that the package is available to any Nigerian above 18 years of age living in the Diaspora, with evidence of regular flow of income, with contributions made over a minimum period of one year before being eligible to access the mortgage loan.

"Also, after contributing for the applicable minimum period, applicants will apply for the mortgage loan through an accredited Primary Mortgage Bank."

"Following this, applicants will register with the NHF and contribute \$150 (for beneficiaries earning \$3,000 and below monthly), or \$200 (for beneficiaries earning \$3,001 and above, monthly), respectively for a minimum period of a year. Other features of the package include: 30% down payment, a single-digit interest rate of nine percent and a payback period of up to 10 years", the NiDCOM Chairman explained.

Dabiri-Erewa, who seized the opportunity to congratulate the new FMBN MD/Chief Executive, Madu Hamman, urged him to sustain the

impressive achievements of his predecessors.

Madu Hamman agreed that work has been completed to make the Scheme a reality.

However, he said that the launching of the Scheme would have occurred earlier in the year, attributing the change of leadership at the FMBN, to the delay.

He gave assurances that the inauguration of the FMBN Diaspora Housing Mortgage Scheme will be actualised in earnest to provide a transparent, seamless platform for Nigerians in Diaspora to invest and own homes in Nigeria.

CONSTRUCTION

HALOTEL TANZANIA TO REWARD CONSUMERS THROUGH CAMPAIGN

By Beatrice Philemon

HALOTEL Tanzania has launched a new promotion campaign to its customers to reward them with cash and amazing prizes as part of Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR).

Halotel's business centre director, Abdallah Salum, said yesterday while launching the campaign that as part of the campaign 10 winners will receive 100,000/- cash prize each day, while on weekly basis, three winners will be awarded smart phones.

The campaign will engaged customers in a lucky draw that will run for eight weeks and winners will win prizes ranging from cash and Smart-phones.

According to him, the first winner will get iPhone 13 Pro Max, the 2nd winner will get Samsung Galaxy S22 and the third winner will get Samsung Galaxy A72.

The campaign will engaged customers in a lucky draw that will run for eight weeks.

"All Halotel customers are invited to participate in this campaign, to qualify for the draw, a customer who uses 3G has to swap to 4G or activate 4G SIM Cards in all areas where there are 4G networks across the country," he said.

Customers must have 4G SIM Card, 4G device and register to 4G networks. The company has 137 centres that customers can access services free of charge.

"With 3G services to participate in this promotion, Halotel's subscribers who are still using 3G simcards can now swap their chips into 4G for free and use affordable data bundles to the best experience when using the internet," he said.

Also customers must have used at least 100 MB within three days from the day he/she swapped or activated 4G simcard.

He said, Halotel has continued ensuring that its customers get quality and speed internet at affordable costs in enhancing communication in the country.

The company launches this promotion considering that it has 4G Base Transmission Stations (BTS) sites which are now more than 1037 in total, and will continue to add more 4G network sites.

The 4G network has increased the strength and coverage all over the country.

During the launching of the campaign, the company conducts a draw for 10 lucky winners and Feto Joseph from Kigamboni won 100,000/- in



Halotel business centre director, Abdallah Salum (R) speaks at the launch of 'Toboa na Halotel 4G' campaign in Dar es Salaam. Left is head of marketing and communication Sakina Makabu PHOTO/ BEATRICE PHILEMON

cash prize.

Other reason behind the promotion is to provide customers with best 4G experience while awarding them hence reaching more 4G to the population as the current data from the Tanzania Communication Authority (TCRA) shows that the country has now 45 percent of 4G coverage.

"This is partly propelled by the in-

crease of digital access in Tanzania and the rising market demand thus more of the company investment will be directed towards infrastructure in efforts to increase and upgrade Base Transceiver Station (BTS)," he said.

"From where we have 2G we plan to upgrade to 3G for areas with 3G we will upgrade with 4G," he added.

Halotel's Head of Marketing and

Communication, Sakina Makabu said the company has built more new 4G BTS and doubled the number.

According to the Speedtest Global Index Market Analyses, Halotel considered the fastest mobile operator among top providers in Tanzania in first quarter of 2022 with a median download speed of 17.84 Megabytes per seconds (Mbps).

There are signs that the red-hot housing market may be cooling down

WASHINGTON

Housing starts were down a bit from March but were up year over year, though these housing numbers are notoriously volatile and subject to revision.

But for those who are currently looking to buy — either now or in the near future — there are some signs that the housing market may be starting to cool. At least a little.

So, there's good news and bad news if you've been wanting to buy a house: The bad news, of course, is that mortgage rates are up, meaning "mortgage payments are going to be higher. They're up more than 40% now from what they were last year for the median-priced home," said Daryl Fairweather, chief economist at Redfin.

But the sort of good news about rates being up? Demand is starting to fall, Fairweather said. "We are seeing more homes having price drops. We've also noticed a drop in competition for two months now."

Now, to be clear, the market is still nuts. Redfin says there are still bidding wars for more than half of homes, and prices are still at record highs and rising. But they're not rising quite as fast as they have been.

"People should not anticipate another double-digit price appreciation. Those days are over," said Lawrence Yun, chief economist at the National Association of Realtors. "So we may return to more normal price appreciation of 4%, 5% a year."

The experience of buying a home is also starting to return to normal, Yun said.

"Rather than facing 15 or 20 other buyers for the same property, now maybe people can take more leisure pace. View five homes. After contemplating over the weekend, make an offer," he said.

"We're really approaching this inflection point where we're going to start to see the market shifting a little bit," said Nicole Bachaud at Zillow.

Another sign of that is that inventory is starting to pick up, she said.

"That will likely continue throughout much of the next year or two, as we have construction starts and permits up, as we have more existing homeowners listing their homes for sale on the market," said Bachaud.

But, she added, it's still going to be a while before inventory and prices really level out.



We're really approaching this inflection point where we're going to start to see the market shifting a little bit,

Scores to benefit from SBL's online responsible drinking education

By Guardian Reporter

SERENGETI Breweries Limited (SBL), a subsidiary of British Diageo is changing the way people view and consume alcohol. It pioneered the DRINKiQ e-learning tool, a timely reaction to the growing challenge of excessive alcohol consumption.

DrinkiQ is a global consumer campaign that began in London, Diageo's headquarters, and has now expanded to numerous Diageo territories, including Tanzania, stressing characteristics such as age and gender that influence how the body processes alcohol.

The DRINKiQ e-learning tool was created to give consumers with the information they need to make healthy decisions about drinking responsibly and to dispel alcohol myths.

The new, mobile-friendly, online tool is the first of its kind in the alcohol industry, using interactive learning and tests to give people information about the content of their drinks; how alcohol is made and the different ways it can impact their bodies; how to keep track of their alcohol intake; how to pour a standard measure of spirits, wine, or beer; and displays the "truth"



SBL corporate relations director John Wanyancha

about "common myths" concerning alcohol-among other things.

"DRINKiQ e-learning is the next step in SBL's commitment to assisting its consumers in making educated drinking decisions." We have been giving face-to-face DRINKiQ training to groups around the country for the previous few years, but our strategy will now change ow-

ing to the current scenario," explains SBL's Corporate Relations Director John Wanyancha.

Wanyancha continues, "We are quite happy of how well our DRINKiQ training has been received over the previous few years since our audiences have clearly demonstrated a genuine hunger for this type of information, which is why we decided to

make DRINKiQ more broadly available by putting it online."

This powerful, new online tool is meant to increase communal awareness about alcohol, allowing anybody, wherever in Tanzania and even beyond, to quickly become informed on what constitutes healthy, responsible drinking, and provides the tips they

need to make the correct decisions when drinking.

Wanyancha further elaborates that for those who choose to drink alcohol, the new DRINKiQ resource will help them to understand the units and calories in all types of alcoholic drinks and will show how each drink compares with others.

"It is important for anyone who wants to better under-

stand what they are drinking - and who seeks advice on drinking moderately and responsibly - to make smarter choices about what to drink and when," he added.

The corporate relations director notes that whilst a vast majority of consumers choose to drink responsibly, many others do not, adding that as a responsible citizen, SBL will continue to use its marketing and communication expertise to help raise awareness about responsible drinking to make a significant and sustainable impact in society.

Various studies have indicated that drinking moderately can be beneficial to your health. On the other hand, drinking excessively has a number of negative effects on your health and wellbeing. Understanding some important facts about alcohol is important for consumers to make the right decisions regarding alcohol consumption.

The US Institute for Health and Productivity Management (IHPM) also recommends DRINKiQ e-learning as a fun and easy-to-use way to learn about the effects of drinking, which can help people use alcohol in a safe way.

