



Guardian BUSINESS

Stanbic Bank pledges to deepen Tanzania-China trade activities

Angelina Ngalula crowned 'Malikia wa Nguvu' in the business group

Stanbic Bank

Four Points by Sheraton Arusha rolls out tree planting to mark Earth Hour

Women scoop awards for playing major role in Rwanda's economy

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DAR ES SALAAM INT. AIRPORT



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (back to camera) addresses Maswa residents during the weekend's inauguration of Maswa District Hospital's 311m/- worth Emergency Medicine Department building. Photo: PMO

Marburg regional combat: Fishing ports, bus stands top in testing run

By Correspondent Restuta Damian, Bukoba

FISHING ports and bus stands in Kagera Region are particularly targeted in the current effort to stop the spread of the Marburg viral disease, with testing services set to be conducted in those spots.

Health minister Ummu Mwalimu made this affirmation here at the weekend in an update on the progress of combating the disease, saying the government intends to provide a total of 1,322 short term health sector jobs lasting last three months to helping the efforts.

In a move to increase the number of the specialists present in the area the government has seconded six specialist medics to the region to look after three patients being treated after contracting the Marburg disease lately erupting in the region.

The idea is to improve on the work of

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New storm in Musoma: One dead, 30 boats ruined

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

ONE person died and 30 fishing boats were destroyed in heavy rain and strong winds at Makoko fishing base just outside Musoma municipality at the weekend.

Police in the area were yet to issue a statement on the matter but the municipality's fisheries officer, Michael Mbiza, confirmed the incidents.

The new spate of destruction occurred only days after a similar weather condition destroyed or heavily damaged 211 fishing boats and 62 nets at Busekera, Bwira, Kasoma and Bwai Kumsoma fishing ports in the area.

Busekera in particular was said to be strewn with huge numbers

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PM: Govt seeking to lower interest rates

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has elaborated on ongoing efforts by the government to work with financial institutions on how lower interest rates can be attained.

Launching a new branch of the National Bank of Commerce (NBC) in Bariadi, Simiyu region during the weekend, he said more people need to be attracted to use services of financial institutions, especially accessing loans.

He said the matter was being discussed with the Bank of Tanzania and leading financial institutions like the NBC, affirming that opening the branch was part of the solution for financial challenges like access to credit.

He appealed to the bank to widen opportunities in productive spheres in agriculture and livestock sectors, apart from various

“...the matter was being discussed with the Bank of Tanzania and leading financial institutions like the NBC, affirming that opening the branch was part of the solution for financial challenges like access to credit

service sectors, noting that Simiyu region has for a long while been the leading producer of cotton.

Its residents are also involved in animal husbandry and various trading occupa-

tions, he said, underlining the lack of capital to inject in businesses, in which case opening the branch would facilitate these challenges being resolved.

The opening of the branch was timely as the government plans to promote the region's economy, by dealing with the challenges that hinder business growth in the region, he said.

Citing investments by the government in the region like upgrading of major roads connecting the region with other regions, he objected that the speed of economic growth in the region is still too low.

The region's bus terminal is not being fully utilised despite its construction costing 7bn/-, he pointed out, with NBC Bank managing director Theobald Sabi affirming that the branch expands the bank's scope of providing services in all regions.

It aims to reach more people, supporting

the government's ambition for wider financial inclusion, he elaborated, explaining that up to now clients in the region were being served by an agency network with more than 30 outlets or service points.

The branch will serve all kinds of customers including government institutions, civil servants, business and higher learning students, he said.

It will take up functions like collects government revenue via the Government Electronic Payment Gateway (GePG) and the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), he said.

NBC Bank is the third largest bank in the country with assets worth 1.52trn/- and deposits pegged at 1.96trn/-, with a staff outlay of 977 employees in 48 branches, 180 ATM machines, more than 9000 agencies and similar wide outreach via mobile phone transactions or internet transmission, he specified.

2023 Clouds Media honour delivered to Maria Nyerere

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

MARIA Nyerere (pictured), widow of founder President Julius Nyerere has been bestowed with the 2023 most influential lady award in recognition of her contributions to the country's development.

Dr Tulia Ackson, the Speaker of the National Assembly, presented the award to Charles Makongoro Nyerere, a son of Mwalimu Nyerere and currently regional commissioner for Manyara, at a Mlimani City event in Dar es Salaam on Saturday.

The awards ceremony was the seventh inception, organised by Clouds Media Group and sponsored by the CRDB Bank, Kilombero Sugar, Serengeti Breweries Ltd, Multichoice (T) Ltd and Classic Furnishers.



Several prominent women received the awards in various categories with the leadership category

award bestowed to Anna Makakala, the commissioner general for Immigration.

She thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her trust in her abilities, similarly being happy for cooperation with senior officials at the Home Affairs ministry.

Somoe Ismail, the TANESCO board chairperson, who received the lifetime achievement, meanwhile as the innovation category award went to Tasila Melita for designing a machine for the destruction of used sanitary pads.

Dr Stella Rwezaura, a blood transfusion specialist who supervised the transplant of bone marrow to 11 patients afflicted with blood cancer obtained the community development category award.

She said in her remarks that the community must abandon misleading beliefs in regard to blood cancer when it is diagnosed as it is curable, not necessarily fatal.

"I thank the government for giving me the opportunity to study to become a specialist," she said, noting that when she began studying only two blood cancer specialists were available, nearing retirement.

Tuli Esther Mwambapa, the CRDB Foundation managing director, received the year's best mobiliser award, at an event that was also graced by former first lady Salma Kikwete, the CCM Secretariat head of Ideology and Publicity, Sophia Mjiema, and leading ladies from various political parties and other institutions.



Project launched to lower stunting in the Lake Zone primary schools

By Correspondent Shaban Njia, Kahama

A TOTAL of 120,000 primary school students from six Lake Zone regions are expected to do away with permanent stunting and malnutrition through a project to mobilise eating nutritious foods, especially at this time when the government has directed for each school to provide meals for students.

The schools from Mwanza, Geita, Mara, Shinyanga, Kagera and Simiyu regions totaling 240 schools will be reached and given education on nutrients added foods, an average of 40 schools from each region.

In addition, the project is being implemented by PO-RALG in collaboration with Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), an NGO and SAKU company and will cost 910m/-.

This was revealed here at the weekend by GAIN manager, Archand Ngehema at a meeting to introduce the project by involving PO-RALG director of nutrition, Mwita Waibe and other health and education officials from the six selected regions.

He said: "The quality of nutritious food in schools is very much needed to protect our children from stunting and malnutrition, schools' committees in collaboration with par-

ents and guardians are called to buy nutrients added flour, while health and nutrition officers will have the responsibility to inspect the food at the schools."

For his part PO-RALG director of nutrition, Mwita Waibe said 47 per cent of small children are in good health while 57 per cent have nutrition problems and 30 per cent and added that in FY 2015/16 a total of 2.9 million children suffered from developed stunting.

Food and Nutrition expert from SANKU Company, Josephine Kimario said they have invented a special machine (dosifier) for adding nutrients to the food and they have supplied 848 machines countrywide, with Shinyanga Region receiving 48 and Kahama District five to fight malnutrition.

She said every day five million people eat nutrients added "ugali" and the machines have the ability to recognize the level of nutrients in foods and appealed to food manufacturers countrywide to add nutrients to the food before taking them to the market. For his part, Kahama district commissioner, Mboni Mhita said Geita Region leads in having children with stunting at 38.6 per cent, followed by Kagera at 34.2 per cent, Simiyu (33.2 per cent), Mwanza (27.9 per cent), and Mara 23.2 per cent.



Mchinga legislator former first lady Salma Kikwete (R, in black head-cloth), Coca-Cola managing director Unguu Sulai (3rd-R), Oryx Gas Tanzania marketing manager Peter Ndomba (3rd-L) and Coca-Cola public relations manager Salum Nasoro (2nd-L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting Oryx cooking stove and gas cylinder to a food vendor (L). The items were issued free of charge to female food vendors through Coca-Cola's 'Mwanamke Shujaa' (literally, Woman of Valour). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

New storm in Musoma: One dead, 30 boats ruined

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of nails and pieces of iron from the damaged boats, that necessitating an immediate clean-up operation to make the fishing based safe enough again for the fishermen, their customers and other residents of the area.