Adanian Labs Tanzania hosts impactful speed mentoring

By Guardian Reporter

Pan African Tech Lab- Adanian Labs, a venture building studio revolutionizing the tech community globally from Africa launched a free mentoring program for startups, business leaders and entrepreneurs during the Innovation Week Tanzania, 2022 that took place in Dar-es-Salaam.

The mentoring program titled 'The Oasis Speed Mentoring Program' is a one on one session between entrepreneurs and mentors who are experts across different fields like Legal and compliance, Marketing and branding, Business development, Tech and Finance and accounting, according to the statement issued by the firm yesterday.

The session that took place at the Adanian Labs, Tanzania's offices offered valuable advice that would assist catapult these businesses forward.

As an active supporter of innovators, the company says is keen on offering systematic support to startups and businesses in Tanzania so as to see them transcend.

"The sustenance offered today will help the entrepreneurs leverage on expert advice that will boost their business growth in several different ways. The 15 minutes that our guests get to interact with the mentors on this session is worth 20 years of proficiency," says Adanian Lab's Tanzania country director Daniella Kwayu.

The Adanian Labs speed mentor-

ing program is part of the tactics that the hub is putting in play to realize substantial success of African startups across the African landscape and beyond.

The guidance from the program will no doubt improve on the quality of the entrepreneur's processes, learning and help them realize better ways of working.

"As an entrepreneur in the Tanzanian space, I'm grateful for this opportunity that Adanian Labs has presented to us. In a manner, it's a great break for me as a business to have some of the burning challenges I'm faced with addressed in a free consultation session that would've otherwise costed me a lot more," Said Neemaeli Mkonyi - founder

of NMK interiors - who attended the session.

Adanian Lab's mission is to build 300 impact-driven tech startups that are commercially viable and scalable across the continent and beyond, with a vision to create an exponential impact on the African economy through youth empowerment.

"As a startup who is keen to upscale their business, the speed mentorship program is a good initiative to take advantage of since it's you can effectively put into use the guidance and expertise that Adanian Labs has availed through its seasoned mentors present for the sessions," added Chief Executive Office of TSA, Zahoro Muhaji, the guest of honour.



Startups, business leaders and industry mentors at the Adanian Labs offices ahead of the Oasis speed mentoring session event. PHOTO/ COURTESY

WORLD

Report: Global smoking rates fall for first time, but rise for kids, Africa

LONDON

SMOKING rates have declined globally for the first time on record, according to a new report on tobacco use from a public health campaign group and US academics.

However, the figures from the Tobacco Atlas report - described as a potential tipping point by the authors - also mask growing numbers of smokers in parts of the world, as well as increased tobacco use among young teenagers in almost half of the countries surveyed.

Globally, there are 1.1 billion smokers and 200 million more people who use other tobacco products, the report from Vital Strategies and the Tobacco Economics team at the University of Illinois at Chicago found.

That represented a decline in smoking rates from 22.6 percent of people in 2007 to 19.6 percent in 2019, they said, the first since the report began in 2002.

However, population growth in Africa, the eastern Mediterranean and the Western Pacific regions meant there were still increasing numbers of smokers in a number of areas, the report said. Moreover, prevalence is rising among adults in at least 10 countries in Africa, as well as among young people.

"The industry is still preying on emerging economies in ways that will lock in harms for a generation or more," said Jeffrey Drope, public health professor at the University of Illinois and a report author.

Children were also being targeted in a number of countries, resulting in a rise in smoking among teenagers aged 13-15 in 63 of 135 countries sur-



woman smokes a cigarette in Ajaccio on Dec 16, 2021 on the French Mediterranean island of Corsica. AFP

veyed, he said. Around 50 million in this age group, both boys and girls, now used tobacco products, he said, and the impact of new products like e-cigarettes and flavoured products was not yet fully understood.

Falling prevalence globally was a sign of the effectiveness of strong tobacco control measures, such as increased taxes, Drope added, but many lower-income countries did not have tough enough restrictions in place.

The data also shows tobacco use

caused almost 8.7 million deaths worldwide in 2019, and approximately \$2 trillion in economic damage. While more than half of the deaths are currently in high-income countries, this is expected to change if cigarette use continues to rise in lower-income areas.

The report also suggests that the tobacco industry is targeting black people in the United States with menthol cigarette promotion. The authors backed the US Food and Drug Administration's plan to ban their sale.

Deputy PM reveals how many buyers of Russian gas opened ruble accounts for payments

MOSCOW

ABOUT half of Gazprom Export's 54 foreign clients have opened ruble bank accounts to pay for Russian gas, Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak revealed yesterday.

"There are 54 companies, including large, mid-sized and small ones, which have contracts with Gazprom Export," Novak said, addressing the New Horizons educational marathon conference.

"I know that about half of them have already opened accounts [in Gazprombank], one in foreign currency and one in rubles," where foreign currency is subsequently converted to rubles for payment.

The finalized list of Russian gas buyers, which have agreed to switch to ruble payments, will be released in the next few days, the deputy prime minister promised, citing complex payment and prepayment schedules. "These are protracted in time arrangements - April supplies, for instance, are paid for in May," Novak explained.

Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a decree on March 31, approving the new gas-for-rubles payment plan for buyers from "unfriendly countries." Now they must transfer foreign currencies to Gazprombank, which will buy rubles on the market and transfer the Russian currency to importers' special ruble accounts.

Indians feel pinch as inflation soars

NEW DELHI

INFLATION continues to climb in India as people feel the pinch, driving an increase in savings amid forecasts of further spikes in food prices and other essential items.

WPI three-decade high

According to the latest data released by the federal government, the Wholesale Price Index rose 15.08 percent in April, a three-decade high, up from 14.55 percent in March.

In April, the Consumer Price Index was 7.79 percent, the highest in eight years, compared with 6.95 percent the previous month and 4.23 percent in April last year.

The cost of living is rising in India, with bank loan interest rates, fuel (petrol, diesel, LPG and CNG) and food prices all surging.

The Indian government is taking measures to ensure food supplies and no hoarding of essential food items to check rising inflation. The federal government has curbed wheat exports as one such major measure.

The value of the Indian Rupee has fallen to its lowest level against the US dollar. On Tuesday, the Indian currency hit a new record-low at 77.69 after it depreciated by 14 paise against the US dollar, mainly due to persistent foreign fund outflows and elevated global crude oil prices. The currency had previously breached the 77-mark against the US dollar in March for the first time ever.

The most common reasons cited for Indian Rupee's falling value are the stronger position of the US dollar, sharp sell-off in equity markets, elevated crude prices and India's rising inflation.

Bank loans get dearer

Bank loans have become increasingly costly in India, especially after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the country's central bank, raised key interest rates by 40 basis points to tame surging prices. The move was seen as acting in tandem with a similar move by the US Federal Reserve.

"Given the inflation in the world, and the fact that all central banks wish to fulfill their primary responsibility of maintaining price stability, it is no surprise that central banks, including the RBI, have chosen to raise interest rates," said Tulsi Jayakumar, professor of economics at the SP Jain Institute of Management & Research. "It was not a question of whether, but a question of when, and obviously the decision has been influenced by the US Fed rate hike. The latter itself has been in response to the 40-year high headline inflation of 8.5 percent," she noted, adding it is unavoidable that the decision to increase interest rates in the short term might cause headwinds.

Yet Sunil Sinha, principal economist and director of India Ratings and Research believes that it is not appropriate to conclude India's rate hike move followed the US Fed's footsteps. In his view, India raised interest rates due to "domestic compulsions."

"One would know that Indian currency is not a world currency, and the world trade happens in USD denominations," he said. "Foreign investments/funds/bonds arriving in India depend on interest rates in India, and they have to be above US interest rates. Only then the investors find it profitable/beneficial, else (if the rates are same) the arbitrage is gone."

According to figures released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, an independent think tank, overall unemployment in India swelled last month.

According to a recent report by the think tank, the country's unemployment rate jumped to 7.83 percent in April from 7.66 percent in March. The urban unemployment rate rose to 9.22 percent in April from 8.28 percent in the previous month, while rural unemployment slipped to 7.18 percent from 7.29 percent in March.

Xinhua

US urged to listen to its firms' sensible, pragmatic voice

BEIJING

THE Chinese side hopes the United States will listen attentively to the sensible and pragmatic voice of US companies, and bring bilateral relations back onto the right track of sound and steady development, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson said here Wednesday.

Spokesperson Wang Wenbin told a daily press briefing when asked to comment on the 2022 American Business in China White Paper released by the American Chamber of Commerce in China (AmCham China). "We remain opposed to any effort at outright decoupling of the US-China relationship," the white paper said. It added that the US tariff exemption program for China should be expanded and the COVID-19 pandemic and pandemic response should not be politicized.