Elisha Simeon, chairman of the beach managing unit (BMU) at Makoko fishing village near the municipality, said that the rain on Friday destroyed 25 boats at the fishing port.

The heavy rain with strong winds started at 10 p.m. and persisted until the small hours of the following day, he said, appealing to development stake-

holders to assist the owners of the boats in repairing their vessels.

The cost of making one boat is put at around 1.7m/- and getting such funds urgently is complicated matter, he said, noting that at the Makoko fishing village, one person had his ten boats heavily damaged. The cost of their being repaired is huge, he stated.

"After the rain, the following morning, we went to Makoko fishing village and found a male dead body at the beach and the fishermen were unable to recognize the victim," he said.

While 25 boats were destroyed at Makoko fishing village, Busekera lost five boats to

the storm, adding to its earlier losses when more than two hundred boats were destroyed in heavy rain and gushing winds.

Stellah Sylvester, the vice chairperson of the boats owners' association in the area, said this time around there was far less destruction, as on March 20 a hurricane destroyed 137 boats, now rising to 142, with some boat owners having started repairing their equipment.

Halfani Haule, the district commissioner, visited the fishing port after hurricane on Monday last week, urging them to do what they can on their own while the government seeks out stakeholders for assistance.

He would not immediately

declare that the government would come forward with support but hinted on plans to consult various stakeholders and soliciting the participation of the (Musoma Rural) constituency legislator, Prof Sospeter Muhongo.

Many of the boat owners need timber for repairing their boats, the DC noted.

Maneno Magafu, a Busekera village fisherman, said the rain had adversely affected his export as he used to be paid 5,000/- per day when fishing. He would no longer get the money until the boats are repaired, he lamented.

Masai Kakoro, the BMU chairman at Kasoma fishing village,

said the plea by boat owners and fishermen in the area is to obtain assistance to get the vessels repaired to resume their daily activities.

Majura Maingu, coordinator of the Victoria Farming and Fishing Organisation, an NGO that assists to improve fishing and farming practices, meanwhile said the matter of assisting the fishermen "just cannot be avoided."

"Fishing is an important sector for the development of our region, and it is therefore vital to assist those in need," he said, adding that the NGO was mobilising the wider community to see how those hit by the disaster could be best assisted.



Fishermen based along the Makoko section of the Lake Victoria shores just outside Musoma municipality inspect one of their fishing canoes - now grounded after being heavily damaged by a thunderstorm only days ago. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Marburg regional combat: Fishing ports, bus stands top in testing run

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available specialists in the region, with the doctors sent there being selected from various units including a specialist for kidney diseases, nurses trained in handling critical diseases and specialists in internal diseases.

"Marburg disease must be closely followed up and speedily inform the WHO on the progress, in adhering to the 2003 health regulations," she stated, urging the public to maintain efforts to control it and report of suspicious sickness similar to the disease.

For nine days since the disease was reported at Maruku and Kanyagereko wards in Bukoba District, a team of experts was monitoring it and so far 205 suspected contact cases have been quarantined for monitoring.

They come from families initially caring for their sick relatives, including hospital staff, she stated, elaborating that they aren't showing symptoms of the disease but are being held to protect others in case they may have transmissible virus presence.

The temporary staff will help district councils to provide medical services at the ward and village levels, helping to raise awareness on the need to abide by experts' guidelines.

This enables people to be protected against the disease while they pursue routine income generating activities, she stated, explaining that medical teams will move to islands in the lake to look for anyone with symptoms of the disease.

Hamza Kamugisha, resident of Rwamisheny area of Bukoba municipality, commended the government for updates on the disease as it reassures people when pursuing daily activities amid precautions against the disease.

TCCIA pushes business community to use Indian rupees in their transactions

By Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIAN business community has been challenged to utilise the opportunity of using the recently introduced specialised rupee Vostro accounts (SRVA) in their transactions to boost their business.

Nebart Mwapwele, Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA)'s executive director threw the challenge over the weekend when speaking at the stakeholders meeting on trade in local currency (TSH and INR) which was organised by India High Commission to Tanzania.

Mwapwele said that the move would help to promote international trade be-

tween India and Tanzania.

Right now importers and exporters from both countries are encouraged to pay for their goods in their local currency and SRVA has been introduced for them by the central bank of India for trade transactions.

Mwapwele lauded Indian and Tanzanian governments to take this initiative because this will help both countries to increase the value of their money, reduce import and export costs, attract foreign investment and increase economic growth.

"As TCCIA we are very glad for this initiative because our Tanzanian businessmen will not convert Tanzanian shilling to US dollar exchange rate and then from US

dollars to Indian Rupee to import or export goods, now will be able to pay directly in Tanzanian shillings or Indian rupee something that was not the case in the past," he said.

India High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Pradhan said that using Tanzanian shillings and Indian rupees between Tanzania and India has been established by the central bank of India.

The envoy called on Tanzanian businessmen to utilise the opportunity because the Indian government through the central bank of India has eliminated currency charges to allow more importers and exporters to reduce costs of buying goods,

increase export and import between two countries and promote international trade.

"If Tanzanian importers or exporters want to import or export their goods will pay money in their local currencies, they don't need to convert their currencies," he said, calling on Tanzanian banks to open banks in India or open specialised rupee Vostro accounts (SRVA).

Aditya Narayan Singh, Bank of Baroda (T) Ltd managing director, said that SRVA is one of the major initiatives by the Reserve bank of India (RBI) to promote growth of global trade with emphasis on exports and imports from increasing interest of the global trading community in INR.

'Menstruation challenges make girl students fail to attend classes'

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

A TOTAL of 360 Form I to VI girl students out of 900 from Gairo secondary school in Gairo District, Morogoro Region fail to attend classes whenever they are in menstruation, in fear of being laughed at by their male counterparts.

This stems from many of the schoolgirls being forced to use traditional methods during their periods due to high cost of sanitary pads.

Gairo secondary school nurse, Moshi Joseph made the remarks at a campaign designed to assist school girls educationally conducted by DoweCare firm at various schools in the country and who distributed SoftCare sanitary pads to the schoolgirls.

Moshi said the number of schoolgirls fail to attend classes or 40 per cent of them every month, the situation that has affected them academically.

She explained that due to the availability of the pads, school attendance will increase significantly.

One of the students, Gloria Wilson (Form V) said girl students at the school face many challenges through lack of pads when at school including being laughed at by their male counterparts.

Another student, Passanen Edward (Form I) said another challenge they face is lack of the peace of mind when studying as they mixed up with boy students in classes.

Speaking at the event, DoweCare commercial manager, Lucia Msami said they decided to help with the pads in order to reduce other hazardous items as alternatives.

Gairo district commissioner, Jabir Makame said as for now girl students in various areas of the country have the opportunity to perform better academically due to the government's removal of many obstacles and made a conducive environment for learning including free educations, loans to students pursuing higher education, laboratories and sanitary pads for girl students.

Makame said the government will not tire in valuing girl students in making sure they get education as President Samia Suluhu Hassan has made great efforts to assist girl students to pursue higher education.

DoweCare also provided 500kg of maize and 300kg beans and its expectation is to reach five secondary schools while so far it has reached only three in Morogoro Region including Ngerengere, Morogoro and Gairo secondary schools.



DP World Foundation official Abdulla Shaiba (2nd-L) presents iftar to Mwajuma Jecha of Janga Mizini village in Zanzibar at the weekend. Looking on are the foundation's manager, Salim Al-Mansoor (L), and Sheikh Bakari Khamisi Mohamed of Amour Mosque. DP World Foundation, which is based in Dubai, is out to supply iftar to 770 families in the Isles. Photo: Correspondent Martin Kabemba

Mikumi National Park set to attract 200,000 tourists

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

MIKUMI National Park has set the goal of increasing attractions to attract 200,000 tourists per year from the current 80,000 tourists.

Senior conservator of the park, Herman Mtei made the statement over the weekend when addressing editors from various media houses who attended a three days training on biodiversity conservation and wildlife in Morogoro Region.

The training was conducted by the Journalists' Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) in collaboration with Internews Earth Journalism Network East Africa, whereas on the last day editors visited the park.

He said the park is currently among the most visited with tourists coming from foreign countries as well as locals. He said the park has provided adequate protection of its animals against poaching, which he said has decreased to a

large extent compared to previous years. Mtei noted that one of major challenges they face is invasion by villagers from surrounding villages who have been grazing their livestock within the park.

"Those caught grazing in the park are penalized; it is unfortunate that they kept repeating similar mistakes. A single cow can be fined 50,000/- but pastoralists have no problems paying the fine for the animals because it is the same amount they would have used to purchase grasses," the conservator remarked.

He added: "Livestock keepers could pay 50,000/- for over 600 cows; we have now decided to auction the animals to make them not repeat similar mistakes."

According to him, investors are welcomed to inject money in various sites within the park including the Mgoda, Ngotwike site, View point, Mke mgumba, Campsite no. 5 and Chogawale.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ON BEHALF OF CHAODA HARDWARE & ELECTRICAL COMPANY LIMITED WITH REG NO 141-832-816 WOULD LIKE TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT OFFICIALLY FROM THIS DAY 27TH MARCH 2023 ONWARDS THE SAID COMPANY WILL BE PERMANET CLOSED.

ISSUED BY THE COMPANY'S MANAGEMENT.

GAO SHUWEN
DIRECTOR
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chaodalimited2020@gmail

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VACANCY

Vi Agroforestry Seeking Consultant for Midterm Evaluation of "Smallholder Coffee Development Project"

Background

Vi Agroforestry is commissioned by the European Union (EU) to implement a 4-year project; the Smallholder Coffee Development Project (CODE-P) in Songwe, Mbeya and Ruvuma regions of Tanzania. Between 2020-2024 CODE-P aims to reach 24,000 smallholder farmers including 12,000 youth in 6 districts of Ruvuma, Mbeya and Songwe Regions of Tanzania.

Purpose of Assignment

CODE-P is now in the middle of its implementation and therefore requires a midterm review of the progress. The main objective of this assignment is to assess the progress made over the past two and a half years. Broadly the assignment seeks to evaluate the Logical Framework particularly, the overall objective, specific objectives, and targets; approaches used, and value for money and recommend an exit strategy for the long-term sustainability of the results. Further to this, the evaluation results are expected to facilitate accountability to the donors and beneficiaries as well as inform the ongoing interventions.

Scope of Work

A total of 25 calendar days will constitute the evaluation period beginning 15th April 2023. This includes an estimated five days to prepare relevant tools and review documentation, ten days for data collection, and ten days for compiling the information gathered, analysis, drafting, completing the evaluation report, and report presentations to CODE-P staff and stakeholders. The consultant will arrange for a feedback meeting to share a draft of the evaluation report with the CODE-P consortium staff. A final report will then be provided after including the comments. The consultant will share the final report with stakeholders through a virtual workshop.

For more information and how to apply please visit: <https://viagroforestry.org/work-with-us/>

Deadline for applications - 17:00 EAT on 4th April 2023

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Exciting Employment Opportunity

Pact is an international nonprofit that works in nearly 40 countries building solutions for human development that are evidence-based, data-driven, and owned by the communities we serve. Our vision is thriving, resilient and engaged communities leading their own development. Founded in 1971, Pact works with partners to build resilience, improve accountability, and strengthen knowledge and skills for sustainable social impact. To learn more about Pact Tanzania, visit: <http://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania>

We are a recognized global leader in creating social impact. Our staff have a range of expertise in areas including capacity development, public health, governance, and civil society, climate change adaptation and mitigation, energy, women's economic empowerment, fragile states, artisanal and small-scale mining communities, monitoring and evaluation, microfinance, and more.

Project Overview

Pact has received funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation (CNHF) to scale up integrated early childhood development (ECD) services in Tanzania by integrating early childhood care and development activities into Pact's ongoing, USAID-funded ACHIEVE project. ACHIEVE uses a comprehensive, family-centered case management approach led by community-based case workers to provide a broad package of services to households with orphans and other vulnerable children in close coordination with the Government of Tanzania's health and social services and other service providers. With support from CNHF, Pact will build on the ACHIEVE platform to provide additional, critical early childhood care and development services to improve the well-being and future prosperity of infants and young children, focusing on the 14 councils in the regions of Mbeya and Tabora.

Pact Tanzania is looking for an enthusiastic, creative, energetic individual to fill the following vacant position for the Hilton Foundation Project:

Position: Assistant Finance Officer – ECD Integration, Head Office (Dar es Salaam) (1 position)

Project: Hilton Foundation Project

Contract Duration: 1-year contract (Renewable)

Job Objective: Perform functions to support Pact Tanzania in financial management to provide accurate, current, and complete disclosure of financial transactions for the project.

Job summary

The Finance Assistant works with the Finance team to ensure that Pact's financial policies and procedures and those of the donor are adhered to all times and accurate financial records are maintained.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

- Processing Payments on the bank system and mobile money facility
- Preparing Payment Vouchers and Journal Vouchers
- Initiate Transactions for Posting in the Accounting system and Filling Financial Documents.
- Management of Petty Cash
- Tracking Bank Balance to ensure availability of funds at any point in time and acting as Bank Agent.
- Prepare monthly payment of workers compensation fund in the WCF system.
- Perform Any other duties as assigned by supervisor/finance team

Qualifications:

- Bachelor degree with a major in Accounting /Finance.
- NBAA Intermediate Stage Module D'; higher modules will be added advantage.

Experience

- At least one year experience working in the finance/accounting area, particularly handling of cash and processing of payments (online and mobile money transfers)
- Working experience in posting of financial data in accounting software.
- Prior experience in working with Donor funded Projects and managing a functional level in a busy environment.

Skills :

- Proficiency in standard office computer applications, including EXCEL.
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Fluence in English and Swahili.
- Experience on electronic/Internet Banking
- Experience on Accounting Packages

Preferred Qualifications

- Tanzanian work experience is necessary; Tanzania National is preferred.

Instructions on How to Apply:

If you believe you are the ideal person we are looking for, please submit your application letter and a Curriculum Vitae online via email describing why you are the right candidate for this position detailing your experience and three (3) professional referees from your previous and current place of employment. Please send the application online (through Email: humanresourcestz@pactworld.org identifying the position you are applying for in the subject line). Only the applications sent online will be reviewed.

The closing date for applications is on April 10th, 2023.

Qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Pact is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its selection and employment practices based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, citizenship status, genetic information, matriculation, family responsibilities, personal appearance, credit information, tobacco use (except in the workplace), membership in an employee organization, or other protected classifications or non-merit factors.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

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Nape commends Airtel for investing in construction of 2Africa submarine cable

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER for Information, Communication and Information Technology, Nape Nnauye has commended Airtel Tanzania for investing in the construction of the Airtel 2Africa submarine cable project terming it as a solution for availability of faster internet communication in the country.

The minister commended the company after making a working visit over the weekend to inspect the progress of the construction of the Airtel 2Africa submarine cable project which is due to be completed by May this year.

"I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Airtel Tanzania for inviting me to visit the construction progress of the 2Africa submarine cable project. I also commend Airtel for investing so much on this project which supports our President's vision of opening the country to the region as a gateway to digital connecti-

ty. I am honored to learn that the project has been completed by 90 percent and very soon will be 100 percent complete," said Nnauye.

The 2Africa submarine cable is an important investment to which once completed, will improve internet communication in the country, said Nnauye adding that since President Samia Suluhu Hassan has endorsed the 2Africa sea cable project, it will attract more investments in the country which will lead to economic growth as well as job creation.

Earlier, Airtel Tanzania managing director Dinesh Balsingh said that the Airtel 2Africa submarine cable project is the most comprehensive subsea cable to serve the African continent and the Middle East region.