AmCham China chair said that "what has made China attractive to our member companies has been the country's clear

long-term strategic development goals, significant market opportunity, and a highly supportive and predictable business environment."

Noting that China-US economic and trade ties are mutually beneficial and win-win in nature, Wang said in a world of economic globalization, opening-up and integration represents an inevitable historical trend. Attempts to build walls and decouple run counter to economic laws and market rules, and will harm others without benefiting oneself.

Wang said he noticed that the white paper shows US businesses' firm opposition to any effort at outright decoupling of the US-China relationship as the costs of decoupling from losing trade and foreign investment benefits for both countries would be significant and are unlikely to generate clear winners.

"We hope the United States will listen attentively to the sensible and pragmatic voice of US companies, meet China halfway in the spirit of mutual respect,



peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation, and bring bilateral relations back onto the right track of sound and steady development," Wang stressed.

The white paper noted that China is among the largest and fastest growing markets in the world and constitutes an impor-

tant market for US products and services. China's market also has a robust research, development and innovation ecosystem, and many leading American companies generate a substantial portion of their revenue from the Chinese market, the spokesperson said.

The white paper said China is a key source and supplier of a vast number of products and components, often at lower cost and in larger scale than available elsewhere, which benefits US consumers. More than two-thirds of the surveyed report China as one of their company's top three investment priorities, Wang added.

The white paper also raised some suggestions, the spokesperson said, noting that the Chinese side will take a close look at them.

"Looking ahead, the Chinese economy has strong resilience and ample potential, and the fundamentals sustaining its sound growth in the long run remain unchanged. China will continue to deepen reform and expand opening-up, create a market-oriented, law-based and internationalized business environment and provide more opportunities for international businesses including US companies to operate and invest in China," Wang stressed.

Xinhua

Finland, Sweden apply to join NATO

MOSCOW

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said on Wednesday that Finland and Sweden have officially applied for membership in the alliance, overhauling their decadeslong foreign policy.

"I warmly welcome the requests by Finland and Sweden to join NATO," Stoltenberg told reporters after receiving application letters from the two countries' ambassadors. He described the nations as "our closest partners".

The application must now be considered by NATO's 30 member countries, a process that is expected to take about two weeks, although Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has expressed reservations about Finland and Sweden joining.

If his objections are overcome, and accession talks go as well as expected, the two countries could



Ukrainian servicemen who surrendered are taken away on Tuesday after evacuating the besieged Azovstal steel plant in the port city of Mariupol, eastern Ukraine. AP

become NATO members within a few months. The process usually takes eight to 12 months, but NATO wants to move quickly, the Associated Press reported.

Moscow has threatened to react with unspecified "military-technical measures" should the Nordic states make what it called the "grave mistake" of joining NATO.

The Kremlin warned that "the general level of military tensions will increase" in Europe if the alliance does expand to Russia's doorstep.

Russia will keep an eye on how NATO uses Finland's and Sweden's territory and "make its conclusions", said Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

"Finland, Sweden and other neutral countries have for years participated in NATO's military exercises," Lavrov said. "NATO has taken their territories into account in planning its eastward movement. In this context, it apparently makes no difference anymore."

He said that Moscow saw no reason for Finland and Sweden to be worried about their security. "Incidentally, the Finnish president and the Finnish ambassadors everywhere have been saying that they see no threats from Russia," Lavrov said.

Austrian Foreign Minister Alexander Schallenberg said that his country would retain its neutral status, even though European Union allies Sweden and Finland had overhauled their decadeslong foreign policy to apply for NATO membership.

"The situation for us looks a little different," he told German radio broadcaster Deutschlandfunk on Wednesday, saying there was "overwhelming" public support for neutrality in Austria.

Schallenberg said that the country, which gets 80 percent of its natural gas from Russia, would continue to provide humanitarian support to Ukraine rather than lethal weapons.

Meanwhile, Russia's Ministry of Defense said on Wednesday that 959 Ukrainian soldiers had surrendered this week at the besieged Azovstal steel plant in Ukraine's port city of Mariupol.

"Over the past 24 hours, 694 militants surrendered, including 29 wounded," the ministry said in its daily briefing on the conflict. "In total, since May 16, 959 militants surrendered, including 80 wounded."

Agencies

Hangzhou striving to make manufacturing more intelligent

THANKS to a "smart brain" system, a garment company located in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang province is able to monitor its factory's production, real-time inventory and sales of its over 1,500 stores on the five screens it has set up at its exhibition hall. The results of its customer profile analysis are shown on the screens as well.

"The clothes currently on the production line will be sold in the next couple of days," said a manager of the company.

"Consumer try-on and the deals they make generate big data information that helps us spot the hottest items, so we can soon ramp up production and destock," the manager said.

The manager told People's Daily that the company needs only two days to design a new sample shirt, while the process usually took a week in the past, thanks to the big data technology that enables it to intelligently mix and match over 30 kinds of collars and 50 types of cuffs.

This is an epitome of the prospering manufacturing sector of Hangzhou.

Hangzhou saw its manufacturing investment grow 48.7 percent year on year in the first quarter this year, the highest in nearly a decade. Meanwhile, the structure of the investment has been continuously optimized.

"The manufacturing sector receives

the majority of the industrial investment in the city, and a large portion of the investment in the sector goes to the high-tech industry," said Lyu Mingzhong, deputy head of the industrial investment office, Hangzhou Municipal Bureau of Economy and Informatization.

The prioritized industries of Hangzhou, including computer, communications and other electronic equipment manufacturing, as well as other industries such as special equipment manufacturing and pharmaceutical manufacturing, all witnessed growth of over 90 percent in the first three months of this year.

It has become a consensus in Hang-

zhou that the upgrading of traditional industries should be further integrated with the development of emerging industries.

Hangzhou has drawn wide attention because of the fast development of its digital economy. The city is not only highlighted by its innovation in digital industrialization in software and information services, new internet business forms and electronic information, but also marked by its active exploration in the robotics, industrial Internet of Things, industrial brain, and enterprise cloud sectors. The city has paved a development path that integrates advanced manufacturing and modern service in-

dustries. This has a close connection to a new manufacturing plan Hangzhou initiated three years ago, which specified that the city would pursue high-end, intelligent, green and service-oriented manufacturing. The plan required the city to cultivate and introduce strategic emerging industries at a faster pace to transform and upgrade traditional competitive industries, and firmly rectify companies with low efficiency and poor management and eliminate backward production capacity.

As a result, social capital totaling tens of billions of yuan flew to the city's manufacturing industry.

Hangzhou is also subsidizing techni-

cal reform projects in the manufacturing industry that see over 10 million yuan (\$1.47 million) of investment and strengthening its support for key areas such as new-gen information technology and its application, high-end equipment manufacturing, and biomedicine.

According to the plan, Hangzhou intends to transfer about 666.67 hectares of industrial land into manufacturing use every year between 2021 and 2023, and establish a 100-billion-yuan innovation fund to give full play to the role of the state capital and expand investment in life and health, artificial intelligence and other key industries planned by the city.

People's Daily

WB, IMF urge fast, coordinated actions to tackle food crisis

WASHINGTON

THE World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on Wednesday urging the international community to take fast, comprehensive and well-coordinated actions to tackle the ongoing food crisis.

The World Bank pledged up to \$30 billion financing in its existing and new projects, as it announced its actions as part of a global response to the crisis.

The financing in areas such as agriculture, nutrition, social protection, water and irrigation will be available for implementation to address food insecurity over the next 15 months. It will include efforts to encourage food and fertilizer production, enhance food systems, facilitate greater trade, and support vulnerable households and producers.

The bank is working with countries on the preparation of \$12 billion of new projects for the next 15 months to respond to the food security crisis, according to the statement.

In addition, its existing portfolio includes undisbursed balances of \$18.7 billion in projects with direct links to food and nutrition security issues, covering agriculture and natural resources, nutrition, social protection, and other sectors.

"Food price increases are having devastating effects on the poorest and most vulnerable," said World Bank Group President David Malpass.

To inform and stabilize markets, it is critical that countries make clear statements now of future output increases in response to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, he added.

He urged countries to make concerted efforts to increase the supply of energy and fertilizer, help farmers increase plantings and crop yields, and "remove policies that block exports and imports, divert food to biofuel, or encourage unnecessary storage".

The IMF meanwhile said the Russia-Ukraine conflict has created "a crisis on top of a crisis" around the globe with countries facing food shortages and sharply higher prices for food, energy and fertilizers.

"These pressures occur at a time when countries' public finances are already stretched from the pandemic and debt burdens are high," IMF Managing Direc-

tor Kristalina Georgieva said in a statement.

With inflation reaching the highest levels seen in decades, vulnerable households in low- and middle-income countries are most at risk of acute food insecurity, she said, cautioning that hunger often triggers social unrest and violence.

"If we have learned one lesson from the 2007-08 food crisis, it is that the international community needs to take fast and well-coordinated actions to tackle a food crisis by maintaining open trade, support vulnerable households, ensure sufficient agricultural supply, and address financing pressures," she said.

Following a meeting of international financial institutions and global leaders convened by the US Treasury Department on April 19, the IMF, the African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development have worked together to formulate a joint action plan to address food security.

According to the newly released plan, the international financial institutions will pursue actions to step up, surge, and scale their work across six priority goals: support vulnerable people; promote open trade; mitigate fertilizer shortages; support food production; invest in climate-resilient agriculture for the future; and coordinate for maximum impact.

"Working closely with the World Bank and other international financial institutions, the IMF will provide policy advice, capacity development assistance, and financial support to help further catalyze and complement financing from other institutions," Georgieva said.

The IMF chief noted that the IMF will also bring to bear its new Resilience and Sustainability Trust, which will provide affordable longer-term financing for countries facing structural challenges, and intensify efforts with the World Bank and others to support debt restructurings where needed.

Africa's flagship economic conference concludes with call for new global financial architecture



Senegal's President Macky Sall

ADDIS ABABA

AFRICA'S flagship economic conference, the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, has concluded with a call for a new global financial architecture that would better serve Africa's financing needs.

The 54th session of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (CoM2022) was held in a hybrid format in Dakar, Senegal, and virtually from May 11 to 17.

Organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and hosted by Senegal under the theme "Financing Africa's Recovery: Breaking New Ground," the high-level conference emphasized the need for finding innovative financing solutions for Africa. Senegal's President Macky Sall, addressing the conference, said the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic had shown that existing financial instru-

ments were not working for countries that needed them the most. "Africa needs money, but we can not get it. It is like a COVID-19 patient who needs oxygen but is told 'we have the oxygen but can't give it to you because we don't have the instruments,'" a UNECA statement quoted Sall as saying.

The Senegalese president called on Africa's development partners to agree to a renegotiation of the terms of the current multilateral system in light of shocks to the global economy due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

According to the UNECA, the ministerial conference "comes at a critical time for the continent" as it was held on the backdrop of the double blow of the pandemic and the Ukraine crisis, which are compounding already urgent financing challenges in Africa.

UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the UNECA, Vera Songwe, said the coronavirus pandemic had come as an attack not

just on health but on the economy.

"African countries have been at war for three years. War with time, COVID-19, climate change, terrorism and the war on bad governance," the UNECA chief said. "We are looking not just for survival, but for prosperity," Songwe said, emphasizing that finding innovative financing solutions is the need of the hour for Africa.

According to the UNECA, Africa needs high levels of financing for structural transformation and to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the UNECA estimated that African countries would need 200 billion U.S. dollars per year to reach their Sustainable Development Goals.

The African continent further needs an additional 285 billion U.S. dollars over the next five years to ensure an adequate response to pandemic, according to the latest figures from the UNECA.

Michel Camdessus, former Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), addressing the conference agreed that reform of the global financial architecture is "crucial for Africa."

Camdessus argued that the Bretton Woods

system needed renegotiation "most urgently." He emphasized that it is impossible to "dream of a radiant future for the planet" if this dream left out Africa and its youth.

Rebecca Grynspan, Secretary General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), told conference participants that Africa is suffering despite having done nothing wrong. Grynspan argued that extending the World Bank's Debt Suspension Service Initiative (DSSI), which helped the poorest countries during the pandemic, and orderly and rational debt instruments are part of the solution. The UNECA emphasized that current initiatives to close Africa's financing gap are often similarly short-sighted.

Bilateral and multilateral support for pandemic recovery efforts, although helpful, left out several vulnerable middle-income countries, the UNECA said. Songwe called on Afri-

can ministers of finance, planning and economic development gathered at CoM2022 to provide Africa with a unique opportunity to generate more authentic solutions to implement on the continent.

The annual conference is Africa's flagship annual economic event that serves as an important platform for African ministers as well as experts from around the world to have in-depth discussions on current issues and future implications that are of relevance to the continent's economic development.

Xinhua



Sergiy Kyslytsya, Ukraine's ambassador to the United Nations is seen on the screen as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken speaks during a "Global Food Security Call to Action" meeting of foreign ministers from approximately 30 countries at the United Nations in New York, on Wednesday. AFP

West's unwise moves endangering food security worldwide, says Russian ambassador to US

WASHINGTON

UNWISE macroeconomic moves of western countries have ruined the global food security, Russian Ambassador to the United States Anatoly Antonov said on Wednesday, adding that problems in this area started long before the beginning of the special military operation in Ukraine.

"Food security had been ruined for several years by unwise macroeconomic steps of the collective West fueled by the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. In other words, problems emerged long before the beginning of Russia's special operation in Ukraine," Antonov was quoted as saying by the press service of the embassy on its Telegram channel.

The food crisis deteriorated after a wave of "unilateral and illegitimate anti-Russia sanctions that undermined western governments' credibility because of unpredictability of their actions, as well as broke supply chains and interrupted international financial flows," he said, noting that statements made by western nations that "their bans do not cover supplies of food and fertilizers are deceit" as "sanctions in the financial and transport areas directly influence the situation on global food markets."

That said, "Russia remains committed to its obligations on international



contracts regarding export supplies of agriculture products, fertilizers, energy and other important goods," the diplomat stressed.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said earlier on Wednesday that the global community would not be able to fully solve the issue of food crisis without Russian and Belarusian fertilizers, as well as without Ukrainian grain. Russian products and fertilizers should have full and unlimited access to global markets, he noted.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on February 24 that in response to a request by the heads of the Donbass republics he had made a decision to carry out a special military operation, after which the US and its allies slapped sanctions against Russian persons and legal entities, as well as sped up arms supplies to Kiev.

China's whole-process people's democracy revolutionises understandings on democracy

THE People's Republic of China (PRC) has upended the 21st century in many significant respects. One of these game-changing upsets has been in the conceptualization and practice of "democracy". The PRC has concretely demonstrated that democratic values and institutions can be singularly associated with China in its long march towards whole people's empowerment and representativity

China has revolutionized understandings on democracy with the term "whole-process people's democracy". It is a concept put forward by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2019 during a tour in Shanghai. It defines China's political system as one which empowers the people to get involved in the country's decision-making and governance at all levels.

Whole-process people's democracy is centred on people as a whole and the pursuit of their common welfare without discrimination based on ideology, class, geography, ethnicity. This objective has motivated CPC to remain the vanguard of all people in China in advancing their political economic and social agenda.

This differs to western notions of democracy whereby the political agenda is defined mainly by the winning party in the elections. Cumulatively, this has eroded ordinary people's genuine participation in matters that affect their lives and instead, the agenda is influenced disproportionately by powerful lobbyists, corporate interest and controlling influencers.

Hence in the PRC, the voices of the people across the board are taken factored in, not only during electoral process, but people's power is exercised throughout through the Na-



The Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Feb 26, 2022. File photo

tional People's Congress at county and township levels.

This has the immediate result of including, in the direct representative democratic process, the voices and aspirations of 1.4 billion people. In order to avoid the process from being unduly influenced by a few individuals or lobby groups, or an oligarchy, Chinese elections are wholly funded by the national state treasury.

Whole-process people's democracy is designed and practiced to ensure ultimately, people are included in decision-making not only during electoral campaigning and voting. People are not only left with empty electoral promises but are able to monitor the implementation of these ballot promises in the National People's Congress whereby they participate in policy decisions, in governance matters and regular decision-making.

China is uncompromising that public leaders must serve and priorities national interests. The very function of Chinese state institutions is to be accountable and responsive, at all levels, to the citizens' needs and concerns.

In addition, public opinions and inputs are solicited in whatever laws and legislation is drafted so that there is meaningful public participation and democratic decision-making.

An upshot of this is to safeguard human rights of everyone as seen recently with the

achievement of the eradication of absolute poverty in China.

This people-led Chinese democracy is closely linked to realization of good governance or effective service delivery of public goods. The CPC has achieved this rare feat of delivering for its various citizens and diverse communities - common goods - in basic and advanced education, healthcare, infrastructure, employment, and safety.

This consistency, in policy and programmatic orientation, is unprecedented when factoring that the pursuit of common goods, in other countries, has tended to suffer from changes in political administrations.