"The project is intended to enhance internet connectivity, capacity and reliability across Africa and the Middle East. The project, has so far been completed by 90 per cent will have a speed of 180 terabytes is

one of the largest in the world and will make internet connection both cheap and faster," said Balsingh.

He added that the 2Africa project underpins further growth of 4G, 5G and fixed broadband access by providing improved connectivity to underserved and rural areas, in addition the cable will provide the primary means of connectivity - voice, data and Internet.

"The infrastructure created through 2Africa submarine cable is a unique strategic proposition that shall serve and provide a platform to all mobile operators and internet service providers," said Balsingh adding that once the fiber cable system has been deployed direct international connectivity will be provided to data centres, enterprise and wholesale customers leading to job creation and economic growth.

The Airtel 2 Africa submarine cable project kicked off last year and will be completed by May 2023.



Dr Ifeyinwa Udo (2nd-L), Lead for Community-Based Services at the USAID Health Office, and the agency's Social Behaviour Change lead manager, Lulu Msangi (2nd-R), display a placard in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. It was shortly after the launch of the USAID Breakthrough ACTION Social and Behaviour Change internship and fellowship, SPARK programme, funded by USAID and led by the Johns Hopkins' Centre for Communications Programmes. With them are Waziri Nyoni (R), Chief of Party for USAID Breakthrough ACTION, and Simon Nzilibili, a health promotion programme officer at the Health ministry. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

USAID Breakthrough ACTION launches plan to enhance social, behaviour change skills

By Guardian Reporter

THE USAID-funded Breakthrough ACTION has launched the SPARK programme, a social and behaviour change (SBC) internship and fellowship programme aimed at enhancing the capacity of young professionals in SBC for health.

The programme builds on the success of the advancing communication experientially (ACE) mentoring programme, which was originally developed under the Tanzania capacity and communication project (TCCP), led by Johns Hopkins' centre for communications programmes (JH-CCP).

The ACE programme benefited over 200 interns and fellows, contributing to a growing alumni base, which the SPARK programme will now contribute to. The SPARK programme re-imagines and re-launches the ACE mentoring programme.

Speaking during the programme launch, USAID health office community team leader, Dr Ifeyinwa Udo said the US government is committed to building a skilled workforce in the health and development sector.

"Today, we are witnessing a remarkable programme that gives hands-on opportunities to graduates in the field of social and behaviour change. I am also happy to see young professionals early in their careers enrolled in the programme and receiving mentorship to be better at what they do and advance in the SBC career. I would like to commend the Breakthrough ACTION project for this initiative," added Dr Udo.

Waziri Nyoni, Chief Party of USAID Breakthrough ACTION and the project implementers said the SPARK internship and fellowship programme is a model for building the capacity of the next generation of social and behaviour change professionals.

"Through hands-on experience and blended learning opportunities, young professionals will gain the skills and knowledge they need to drive innovation, progress, and sustainability in the health sector. We are pleased to collaborate with the Ministry of Health and host organisations in implementing this programme and look forward to its positive impact on health outcomes," said Nyoni.

Simon Nzilibili, programme officer at the Ministry of Health (Health Promotion Section) said: "We appreciate the support that USAID Breakthrough ACTION project has provided to our ministry to build capacity in social and behaviour change for health. We would like to thank the USAID Breakthrough ACTION project for this internship and fellowship programme and look forward to continued collaboration and cooperation to address health challenges in Tanzania."

One of the intern programme beneficiaries, Phebe Andrew said she is happy to have been selected for the internship opportunity and to be part of the next generation of social and behaviour change professionals.

"The programme's blended learning approach will provide me with the hands-on experience and mentorship I need to advance in my career path. I am grateful to the

USAID Breakthrough ACTION project and the host organisations for investing in the professional development of young professionals like myself, and I am excited to see the positive impact this programme will have on health outcomes in Tanzania," she added.

Through the programme's experiential learning initiative, recent graduates (interns) and mid-career professionals (fellows) will have the opportunity to gain practical skills in SBC through a blended learning approach over a period of six to twelve months.

By participating in the SPARK programme, these interns and fellows will also become part of the growing alumni base of over 200 beneficiaries.

USAID Breakthrough ACTION project, led by Johns Hopkins' Centre for Communications Programmes (JH-CCP), which is funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) a Social Behavior Change (SBC) project designed to provide technical assistance to the government aims to improve policy and implementation framework around SBC activities.

The goal of the project is to catalyze opportunities for Tanzanians to improve their health status by transforming socio-cultural norms and supporting the adoption of healthier behaviours.

The SPARK programme is designed to provide young professionals with the opportunity to apply social and behaviour change theories and practices in real-life settings.



EXCITING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Pact is an international nonprofit that works in nearly 40 countries building solutions for human development that are evidence-based, data-driven, and owned by the communities we serve. Our vision is thriving, resilient and engaged communities leading their own development. Founded in 1971, Pact works with partners to build resilience, improve accountability, and strengthen knowledge and skills for sustainable social impact. To learn more about Pact Tanzania, visit: <http://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania>

We are a recognized global leader in creating social impact. Our staff have a range of expertise in areas including capacity development, public health, governance, and civil society, climate change adaptation and mitigation, energy, women's economic empowerment, fragile states, artisanal and small-scale mining communities, monitoring and evaluation, microfinance, and more.

Project Overview

Pact has received funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation (CNHF) to scale up integrated early childhood development (ECD) services in Tanzania by integrating early childhood care and development activities into Pact's ongoing, USAID-funded ACHIEVE project. ACHIEVE uses a comprehensive, family-centered case management approach led by community-based case workers to provide a broad package of services to households with orphans and other vulnerable children in close coordination with the Government of Tanzania's health and social services and other service providers. With support from CNHF, Pact will build on the ACHIEVE platform to provide additional, critical early childhood care and development services to improve the well-being and future prosperity of infants and young children, focusing on the 14 councils in the regions of Mbeya and Tabora.

Pact Tanzania is looking for an enthusiastic, creative, energetic individual to fill the following vacant positions for the Hilton Foundation Project:

Position: Technical Director – ECD Integration, Head Office (Dar es Salaam) (1 position)

Project: Hilton Foundation Project

Contract Duration: 1-year contract (Renewable)

Position Purpose:

The Technical Director – ECD Integration (TD-ECD) will lead the team responsible for achieving the objectives of the CNHF-funded activity. The TD-ECD will ensure that the CNHF-funded interventions are of high technical quality and evidence-based and that they are efficiently and effectively integrated into the ACHIEVE case management platform and linked with ACHIEVE's systems strengthening and local partner capacity development work. The TD-ECD will directly supervise two Senior ECD Program Officers and will be part of the project's senior leadership and management team. The TD-ECD will ensure the project aligns with the government of Tanzania National Multi-Sectoral Early Childhood Development Programme (NM-ECDP) 2021/22- 2025/26), which serves as a guiding framework for the provision of a comprehensive and holistic package of early care and development initiatives.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide technical leadership, guidance, and support to the CNHF ECD project team and activities to ensure the achievement of all expected results.
- Lead the design, planning, monitoring, and budgeting of the CNHF-funded ECD activities, ensuring they build on existing national and international evidence, best practices, and lessons learned.
- Work closely with ACHIEVE's Technical Director-OVC and DREAMS Service Delivery and other ACHIEVE SO3 team members to plan and carry out well-integrated ECD service delivery into the ACHIEVE case management platform and other activities.
- Work closely with ACHIEVE's Technical Director-Systems Strengthening, Director of Zones and CSO Management, Senior Capacity Development Officer, and MEL Director and their respective teams to ensure coordination, linkages, and synergies with other ACHIEVE program and technical functions and objectives.
- Ensure the availability of needed SOPs, training materials, job aids, and other tools needed for effective capacity strengthening, program implementation, and monitoring.
- Conduct training/learning needs assessment for Pacts ACHIEVE sub-grantees in areas of early childhood development in the respective project implementation area.
- Provide other direct technical inputs in line with background expertise and project needs.
- Identify key ECD-related gaps and oversee needed processes for engaging outside expertise where appropriate.
- Facilitate coordination with other relevant in-country initiatives.
- Participate in hiring, supervising, and mentoring the project's technical, M&E, and program support staff.
- Promote integration and cross-fertilization of ideas and information technical areas and oversee initiatives to promote and strengthen knowledge management.
- In coordination with the Pact Country Director/ACHIEVE Project Director and ACHIEVE Deputy Project Director, serve as the primary point of contact for CNHF, the Government of Tanzania partners, and other ECD stakeholders.
- Participate in or ensure high-level project representation and leadership where needed on the National Multi-Sectoral ECD Programme committee, TECDEN, or other technical working groups with the Government of Tanzania and other stakeholders linked to key project initiatives.
- With the Pact Country Director/ACHIEVE Project Director and ACHIEVE Deputy Project Director represent the ECD project with CNHF, GoT, USAID, and other partners.
- Ensure the completion of all reporting requirements and other deliverables related to the CNHF ECD project.
- Work with national and local government authorities and ACHIEVE Local Implementing Partners to ensure the designed ECD programming aligns with the government of Tanzania's guiding framework for providing a comprehensive and holistic package of early care and development initiatives.
- Mentor the technical team as appropriate and ensure international best practice is integrated into program design and implementation.
- Coordinate with Pact global staff to support the project's successful programmatic and technical implementation and share lessons, learning, and achievements internally and externally.
- Perform other duties as required.