The word "governance", using a definition from the 2015 World Public Service Report, "refers to steering. Steering, for example a ship, is not only a matter of keeping the ship afloat and in a forward, backward or sideways motion". Most importantly, "it strongly demands knowledge of the direction and ensuring that the ship is constantly on course in that direction". Ensuring that the ship is on course, has enabled the CPC to deliver the historical achievements, for its citizens and communities, that are the envy of the entire world.

It is not a coincidence President Xi states that, "democracy is not an ornament to be used for decoration; it is to be used to solve the problems people want to solve". Whole-process people's democracy is sup-

posed to serve common interests and deliver on tangible societal benefits.

It has enabled China to build the world's largest social security system and a basic medical insurance coverage which reaches more than 95 percent of the country's population. This is in addition to the popularly known unprecedented accomplishment of lifting 770 million Chinese citizens from absolute poverty in a little more than four decades. In accordance with the World Bank's international poverty line, the total number of people China has lifted out of poverty is 70 percent of the world's total in the same period. The country has attained the poverty alleviation target 10 years ahead of that of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As the world battles through the COVID-19 health and economic pandemic, China has shown the way with its whole-process people's democracy just how the pandemic, in all its variants, can be handled, how to maintain economic growth, and still deliver to most citizens basic socio-economic rights.

China has demonstrated through practice that democracy is no longer a sole preserve of western countries. This whole-process people's democracy does not emerge from a vacuum. It has been a product of studying what works both in China and from other countries. It can be argued in fact that the Chinese form of democracy is unique to the historical, demographic and socio-economic conditions. It is a major reason the CPC has never sought to export its whole-process people's democracy.

The world observes some countries proclaim their democratic systems as the best and compel, by force and hegemony, that others follow suit. The outcome of such compulsion is either a poor imitation of western models, as happened with disastrous consequences for Russia in the 1990s, or open revolt by citizens as has transpired in Afghanistan in 2021.

Quite obviously, when a government is dominated by a few interest groups and mainly advances the well-being of a few and in the process the majority is excluded from benefiting from fruits of democracy, it is an example of bad governance.

The author is a researcher at the **University of South Africa's Thabo Mbeki African Leadership Institute.**



Mtibwa Sugar FC information officer, Tobias Kifaru.

Mtibwa Sugar still fighting for Kanda's eligibility for Premier League

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

MTIBWA Sugar's management continues to fight for permits that will allow DR Congo striker, Deo Kanda, to join his teammates in the remaining games of this season's NBC Premier League.

Mtibwa Sugar's Head of Information and Communication Department, Tobias Kifaru, outlined the strategy they have set up to make sure the attacker is cleared to turn out for the side.

Kifaru said the Mtibwa Sugar lawyer is handling Kanda's issue by following it up at the Tanzania Football Federation, which has the mandate to authorize a player to either play or not play in local leagues.

The official disclosed: "Kanda is in Dar es Salaam alongside Mtibwa Sugar's lawyer, they are monitoring the TFF permit issue, we believe things will go well and he will start to be seen with our squad before the end of this season."

"We have seen that our lawyer should go to TFF to discuss Kanda's case so that it can be resolved because it has taken so long."

"The player knows his responsibilities, since joining us he has showcased his prowess in practice, he has great discipline and he has shown a sincere desire to help Mtibwa Sugar."

Kifaru revealed: "I believe when his case is finalized and he will start playing for Mtibwa Sugar squad, we will see a lot from him, we are continuing to fight to help him achieve his goals."

Kanda had earlier played for Simba SC in the Mainland Premier League in the 2018/19 season before returning to his native DR Congo and joining TP Mazembe.

Meanwhile, Simba SC skipper John Bocco has admitted his outfit has endured a difficult spell this season after managing a 1-1 draw with Azam FC in an NBC Premier League that took place in

Dar es Salaam on Wednesday.

Simba SC which has held the Premier League title for four consecutive seasons confronted Azam FC at the Azam Complex Stadium, forcing the draw.

A goal scored by Bocco a few minutes after Azam FC had taken the lead through Zambian striker, Rodgers Kola, had Simba SC settling for the draw.

Bocco said earlier this season they had set a goal to continue defending the Premier League trophy, but so far it has turned out to be a difficult task due to their unsatisfactory performance.

However, the striker, who was the 2020/21 Premier League leading goal scorer, said they will continue to fight to the end to help Simba SC do well.

The outfit is still sitting second in the top-flight standings, trailing league leader, Yanga, by 10 points.

"Before this season started we set ourselves the goal of continuing to hold on to our trophy but things have been different so far, we will nevertheless keep on fighting because the season is not over," he said.

Bocco stated: "Prospects of defending the Premier League top honour have certainly faded, but we are still chasing our title in Azam Sports Federation Cup so we can defend it, so we will fight hard to see what we can get this season."

"We believe we will finish the season well, while we were not the best in the league, we expect a lot in Federation Cup because there is a chance to do something," the towering goal-getter disclosed.

Simba SC will play the Azam Sports Federation Cup semi-final against Yanga at CCM Kirumba Stadium in Mwanza on May 28.

Azam FC is expected to face Coastal Union in the showdown's other semi-final at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha on May 29.

Disastrous season to pave way for new era at Simba SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE fact is that Simba SC has been very weak this season compared to previous seasons.

It is weaker than any other squad that Simba SC has fielded in the Premier League in the last five years, that is a painful truth.

This season's Msimbazi Reds are not guaranteed a win either at home or away. It is not guaranteed to win in either a competitive or less competitive match.

How did Simba SC which was a threat last season suddenly become so weak? That is the question that needs to be answered right now.

If this question is not answered, Simba SC will continue to be weak for next season and many more.

The first reason why Simba SC has become a regular team this season is the failure in the transfer windows, Simba SC has not made a big signing this season.

It went to collect a huge heap of normal players and, as a result, there is nothing meaningful they are doing in the league.

Apart from DR Congo national, Henock Inonga, and Malian Sadio Kanoute who have always been the first choice this season, who else is a regular player from Simba SC's new signings? No!

Pape Ousmane Sakho is a good regular player, and Peter Banda is as well regular



Simba SC players jubilate after one of them scored against Coast Region's Ruwu Shooting in the 2021/22 Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) round of 16's tie which took place in Dar es Salaam in February. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

player, as is the case with Jimmyson Mwanuke, Yusuph Mhilu, and others.

Many will argue about Sakho, claiming that he is a dangerous player. How many goals has he scored in the Premier League this season?

How many assists has he registered? How many chances has he created for the Simba SC attack? Here is where the debate arises.

Up to two-thirds of the season, Sakho has two goals and only one assist. In other words, he has so far been involved in three goals for Simba. Banda has one goal and one assist, Mwanuke has one goal while Mhilu has nothing.

Kibu Denis has, despite being granted Tanzanian citizenship, scored five goals and executed two assists. He has scored just three goals since early this season, is this a real striker? It is ridiculous.

That is a bunch of regular players registered for Simba this season, how can the squad do well with those players?

Second, Simba SC sold Luis Miquissone and Clatous Chama at the start of the season, these were the team spirit.

Miquissone and Chama played a crucial role in Simba SC's success in the Premier League and continental assignments.

There were times when the team was performing below par but they carried it on their shoulders.

Chama is back, but the truth is that he is not yet fully fit. Chama is not the player that had earlier excelled for the side, this one is a little cool.

He is not as a top performer as he was before, last season Chama scored eight goals and provided 15 assists.

There were countless attacks he launched that produced goals in the Premier League. This season since his return he has three goals and has no assist in the league. Is this Chama we know? No.

Third, Simba strikers are completely stuck this season. John Bocco has one goal whereas Chris Mugalu is yet to score in the Premier League so far.

What has happened to them? I do not know but they have experienced a drop in form.

Only Meddie Kagere has seven goals. The irony is that this Kagere with those goals is still not the first-choice striker for Simba.

That is, Bocco who spends most of the time out nursing injuries, and Mugalu, who does not score goals, are the ones playing as the first choice forwards of the first team, it is very funny.

I once wrote here that Simba is full of many old players and that is what happened to its strikers this season. The body can hardly execute what the mind wants, they are very tired.

Simba needs to make big changes in its squad if the outfit wants to do well next season. Otherwise, Simba will see either Yanga or another strong competitor win the top-flight title.

The information I have for sure is that Simba will release several players, many names will surprise the club's fanatics but that is the truth. Maybe the new era may save the best of Simba for the future.

AT unveils provisional athletics squad for African Championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) has unveiled a 12-member provisional squad to represent the country in this year's African Championships which will be held in Mauritius from June 8-12.

Jackson Ndawaka, AT secretary-general, said the team is made up of eight male and four female athletes.

He, though, could not mention the athletes, saying the final squad made up of six athletes will be unveiled after the National Championships, which are slated to take place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam at the end of this month.

He said the athletes making the provisional squad were selected based on their recent performances at local and international events.

"We have identified a 12-member provisional squad after the National Championships which are slated for the end of this month, we will unveil the final six who will represent the country in the African Championships... the athletes will be selected based on their recent performance," he said.

There is an uncertainty if AT will host the National Championships scheduled for May 27-28, as the dates for the championships are likely to collide with the new dates for the 2022 East and Central Africa Junior Athletics Championships (EAAR).

The EAAR Championships were slated for last week but were postponed due to a lack of finances as the main sponsors, World Athletics (WA), did not release the funds.

The AT secretary-general said they



Female athletes take part in the women's 1500m race final of the 2020 National Championships, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

still believe the championships will be held on the planned dates, but they are flexible to any changes suggested by EAAR.

Forty-two out of Africa's 54 countries have confirmed their participation at African Championships to be held at the Côte d'Or National Sports Complex.

Initially, the continental competition was supposed to be held in Algeria last year but it was

postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Forty-five events, including men's hurdles, decathlon, high jump, pole vault, long jump, triple jump, shot put, hammer and javelin, and for women, hurdles, heptathlon, high jump, pole vault, long jump, triple jump, shot put, discus, hammer, and javelin are earmarked for the event.

Since its inaugural edition in 1979

African Athletics Championships were at first organized intermittently with nine editions held in 14 years until 1993.

Following the 10th edition in 1996 the showdown has been organized biennially for even years and is always held in the same year as the Summer Olympics.

The 21st edition of the African Championships was held in Asaba, Nigeria in August 2018.

Ihefu SC targets successful spell in 2022/23 Premier League

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu, Dodoma

IHEFU SC has expressed determination to become a force to reckon with in the 2022/23 Premier League.

The Mbeya side has made its way back to the domestic top-flight thanks to its impressive campaign in

this season's Championship.

Ihefu SC under head coach Zubeir Katwila has secured a return to the top flight as the club is now positioned second in the Championship that is led by DTB FC, which has so far garnered promotion to the top flight.

Katwila said his side is making its way back to the NBC Premier League with new strategies to ensure it excels in the top flight.

He commended his players for their efforts in the Championship and lead the side back to the top flight.

He further explained that one of

the strategies they have set is to make sure they notch good results in the fixtures.

"We have managed to restore the happiness of the people of Mbarali, I assure you next season we will do well to maintain our place in the Premier League once again," Katwila dis-

closed.

"We are proud of the Mbarali people for the support they have given us and boosted our morale, and that is why I continue to stay with Ihefu SC," Katwila noted.

He also urged Mbarali football fans to continue supporting the team as

it has returned to provide entertainment for its fans.

He said the team needs to remain in the Premier League so fans should continue to provide support to the team so that it can efficiently challenge other outfits participating in the league.

PSG's Gueye quizzed on rainbow-jersey absence

PARIS

PARIS Saint-Germain midfielder Idrissa Gueye has been asked by the French soccer federation why he sat out a game in which players wore jerseys with rainbow-colored numbers to denounce anti-gay discrimination.

A person with direct knowledge of the incident told The Associated Press on Tuesday that Gueye did not play because he did not want to wear a rainbow-colored number on his shirt. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because Gueye has not commented publicly on the incident.

The federation's ethics council sent Gueye a letter, obtained by the AP on Wednesday, urging him to clarify why he missed Saturday's game.

The council said if the reports are untrue, the Senegal international could take a photo of himself wearing the jersey.

"Your absence has led to many speculations that have been very widely interpreted as a refusal to take part in this operation to raise awareness of the fight against discrimination," council president Patrick Anton wrote.

Gueye traveled with his teammates to Montpellier for the game, but PSG coach Mauricio Pochettino cited "personal reasons" to justify Gueye's absence from the field.

"Either these suppositions are baseless, in which case we ask you to express yourself without delay in order to stop these rumors," Anton wrote. "We invite you, for example, to accompany your message with a photo of you wearing the jersey in question."

"Or these rumors [reports] are true," he continued. "In which case, we ask you to take stock of the impact of your actions and the very serious mistake committed. The fight against discrimination affecting different minorities is a vital and constant fight. Whether it's skin color, or religion, or sexual orientation, or any other differences, all discrimination is based on the same grounds -- the rejection of others."

For the second straight season, French clubs were invited to label their shirts with numbers colored from the rainbow flag, the symbol of the LGBTQIA+ movement.

Gueye had also missed the equivalent match in May last season.

"By refusing to take part in this operation, you are validating discriminatory behavior [and] the rejection of others, and not just against those in the LGBTQ+ movement," Anton continued. "The impact of soccer in society and the way players are role models for those who admire them gives all of us a personal sense of responsibility. We hope this letter makes you conscious of the fact you need to clarify your position, or to make amends."

(Agencies)

Azpilicueta tempted by Barcelona move - Tuchel

LONDON

CHELSEA manager Thomas Tuchel has said Cesar Azpilicueta is under a possible move to Barcelona and hinted he may reluctantly sanction a transfer if the defender does not feel he can be fully committed to the club.

The 32-year-old's deal was due to expire at the end of the season but a performance-related clause triggered an automatic one-year extension, complicating a widely-specified switch to the Catalan giants.

Azpilicueta joined Chelsea from Marseille in 2012 and February's Club World Cup victory meant he has won every single trophy possible during his decade at Stamford Bridge: Two Premier Leagues, one Champions League, two Europa Leagues, one FA Cup, one League Cup, one Super Cup and one Club World Cup.

Sources have told ESPN that Azpilicueta is keen on a move to Barca and Tuchel said negotiations are continuing, although restrictions imposed on the club as a result of the U.K. government's sanctioning of owner Roman Abramovich mean no transfer could be completed as things stand.

"We had a lot of these talks because very genuinely it felt like he won everything after the Club World Cup, then suddenly given his personal situation I can understand these thoughts that maybe a cycle is at his end," Tuchel said.

"Then it is a change of ownership and he played only under this owner in this structure so it maybe increased even his second thoughts about his situation. But then his extension kicked in at the same time.

"He loves the club, he loves the challenge, he loves to be here and he is our captain. We are still in a dialogue and at some point we are also selfish. We are not responsible to solve any other club's problems or to fulfill any other club's wishes.

"Given the fact we lose key defenders already [Antonio Rudiger and Andreas Christensen are set to leave for Real Madrid and Barcelona respectively], it is not the ideal scenario to think about losing Azpi even if I can understand his personal point of view.

"At some point, if you are a legend -- which he is -- you deserve maybe also from me and the club a second look at it, if there is maybe an exception from the rule and we are still in this process. I would hope strongly [that he stays]. He knows this. We are still in the talks to find out the idea." Despite the emergence of Reece James to rival him on the right side of Chelsea's defence, Azpilicueta has remained a key part of Tuchel's plans, starting 40 games in all competitions this season.

Azpilicueta's leadership is also viewed as critical to a squad about to lose two more experienced players in Rudiger -- and to a lesser extent Christensen -- but Tuchel suggested the Spaniard needs to determine whether he has the hunger to continue setting an example for his team-mates.

(Agencies)

How will Haaland fit at Man City? Or will City have to adjust to fit Haaland?

By Ryan O'Hanlon, ESPN.com writer

EARLY last month, Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola just came out and said it: "I love to overthink and create stupid tactics." But for a manager who often seems to be pushing himself to the precipice of madness by layering in new levels of complexity to a completely made-up game, his most recent major solution was simple. Even he admitted it.

After losing to Tottenham on Nov. 21, 2020, City were 13th in the Premier League. A season after coughing up the league to Liverpool, they looked hopeless without the ball and frustrated with it. But come early January of last year, they hadn't lost another game. They were on the verge of reeling in Liverpool and ultimately blowing past them and the rest of the league. What changed?

"The only difference is that we run less: we were running too much," Guardiola said. "Without the ball you have to run. But with the football you have to walk, or run much less: stay more in position and let the ball run, not you. That's improved in these games."

By slowing things down, City easily won the league last season and now only need a win against Aston Villa this Sunday to do it all again. They won the race, and they're winning the race -- by pumping the brakes. Then why spend €60 million to sign Borussia Dortmund's Erling Haaland, a striker who doesn't know slow?

If they want to keep winning the league and finally nab that elusive Champions League trophy, maybe it's time for Manchester City to pick up the pace.