Basic Requirements

- Advanced degree (Masters or higher) in a relevant field such as public health, social work, education, etc.
- At least 5 years of senior-level management and/or technical advisor-type experience in Tanzania's health, education, and/or social welfare activities.
- Technical expertise and at least 3 years of experience implementing ECD activities in Tanzania, including in responsive caregiving, nutrition, health, safety/security, or other domains, and familiarity with the GoT's Nurturing Care Framework for caregivers

- and children ages zero to three years.
- Prior experience working with or collaborating with the government, including MCDGWSG, PO-RALG, or others.
- Prior experience with project-level planning, budgeting, and reporting processes.
- Demonstrated track record of successfully building and effectively managing diverse teams of employees.
- Experience managing donor-funded programs with demonstrated capacity to create and/or maintain complex systems and procedures involving multiple implementation sites, multiple partners, and diverse beneficiaries.
- Demonstrated effective interpersonal and creative problem-solving skills.
- Demonstrated ethical management practices.
- Ability to develop and maintain strong relationships with government and civil society partners.

Preferred Qualifications

- Tanzanian work experience is necessary; Tanzania National is preferred.

Position: Senior ECD Program Officer – Head Office (Dar es Salaam) (2 positions)

Project: Hilton Foundation Project

Contract Duration: 1-year contract (Renewable)

Position Purpose:

The Senior ECD Program Officer Integration (SPO-ECD) will work closely with a local implementing partner(s) to ensure the achievement of the objectives of the CNHF-funded activity in the assigned region of Mbeya or Tabora. The SPO-ECD will ensure the CNHF-funded interventions are implemented with high technical quality and are efficiently and effectively integrated with ACHIEVE project activities and platforms.

Key Responsibilities

- Oversee the implementation and technical quality of CNHF-funded ECD activities in all councils in the assigned region (Mbeya or Tabora).
- Lead the identification, planning, implementation, and monitoring of ECD activities to be integrated into the ACHIEVE case management platform and/or other suitable community platforms.
- Contribute to project activity design, develop work, and action plans with the TD-ECD, and monitor progress toward targets.
- Serve as a provider of TA, mentoring, and coaching to local implementing partners to assist them in planning, implementing, and monitoring high-quality, evidence-based ECD activities.
- Conduct supportive supervision mentoring visits to the field no less frequently than monthly to ensure activities adhere to guidance and SOPs and high-quality services reach targeted children and caregivers.
- Facilitate high-quality training to relevant staff of CSOs and other project stakeholders.
- Disseminate guidance, standard operating procedures (SOPs), and other job aids to implement high-quality, age-appropriate services to children and caregivers.
- Support the development of tools for CSOs to implement and monitor activity progress effectively.
- Work closely with the Health Informatic Developers to regularly monitor project activities and use data to improve project quality and implementation; proactively identify implementation challenges and help develop and implement practical solutions promptly.
- Submit monthly written updates to the TD-ECD for inclusion in quarterly, semi-annual, and annual reports.
- Participate in local, regional, and/or national-level meetings related to ECD to ensure coordination, technical quality, and learning.
- Help define the project learning agenda on ECD, including working with M&E team on defining critical data to be collected and analyzing data.
- Work with national and local government authorities and ACHIEVE Local Implementing Partners to ensure the designed ECD programming aligns with the government of Tanzania's guiding framework for providing a comprehensive and holistic package of early care and development initiatives.
- Document and share lessons learned and best practices in ECD for experience sharing and replication.
- Stay up to date on state-of-the-art and evidence-based approaches in ECD, and work to integrate these into project activities.
- Perform any other relevant duties as assigned by the TD-ECD.

Basic Requirements

- Bachelor's or master's degree in public health, social work, education, or another related field.
- At least 5 years' experience in an ECD-focused field position.
- Strong technical knowledge of national and international ECD activities, guidelines, and policies, including the GoT's Nurturing Care Framework for caregivers and children ages zero to three years and the adapted Care for Child Development (CCD) package.
- Demonstrated ability to adapt policies, frameworks, and program analyses into actionable steps for community-level implementation that are appropriate for children and caregivers.
- Experience creating strong working relationships with diverse stakeholders, including local government, CSOs, and community members.
- Demonstrated experience with using M&E data for program monitoring and decision-making.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in Kiswahili and English, including writing high-quality reports.

Preferred Qualifications

- Tanzanian work experience is necessary; Tanzania National is preferred.

Instructions on How to Apply:

If you believe you are the ideal person we are looking for, please submit your application letter and a Curriculum Vitae online via email describing why you are the right candidate for this position detailing your experience and three (3) professional referees from your previous and current place of employment. Please send the application online (through Email: humanresourcestz@pactworld.org identifying the position you are applying for in the subject line). Only the applications sent online will be reviewed.

The closing date for applications is on **April 10th, 2023.**

Qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Pact is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its selection and employment practices based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, citizenship status, genetic information, matriculation, family responsibilities, personal appearance, credit information, tobacco use (except in the workplace), membership in an employee organization, or other protected classifications or non-merit factors.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

WEHOLITE TANK SYSTEMS:

PLASCO LTD Brings an Opportunity to Revolutionize Water Solutions in Tanzania

In recognition of World Water Week, we turn our attention to the issue of water conservation in Tanzania. We are facing a water crisis. Many regions in our country are experiencing water scarcity due to a range of factors such as climate change, pollution, and inefficient water management practices. Tanzania's natural water resources, the rivers, lakes and aquifers, do not provide an equitable delivery of water to the various regions of the country. This leaves most of the population without any fresh water. Rapid urbanisation has also pushed poor urban dwellers to the slums, where there is no water or sanitation, and overcrowding exacerbates the already hazardous health conditions.

In other words, water demand is exceeding supply. As a result, it is becoming increasingly important to find innovative and sustainable solutions to manage water resources and ensure their conservation.

Plasco Limited, one of the leading manufacturers of HDPE and UPVC pipes in Tanzania, has invested in the manufacturing of Weholite products that include Sewerage network pipelines, Large Capacity Water Tanks, Stormwater Attenuation Tanks, Septic Tanks, Manholes and Culverts that are a game-changer in the conservation of water in Tanzania.

One of the key applications of Weholite is the production of Weholite Storage Tanks. Weholite is a sustainable solution - a service life in excess of 100 years when buried - and they promote the conservation of surface run off and ground

water. With its unique design, the tanks ensure that rainwater can be collected and stored safely, reducing the need for people to rely on groundwater sources for their daily water needs. This, in turn, helps to reduce the depletion of groundwater reserves, which is a significant issue in many parts of Tanzania.