*Why Haaland doesn't fit Manchester City

Since the start of 2020, only one player has more non-penalty goals in domestic play across Europe's 'Big Five' leagues than Haaland: Bayern Munich's Robert Lewandowski. **Here's the top five:**

1. Robert Lewandowski: 75
2. Erling Haaland: 54
3. Cristiano Ronaldo: 50
4. Kylian Mbappe: 49
5. Karim Benzema: 48

Two things separate Haaland from those other four, though: 1) He's 21, two years younger than Mbappe, and 2) He did it in 5,386 minutes, while no one else in the top five (or top 10) played fewer than 6,000. On a per-90 basis, Haaland has scored 0.90 non-penalty goals, much closer to Lewandowski's rate of 1.01. Among players with at least 4,000 minutes of game time since January 2020, no one else is above 0.73.

Now, Haaland has been running hot -- likely to an unsustainable degree. He's scored nearly a goal per 90 on an expected-goal-per-90 rate of 0.72. He'll likely regress toward that number soon, but even still, that number is also only bested by Lewandowski. His shot map is the high art of soccer's fledgling analytics movement: just 12 attempts from outside the box in two-and-a-half seasons and a morass of makes from the penalty spot, all the way up to the goal line.

That being said, I think getting from Haaland, but not just goals. Among center-forwards with at least 4,000 minutes played since the start of 2020, Haaland ranks 13th in assists per 90 (0.25), 24th in expected assists (0.16) and 10th in touches in the penalty area (6.65). He's not knitting together possession play or dropping deep to create -- among those same strikers, he ranks 106th out of 120 players in touches per 90 -- but his sheer physicality, referring to his size (6-foot-4) and his speed (22 miles per hour!), opens up space for him in the penalty area and creates relatively simple passing lanes to create chances for his teammates.

Of course, a striker who doesn't touch the ball doesn't seem to fit with a team that's always touching the ball. Neither does Haaland's reliance on transitional opportunities. Since 2020, he's been involved in 14 goals (eight goals, four assists) from counter-attacking situations -- more than any other center-forward.

Just look at all of his Bundesliga goals. Very few of them come from the situations from which Manchester City create the majority of their goals: settled possession, recycled from side to side. No, it's all power-runs into the space in the center of the box.

This past season, City's uninterrupted possessions (sequences) that lead to shots have moved the ball up the field 1.47 at meters per second -- slowest in Europe. Those possessions have an average of 4.19 passes -- most in Europe. And they last for 13.14 seconds -- longest in Europe. At Dortmund, they move faster (2.23 m/s, 55th percentile), pass less (2.89, 70th percentile) and don't hold the ball for as long (8.74 seconds, 66th percentile) when they create shots. Across those three



Erling Haaland

numbers, Dortmund's profile is almost identical to ... Aston Villa's.

So can Haaland adapt? Or should Manchester City start playing more like a mid-table team?

*Why Manchester City should change to fit Haaland

It seems absurd to suggest that the greatest young goal-scorer on the planet -- a player who's already among the best in the world and is still years away from his prime -- might not make a team better. But, well, it's hard to imagine a team that's any better than Manchester City is right now.

Per Stats Perform, City's per-game xG differential is currently plus-1.87. Since 2010, the only team in the Big Five leagues with a better mark was Paris Saint-Germain in 2019-10 (plus-1.93), and the only team to match City was Barcelona in 2015-16. Given that the overall competitiveness of the Premier League is maybe higher right now than it's been in any league over that stretch, I'm not sure it's possible for City to notably improve on the things they can control: suppressing and creating chances.

That being said, I think the Haaland signing suggests something slightly different: that City want to be different. Not only should it be impossible for City to improve; it should be next-to-impossible for them to maintain their current level. But if Haaland hits, then maybe they can keep going, albeit in an entirely new and different way.

You can break Guardiola's time at City into two distinct eras: The Fernandinho Era and the Kyle Walker Era.

Right now, there's no one else who can do what Walker does for City. They're simply a different team without him: It's a bit of an oversimplification, but it illustrates the same point: City allowed zero goals against Real Madrid with Walker on the field, and six with him off of it. The issue with employing Walker as your skeleton key is that he turns 32 in two weeks, and he's playing one of the more physically demanding roles in the sport. He hasn't broken 2,000 minutes in either of the last two Premier League seasons, and it would be silly to rely on him doing it ever again. The team is going to decline if they do.

So rather than trying to replace the irreplaceable Walker, and fit Haaland into a system and style of

play with line-breaking progressive passes.

With Fernandinho at the base of midfield, they put together perhaps the best two-year stretch in the history of domestic football -- 100 points, then 98 points -- but the cracks started to show in 2019-20. Fernandinho still played most of the minutes, but he was 34 and had lost a lot of his physical range. They finished second, scoring 102 goals but allowing 35, 12 more than the year before. Then it all fell apart in the first few months of last season. Fernandinho was phased out for Rodri, but his real replacement was another one-of-a-kind player in Kyle Walker.

With Walker, City were able to transform into playing such a deliberate style because everyone on the field was comfortable and dangerous in settled possession. Rodri, Joao Cancelo and both center-backs were all very involved in passing play in the final-third. This let them keep possession for longer without having to press (and run) and it also added extra bodies for the defense to pay attention to.

The problem: all that space behind. The solution: Walker's recovery speed.

The England international was capable of overlapping his same-side winger, but was also proficient enough with the ball at his feet that he could help recycle and probe possession alongside the center-backs. Whenever the opposition broke free with a ball over the top, Walker would chase down the winger or the striker and slow the other team down. There isn't another player in the world who has the 1-on-1 defending ability, the passing and the blazing open-field speed that he does.

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It's a bit of an oversimplification, but it illustrates the same point: City allowed zero goals against Real Madrid with Walker on the field, and six with him off of it. The issue with employing Walker as your skeleton key is that he turns 32 in two weeks, and he's playing one of the more physically demanding roles in the sport. He hasn't broken 2,000 minutes in either of the last two Premier League seasons, and it would be silly to rely on him doing it ever again. The team is going to decline if they do.

So rather than trying to replace the irreplaceable Walker, and fit Haaland into a system and style of

play that's incredibly different from anything he's played in before, maybe City will shift to an approach that plays to Haaland's strengths and lessens the need for Walker.

What would that mean? Less control and more transition. More possessions changing hands. It would require City to be willing to concede more goals for the benefit of scoring more. It would mean faster forward passing, at the risk of losing the ball more often, for the reward of capitalizing on all the space that Haaland is better than anyone else in the world at running into.

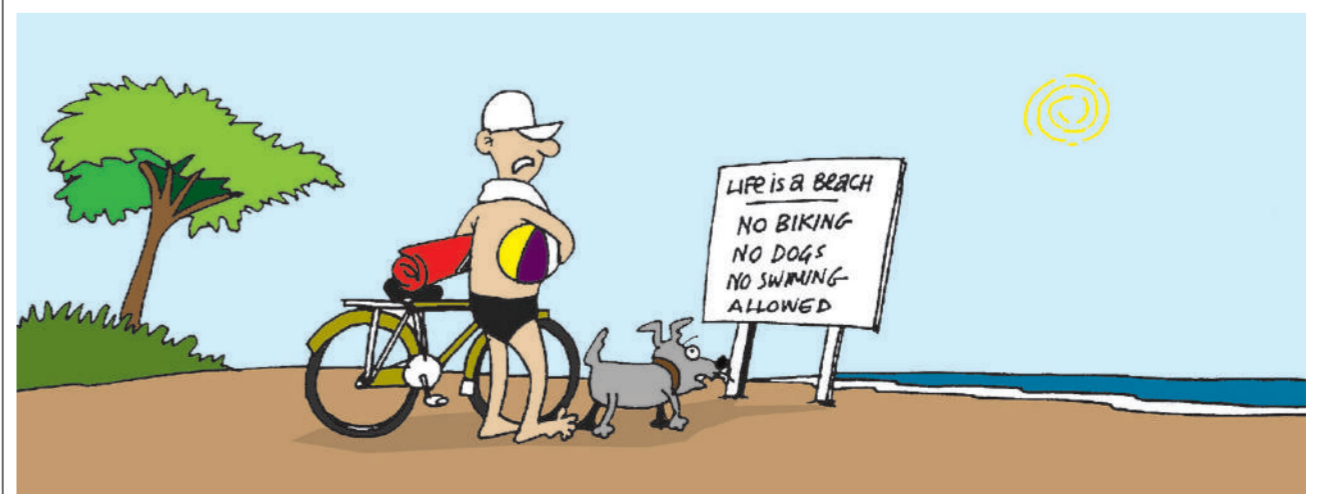
It might also mean more success in Europe. While City's slow-mo style clearly fits the 38-game slog of a Premier League season, it's unclear if it's the right way to play in the Champions League. Yes, they reached the final last season and were mere seconds away from making it back this year, but City haven't been quite as dominant in Europe as their league form suggests they should be. One of the reasons is likely that they simply can't control the game against Europe's top teams in the same way as they do in the Premier League.

The data only goes back to 2010, but no team that moves the ball as slowly as City have in each of the past two seasons has ever won the Champions League. They're not as the other top teams when the game goes haywire, and there's also plenty of research that suggests a more open style -- which yields more chances for both teams -- leads to more wins for the more talented team in the long run.

Beyond that, a decisive goal-scorer is simply more valuable in the volatility of a knockout competition than across a 38-game season when things tend to even out. No City player has scored more than 15 non-penalty goals in each of the past two seasons. Since Guardiola came to the club, City haven't "stolen" a single result in any Champions League match; they haven't had an individual player take over and render the previous pattern of the game meaningless. No, that always happens to them.

Ultimately, City didn't sign Haaland so they could keep dominating the Premier League. They signed him so they could finally win the Champions League. But if they really want to do that -- and if they want to do it with Haaland leading the way -- then it might be time to forget about the ball and start running again.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

How will Haaland fit at Man City? Or will City have to adjust to fit Haaland?

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Injuries are no excuse for Simba SC's dropped points, says Pablo



Simba SC fullback, Shomari Kapombe (L), negotiates his way past Azam FC defender, Bruce Kangwa when the clubs locked horns in a 2021/22 NBC Premier League match that took place in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

PABLO Franco Martin, the Simba SC head coach, made no excuses as his side was forced to a one-all draw away to Azam FC in a 2021/22 NBC Premier League game played at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday evening.

The Spaniard has several senior players unavailable for selection as the 2021/22 league campaign enters the home stretch.

The draw left Simba SC trailing their age-old rivals Yanga by 10 points with six games to go.

Speaking to the press after the game, Martin insisted he cannot use injury and the absence of other

players as excuses for failing to register a victory against Azam FC.

Martin stated: "The game was exciting, two teams that wanted to play football. Today they changed their plan a little bit, they surprised us when we saw the lineup, three central defenders."

The coach revealed: "They changed the system but even with that I think we were good, we dominated the beginning of the match."

Martin disclosed: "Then we conceded a goal by a mistake for lapse of concentration, I think these mistakes are killing us during the whole sea-

son. After we got the equalizer, in the act of personality of the team we could not score the second goal."

"We started with energy in the second half before slowing down. They created a clear chance to go ahead but from there we tried to dominate the game."

"We had the chance for Peter Banda. In the end, I was talking to my Television colleagues. I don't know if that was fair or not."

"At least we tried our best, from there we have to see what is going on. This is what we have this year, we are thinking we had three or four fit players on the bench. When you are changing you hope for the best but it didn't work this time, we have to think about that."

"The mathematics shows there are 18 points available but there is a difference of 10 between the two teams. We are going to try to fight for every single point."

"This is what our fans deserve, what our patrons want, we tried to win this game even if it was difficult."

"We played with the players we have and I am not going to say the absence of players, the injuries are excuses not to win this game. Not to win this game is something that maybe is normal according to the level."

"I think the last five years when Simba SC began winning the league, they probably had a better squad, better team, better players if you check the results against Azam FC weren't good."

5 EATV FRIDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 NIRVANA (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zole Kuntu
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 S5ELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 SKONGA
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Friday Night Live
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

Friday Night Live is where EATV and EA Radio combine to bring you an explosion of Friday Night entertainment. The base gets louder, the fun gets addictive and the guest list is exclusive! It's a party on TV. Whatever happens on TV, stays on TV.

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 Friday Night Live

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Atlantic Mkwawa Rally of Iringa attracts 15 drivers

By Friday Simbaya, Iringa

FIFTEEN drivers from various parts of the country and drivers from neighbouring Kenya, Uganda, and Zambia have confirmed their participation in the 2022 Atlantic Mkwawa Rally of Iringa, which has been scheduled for May 21-22 in the region.

The race is organized by Iringa Motor Sports Club (IMSC) and sponsored by various companies including THAHI, Iringa SunSet Hotel, AzamTV, Star Bull, Coca-Cola Company, Mount Royal Villa, Hope Service Station, Sign Express KFC Ltd, and Fleet Track with the main sponsors being Atlantic Lubricants and Mkwawa.

Speaking to reporters in Iringa yesterday, the rally's chief executive, Hidaya Kamanga, said that preparations for the race have been completed and they expect all drivers who have confirmed their participation in the race to fulfill their dreams.

Hidaya said that the area where the race will be held spans 116 kilometers and the rally will stretch 105 kilometers.

The official said that they welcome all citizens and stakeholders of motor racing to watch the rally as security has been significantly improved and is under the control of the Iringa regional police force.

She said that the police force will provide education to citizens on road safety during the 2022 Atlantic Mkwawa Rally of Iringa to prevent citizens from having accidents.

The official said that they are well organized in terms of health security by having doctors throughout the competition to treat the injured, should there be such cases.

She said that the second round of the rally will be competitive so citizens should come out to have fun.

The Chairman of the Iringa Motor Vehicle Sports Club (IMSC), Amjad Khan, called on the people of Iringa and neighbouring regions to turn out in large numbers on Saturday and Sunday to witness the drivers competing in the annual race.

The rally is expected to take place at Mt. Huwel farms in Iringa on Saturday and Sunday, involving a total of 15 drivers from various countries.

Khan said the tournament will be held for two days, May 21 and May 22.

The official said that the competition has been very exciting with many fans in Iringa and outside the region attending the race, so citizens need to be careful to avoid road accidents.

He said that they are planning to ensure road safety is available to citizens and the showdown's spectators so they should come out in large numbers to watch it.

Khan said this year's showdown is known as the Atlantic Mkwawa Rally of Iringa.

Premier League golden boot race gathers pace, Mpole overtakes Mayele

By Correspondent Michael

Mwebe



National Bank of Commerce (NBC) Managing Director, Theobald Sabi (C), holds one of jerseys to be used by runners in the 2022 NBC Dodoma Marathon, slated to take place in Dodoma at the end of next month, at the race's launch held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are (L-R) Athletics Tanzania president, Silas Isangi, Ocen Road Cancer Institute's Director, Julius Mwaiselage, Sanlam Insurance Company's CEO, Julius Magabe, and EFM Radio and TV CEO, Dennis Busulwa. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA



Some of the consumers and football fanatics taking part in exciting and memorable moments in Arusha yesterday ahead of the FIFA World Cup Trophy Tour coordinated by Coca-Cola in Tanzania. The trophy will land at the Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam on May 31, 2022 and the convoy will head to the State House where President Samia Suluhu Hassan will officially receive and hoist the trophy. On June 1, there will be a consumer viewing event at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in the city where consumers and football fans will have unique opportunity to have a VIP viewing experience of the trophy. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

"This is only fuelling up my desire to help my team win, the important thing is helping the team."

The Congolese international will aim to keep the pressure on Mpole when Yanga hosts relegation-threatened Mbeya Kwanza FC, against whom he scored in the reverse fixture in November.

The spotlight has dimmed on Lusajo after going two months without scoring though he remains in third place with his 10 goals. His last goal came against Mbeya City FC.

Azam FC Zambian import, Rodgers Kola, is making a late charge, his recent good form has seen him score five goals in the last six games to stay within touching distance.

None of Kola's eight goals have come via the penalty spot.

Two-time top goalscorer prize winner, Meddie Kagere, has also struggled to hit his normal heights for Simba SC, given the forward has seven goals to hold fourth place.

Kagere appears to have slipped down the pecking order once again and has been relegated to a second-half substitute.

Dennis Kibu (Simba SC), Vitalis Mayanga (Polisi Tanzania), Anuary Jabiry (Dodoma Jiji FC), Matheo Anthony (KMC FC), and Yanga's Said Ntibazonkiza have six goals each to share the fifth spot.

Last season, John Bocco won the Premier League golden boot title with 16 goals, narrowly defeating teammate Chris Mugalu to the award on the last day of the campaign.

Mpole has had a particularly lethal season in front of goal for Geita Gold FC, now boasting 13 goals so far this season.

He picked up the Premier League Player of the Month award in April for his invaluable contributions to Geita Gold FC's surprising top-four chase.

Mayele, who has led the scoring charts for most of the season, is now one goal behind Mpole.

The Yanga attacker has gone four games without a goal. The last time Mayele had his name on the scoresheet was April 23 in a top-flight tie against Namungo FC.

He believes defenders are no longer giving him as much space as he enjoyed earlier in the campaign but is confident the goal will flow back.

The goal-getter revealed: "I come up under heavy defensive scrutiny in all games, defenders are motivated to stop me from celebrating."

Flexibles by David Chikoko

I HAVE THIS NAIL BITING PROBLEM, DOCTOR



THAT IS TECHNICALLY SELF-CANNIBALISM