Weholite Tanks are made from high-density polyethylene (HDPE) and is designed to be used for both rainwater harvesting and water storage. They are modular in nature which means that the factory-built tanks can store as little as 25000 litres or be assembled on site to capacities of tens of millions of litres. They are designed and manufactured to site specific conditions and are suitable for both domestic, commercial, and industrial use.

Weholite is an excellent solution for water conservation for a number of reasons. It is easy to install and maintain, making it ideal for both urban and rural areas. Weholite is also durable and can withstand harsh weather conditions, ensuring that the water stored inside is safe and protected. Additionally, the technology is UV-resistant, guaranteeing that it does not degrade due to prolonged exposure to sunlight.

Plasco Ltd recently completed a notable project that has had a significant impact on the community of Dabalo in Dodoma. The project which involved the construction of a new installation of a new water pipeline, and the refurbishment of existing water infrastructure. The Weholite tank, with a capacity of 150,000 liters, was installed to provide additional storage capacity for the area.



WEHOLITE SEPTIC TANK - DN2200 SN2 (120 PE) X 2

The Minister of Water Hon. Jumaa Aweso applauds the initiative taken by Plasco and we were honored to have him launch the Dabalo Tank in Dodoma Chamwino that is of 150,000 liters in volume and took two weeks for installation. In addition, Plasco Ltd's General Manager, Mr. Ali Gulamhussein, commented, "We are honored to have been a part of this project and to have contributed to the development of Tanzania's water infrastructure. Weholite is a sustainable solution that will help improve water access and management in the country. We are committed to supporting similar initiatives in other African countries."



WEHOLITE POTABLE WATER TANK DN2200 SN2 (150 m3)

Plasco Ltd is promoting the installation of rainwater harvesting systems in schools, the private sector, government sectors and other public institutions, where water conservation is critical. By promoting the use of the Weholite, Plasco Ltd is not only providing a practical solution to water conservation but also raising awareness about the importance of sustainable water management practices.

Plasco Ltd is leading the way in promoting the use of this innovative product, and their efforts to install water harvesting systems in public and private institutions are commendable. By promoting sustainable water management practices, we can ensure that future generations have access to the water resources they need to thrive.



WEHOLITE CHEMICAL STORAGE TANK DN2200 SN2 (20 m3)



WEHOLITE POTABLE WATER TANK DN2200 SN2 (300 m3)



WEHOLITE RAIN WATER HARVEST TANK DN2000 SN2 (1000 m3)



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT
TANZANIA RAILWAYS CORPORATION



SECOND TANZANIA INTERMODAL AND RAIL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT PROJECT ID NO: P176682

GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has applied for financing in the amount of US\$ 150 million equivalents from the World Bank towards the cost of the Second Tanzania Intermodal and Rail Development Project (TIRP-2), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds for payments for goods, works, related services and consulting services to be procured under this project.

The project will include the following components:

COMPONENT A: Strengthening of Railway Infrastructure and Support of Design Studies

Dar es Salaam to Tabora infrastructure safety strengthening (840.172 Km)

- Track Refurbishment; improvement of railway crossings and track fencing at townships
- Rehabilitation and repairs to weak river crossing bridges
- Design and supervision

Rehabilitation of Tabora – Isaka section (135 km)

- Complete track renewal
- Bridges repair/rehabilitation
- Design and supervision

Improvement of Intermodal Terminals

- Ilala Terminal
- Isaka Terminal
- Design and supervision

Railway Design Studies

- Design studies for Kilosa – Gulwe – Igandu (120 km) and
- Design studies for other TRC lines

COMPONENT B: Operational and Institutional Support

Operational Support

- Management support the TRC to implement the Business Plan
- Operationalization of Train Control/Warrant system
- Open access operational support
- Asset management

Institutional Support

- Project implementation team (PIT)
- Safety management system study for Central Railway
- TAZARA Transformation study
- Training to TRC, LATRA and MoWT

Transport studies and technical assistance to the Ministry of Transport

- Intermodal integration study
- Transport sector investment program
- Support in Monitoring and Evaluation of the project

Procurement of Contracts financed by the **World Bank will be conducted through the procedures as specified in the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers' Fourth Edition, November 2020 ("Procurement Regulations")** and is open to all eligible firms and individuals as defined in the Procurement Regulations.

Specific Procurement Notices for contracts to be bid under the World Bank's International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures and for contracts for Consultancy Services will be announced, as they become available, in UN Development Business and dgMarket, in regional and local newspapers in Tanzania and in the Tanzania National e-Procurement System (TANePS).

Some of procurement activities for the project will be processed through TANePS. Thus, all prospective bidders interested to participate in bid opportunities under this project are required to be registered as users of the system. The registration is open to all local and international bidders. Bidders already registered to use TANePS need not register again. All bidders are encouraged to use the system User Guides or Suppliers Training Videos which can be accessed at <https://www.taneps.go.tz/epps/home.do>. Furthermore, bidders are strongly advised to download "D10 End-User Supplier Manual" which can be found through the "User Manuals" link under "Quick Guide" section on the TANePS home page. For TANePS registration support and any clarifications (help desk), please contact the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) support team through email: support@ppra.go.tz, Telephone: +255 (0)26 2963854; +255 (0)624 494949 or +255 (0)736 494948.

Prequalification of contractors will not be applicable for these contracts.

Interested eligible bidders who wish to be included on the mailing list to receive invitations to bid under ICB procedures, and interested consultants who wish to receive a copy of advertisement requesting expressions of interest for consultancy contracts, or those requiring additional information, should contact the address below: -

Director General
Tanzania Railways Corporation
Sokoine Drive/Railway Street,
P. O. Box 76959,
Dar es Salaam, TANZANIA,
Telephone: +255 222112695
Telefax: +255 22 2116525 / +255 22 2127404,
Email address: dg@trc.co.tz
Website: <https://www.trc.co.tz>

Vodacom's M-mama system launched in Arusha Region

By Guardian Reporter

THE government in partnership with Vodacom Tanzania Foundation has launched the M-mama system in Arusha Region to improve fast referral emergency transport services for pregnant mothers and new-borns.

Speaking during the launch that took place at Mount Meru referral hospital, regional educational officer, Abel Tupwa commended the success resulting from the program in each region it has been introduced to save lives of pregnant women and new-borns. Tupwa represented the regional commissioner, John Mongella.

"M-mama is among many positive impacts of the partnerships between the government and private sector in providing innovative solutions to challenges facing our society. This program uses a simple and state-of-art technological solution to coordinate and enable pregnant women, who gave birth and new-borns to access referral emergency transport to get to suitable health services on time," said Tupwa.

According to him, the M-mama's system is facilitated by an extensive network of government hospitals, its ambulances, and private cars' owners' alias as community drivers as well as an innovative technology system that connects all service providers by Vodacom in partnership with the government to solve

referral emergency transport for pregnant women and new-borns.

He added: "Statistics by the Ministry of Health indicate that we lose 250 women per 100,000 lives, and 25 new-borns per 1,000 lives. We expect to decrease the death rate by 38 per cent and 47 per cent for pregnant women and new-borns respectively if the system is effectively implemented."

Tupwa urged Arusha residents to utilize the system as there will be a huge possibility that every car owner you meet is a community driver who can assist you with emergency transport for a pregnant woman, those who gave birth, and new-borns.

He encouraged more private drivers to take part in the initiative championed by the government and Vodacom to reduce maternal mortality in the region.

Explaining the innovative technology behind the m-mama system and how it operates, Vodacom Tanzania Northern Zone Manager, George Venanty said: "Vodacom in partnership with the government, we have used our technological innovations to develop a system that enables the government to manage referral and emergency services in a quick manner. It facilitates easy connections for women and their newborns during emergency situations with government ambulance or community drivers through the

dispatch centre that coordinates referral and emergency services. Therefore, assist to save the lives of pregnant women and newborns by transporting them to suitable health centers on time. All these are enabled by a wide coverage of our quality network services across the country".

The pilot project for the m-mama system took place for the first time in Mwanza and Shinyanga regions from 2013 to 2021 targeting to provide solutions to the shortage of transport for pregnant women that resulted in delay in giving birth. The system helped to decrease deaths caused by or related to delays in getting health services because of lacking emergency transport by 38 percent and reduced the newborns' deaths by 47 percent within that time in the Shinyanga Region.

Through the m-mama system, over 18,600 women and newborns have been transported (15,559 women and 3,131 newborns), this is for both Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. In consideration of the sustainable partnership between the government and Vodacom, all the operational and transportation costs are covered by the government.

Currently, the m-mama system is fully operating in eight regions in Tanzania mainland and all five regions across Zanzibar. It will be fully implemented across the country by September, this year.



Arusha regional education officer Abel Tupwa (with scissors) graces the launch of M-mama programme's referral emergency transport facility – or dispatch centre – at the Mount Meru Referral Hospital in Arusha city at the weekend. It is run by the government in partnership with the Vodacom Tanzania Foundation. In red T-shirt is Vodacom Tanzania's Northern Zone manager, George Venanty, and right is the programme's coordinator at the Health ministry, Geoffrey Shayo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TAA to continue upgrading airport services countrywide

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Airports Authority (TAA) has vowed to continue making major improvements at airports countrywide to ensure travellers get the best experiences and quality services.

TAA director general, Mussa Mbura welcomed investors to invest at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) and others in Mbeya, Mwanza, Arusha and Dodoma by setting up bars' restaurants and shops to improve travellers' experience.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam during the launch of The Sky view bar at JNIA Terminal III, Mbura commended the sixth phase government's efforts in improving business and investment environment, saying the move will boost its coffers.

"We have a total of 58 airports across Tanzania; we are inviting investors to provide service at our new airport in Arusha, but also the Msalato International Airport

which is still under construction," said TAA DG, adding that more customers are expected at JNIA shops and bars during the high peak season which is after the holy month of Ramadan.

The Sky view director general, Brig Gen (Rtd) Michael Luwogo said: "We have invested over \$500,000. We also opened a coffee house at Terminal III in 2022 with an equal investment. The aim is to provide our customers with a high end environment and facilities."

Luwogo noted that TAA has set high standards for themselves as well as investors in order to provide all travellers with enhancing and wonderful experiences.

He said: "We are proud to be a Tanzanian owned and managed company who have brought international partners and investments. We are willing to develop a public private partnership with TAA and others."

He commended the government for putting in place a good environment for local investors while ap-

preciating the support from TAA towards fulfilling its mission.

"We thank TAA for their trust in us and guidance throughout the process of making this a successful project and investment. We promise to provide the best hospitality experience, truly reflecting the warmth and colours of Tanzania."



We have a total of 58 airports across Tanzania; we are inviting investors to provide service at our new airport in Arusha, but also the Msalato International Airport which is still under construction

WWF Tanzania plants 1000 trees along Mzumbwi River

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

WORLD Wide Fund for nature (WWF) Tanzania has planted 1000 trees along Mzumbwi River in Pugu, Coast Region as it commemorated the global earth hour aimed at meditating and impacting on environmental conservation that leads to ecological resilience in the country.

The climax of celebrations themed: 'Create the Biggest hour for Earth to celebrate this year's Earth hour' held over the weekend, which initially began with 18 kilometers jogging and cycling from Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) to Pugu hills forest reserve engaging workers and stakeholders.

WWF Tanzania country director Dr Amani Ngusaru, said natural disaster control is possible only if people dedicate at least 60 minutes of their time in a year towards understanding the environment, the impacts on human behavior on it and the importance of its protection.

"Our planet has been under stress due to interactions. Ocean circulations for example have changed due to change of seasons with people being unaware of what to plant. People should have harmony with nature by giving one hour in the whole year to think and act upon the degraded ecosystem," he said.

Dr Ngusaru added: "The same energy that people put in advocating for positive change on other aspects in the community should be imposed on environmental conservation. We don't have to wait and see elephants moving in people's premises and start acting. Let's start now."

According to him, the government has shown its initiative on environmental concerns at a great percent however recommending it to invest more on the meteorological sector.

WWF Tanzania communication official Joan Itanisa, said planting trees along Mzumbwi river comes as part of fulfilling conservation initiatives put in cooperation with Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) and Tanzania Forest Services to reduce harm to river Msimbazi caused by Pugu cattle market and agricultural activities along Msimbazi river.

Dar es Salaam municipal environmental management officer Shaban Yusuph said the government's main task as WWF partner on river Msimbazi project is to increase water flow likewise improving water safety.



World Wildlife Fund - Tanzania stakeholders pictured in Dar es Salaam on Saturday showcasing the 1,000 or so tree seedlings they have planted so far along Mzumbwi River in Pugu Coast Region. This was in commemoration of Earth Hour, a WWF-organised global event held annually to encourage individuals, communities and businesses to turn off non-essential electric lights for one morning hour, usually on the last Saturday of March, as a symbol of commitment to safeguarding the environment. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

"Eighty percent of the green water is carried by plants while the remaining percent is the one that flows daily. Planting trees is the only solution to the increase if we are aiming at increasing the flow of water in the river," he said.

Wami-Ruvu Basin technician Mary Msangi, said their role as WWF partner is to raise people's awareness on the climatic challenges associated with agricultural activities in river Msimbazi.

"The law demands people to distance themselves 60 meters away from water sources, educating them on effects that they might be caused with their farming will automatically reduce harm on the river," he said.

Sharon Mowo (11), East African Community (EAC) Trade and Tourism ambassador said her movement in joining WWF initiatives is a yearly plan to plant million trees across the country and East Africa at large. Dar es Salaam bicycle riders association chairperson Hussein Ally, made a call particularly to women that its time they engage cycling in their exercises as medical researchers have proved that 68 percent of women riding bicycles are freed from possibilities of suffering cancer.

The global Earth hour commemorations began on Thursday. It was channeled through an organized zoom webinar that engaged journalists and WWF country heads in Africa discussing successes and measures upon the dynamic changes on climate.

RMOs to oversee provision of quality health services

By Correspondent Jaliwason Jasson, Mbulu

DESPITE huge funds provided by the government to boost health services, regional medical officers are required to oversee the quality of the services and support development partners who assist in sourcing the funds to reduce maternal deaths.

Deputy Minister for Health, Dr Godwin Mollle made the remarks at the weekend at a meeting for health stakeholders that was sponsored by Haydom Lutheran hospital, Mbulu.

"Our president is sourcing funds from stakeholders, hence regional medical officers should oversee health services being provided at all hospitals and health centres," said Dr Mollle.

He said funds for projects sponsored by development partners in the health sector stem from President Samia Suluhu Hassan's good relations with foreign countries.

He added that in FY 2-22/23 the government provided 54.2bn/- to regional hospitals alone and 51.2bn/- for zonal regional hospitals in order to boost health services.

He explained that in regard to zonal, regional and national hospitals a total of 29.9bn/- was provided to invest in quality services delivery to save mothers and children and reduce maternal deaths.

He noted that for this year the government has invested in the construction of district hospitals, health centres and dispensaries by providing 70bn/- to build the infrastructures thereof.

For his part, the executive director of Haydom Lutheran Hospital Dr Paschal Mdoe said in regard to the safe births project, they are currently implementing it in collaboration with the Health ministry, PO-RALG, the association of women medical specialists and Tanzania midwives association.

Dr Mdoe noted that the project began November 2020 in five regions Manyara, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza and Tabora and stemmed from the project document prepared by Haydom Hospital and received USD 4.5 million (11bn).

He explained the project is being implemented in 30 health centres in the five regions and every region with six health centres and added that the regions were picked up from their higher maternal deaths except Manyara Region that had fewer.

"In February 2021 we started collecting statistics and the first region to implement the project was Manyara," said Dr Mdoe.

He said since the beginning of the project there have been great achievements in regard to stillborn babies' deaths and those dying within 24 hours of birth.

He said in the past only 10 to 17 deaths of mothers after giving birth used to take place per month, but after the introduction of the project the deaths were reduced to under 10.

Dr Mdoe added that development partners including World Bank (WB) Global Financing Facilities, sponsoring the project, the Norwegian Government and UNICEF expressed interest to supplement 17bn/- in order to increase 140 more centres.



Our president is sourcing funds from stakeholders, hence regional medical officers should oversee health services being provided at all hospitals and health centres

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Renting out wildlife areas will be a new beginning

DEVELOPMENTS in cooperation and investment talks between the United States and Tanzania appear to be converging on some uncharacteristic area, that of renting out some conservation areas that may be of interest to US investors and on terms convenient for the government. Mohamed Mchengerwa, the minister, as that the two countries have agreed to sign a number of investment agreements in the tourism sector. That however depends on resolving some contested provisions, which basically implies regulatory conditionality, here.

He talked about having agreed with US ambassador Michael Battle on the need to make a quick review on some areas for the projected agreements to be signed fairly soon, with a basic framework accord having been struck. Often it is 'few things' which make or break crucial investment or other agreements, and the track record here is quite illustrative of that sort of hesitation. Partly it has to do with public opinion, in intellectual and ruling party circles in particular, clearly.

The benefits envisaged from a successful conclusion of the discussion, or seeing through the framework agreement to fruition, could most likely bring some fairly recalcitrant sections of opinion to see the usefulness of pursuing the current engagements, as the minister said that at present upwards of \$1.5bn is earned from the tourism industry each year, and it could vastly change. With the projected contracts the government may expect up to \$1bn earnings annually.

One condition which can obviously be expected to form part of contractual engagements is that what is done ought to be sustainable, in the sense of assuring the

generation of flora and fauna. So long as the biodiversity is not put at risk, issues like breeding species for commercial use could conceivably be left to investors. We need to make such observations as we often hear of hunting permits being issued, but trading in live animals is virtually forbidden.

For one thing, if this approach to conservation or wildlife zone investment succeeds, it may become a sort of role model for Tanzania to gradually move into a market economy of assets, not just of goods and services. Not many policy analysts seem to be alert to the fact that the breadth of the state sector in the economy is a cash guzzler rather than contributor to state income, money available for budgetary allocation. Even when they don't drain large amounts of cash directly, they stifle economic growth by hindering investments into the concerned sector. That would entail the formation of a vast number of firms to provide services in that sphere, but now one phones a state firm and waits, etc.

When one looks at what the sixth phase leadership is doing and recalls what took place over the past 30 years, it is as if an evolutionary process reaches its conclusion. Tanzania is gradually beginning to accept the framework of a market economy, which has to involve private capital penetrating what were hitherto protected state assets. There are still areas where the government "needs to recheck particular matters properly so that (we) can complete the..." transition to a resilient market economy. But that will be scaled over gradually as until it happens, the old school won't accept that it can even be imagined.

Modern slavery is far from abolished, and govts need to commit to ending it

BAGAMOYO is derived from the Swahili phrase, 'Bwaga moyo,' which means, 'Lay down the burdens of your heart,' the idea being that once you reached here, your life was over. You were doomed.

It reminds us of the tragedy of the transatlantic trade. The day has its roots in late August 1791, when an uprising began in Santo Domingo today Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

The slave rebellion weakened the Caribbean colonial system, sparking an uprising that led to the abolishment of slavery and independence for the island. It marked the beginning of the destruction of the slavery system, the slave trade and colonialism.

Today, it's a magnificent piece of architecture. But over a century ago, it was a raucous site of transaction where humans were traded off for mirrors and perfumes. Serfdom spiraled from here and spread to the Middle East and beyond. It was the beginning of suffering in the yester-years, but today it is the beginning of hope- at least spiritually.

The Anglican Cathedral Church of Christ in Zanzibar was built on top of former slave market of Old-Stone town to reconcile locals and the missionaries. Though the missionaries were at first resented, today they are darlings to many Zanzibaris. "We are now happy with the stay of missionaries in Zanzibar for they have built a number of primary and secondary schools where our children acquire free education. Even in some hospitals which

they man, treatment is given free of charge", says George Bilali an Old-Stone town resident.

For over 400 years, more than 15 million men, women and children were the victims of the tragic transatlantic slave trade, one of the darkest chapters in human history.

In commemoration of the memory of the victims, the General Assembly in December 2007, declared 25 March the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, to be observed annually.

The resolution also called for the establishment of an outreach programme to mobilize educational institutions, civil society and other organisations to inculcate in future generations the "causes, consequences and lessons of the transatlantic slave trade, and to communicate the dangers of racism and prejudice."

Since then, every year on 25 March, the International Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade has offers the opportunity to honour and remember those who suffered and died at the hands of the brutal slavery system.

This International Day also aims at raising awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice today.

In the night of 22 to 23 August 1791, men and women, torn from Africa and sold into slavery, revolted against the slave system in Saint-Domingue (now Haiti) to obtain freedom and independence.

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Quick visit to Zimbabwe: Are Ubuntu and Omoluabi spirits still relevant for Africa?

By Babafemi A. Badejo

I had titled the first part of my Zimbabwe experience as: "Quick Visit to Zimbabwe: My Case for the Rekindling of the Ubuntu Spirit in Africa". I got diverse reactions, including on the meaning of Ubuntu. Before writing on the final version of my memorable short stay in Zimbabwe that will be located within a rich history and beautiful nature, I decided to share an interesting exchange that arose from my first write-up, including using the opportunity to explain a bit on the meaning of Ubuntu.

For Madiba Nelson Mandela, Ubuntu represents "the profound sense that we are human only through the humanity of others; that if we are to accomplish anything in this world, it will in equal measure be due to the work and achievements of others". In effect, individualism that is much cherished in some cultures as the natural state of the human being is not necessarily so.

Some authors have defined Ubuntu more broadly by suggesting that it is African humanism, a philosophy, an ethic and as a worldview. Desmond Tutu, loosely defined Ubuntu as "I participate, I share". He drew on the principles of Ubuntu to guide South Africa's reconciliatory approach to apartheid-era crimes. For Tutu, "We are different so that we can know our need for one another, for no one is ultimately self-sufficient...The completely self-sufficient person would be sub-human".

A good illustration of Ubuntu was related in a piece I once read. A group of children were running in a race. A number of them were neck and neck when they noticed that one of them was far beyond. They all stopped, went back for the slower child and all ran happily together at her pace. Asked why they did that, they pointed out that happiness shared is far better than one person running to capture a price.

Aside from other reactions on different aspects of my story on getting a visa to Zimbabwe with a Nigerian passport, the reaction from a good friend to the first account on my visit cryptically elaborates on the word Ubuntu and much more. Unlike many who, in their reactions, felt pity for me with one promising to raise my experience with officials, I feel I should share the detailed exchange I had with Prof. Peter Fogam of the University of Lagos, Lagos (Unilag), to elicit, if possible, a wider debate on Ubuntu, especially as to if such a concept is still relevant in Africa.

As I completed my Ph.D in Political Science at the University of California, Los Angeles, (UCLA), I had to drag a fraudulent Iranian to a small claims

court. He hired the services of a lawyer. I felt I did not need one, after all I was a freshly minted Doctor of Philosophy. The lawyer made mincemeat of me before the Judge. I still won, though on paper, received a restitution that was much less than I had expected. I guess the Judge was convinced of the fact that I had been defrauded in spite of the Lawyer meeting most of my arguments with "hearsay" objections and the Judge agreeing with him, most of the times. American Courts are not like their Nigerian counterparts. The situation is a little more relaxed, almost like in Judge Judy's court. There are no intimidating colonial wigs in the hot African sun, for instance. Fela Anikulapo Kuti captured the situation best in his song: "Gentleman", wherein he derided the African colonial mentality of suit and tie in the stifling African heat on an average day.

I asked the Judge the meaning of hearsay. He responded in English that did not make sense to me. I looked and felt daft. But he ruled in my favour as he seemed to have decided not to allow technicalities to obstruct justice. However, the Lawyer insisted on some stupid monthly payments arrangement that I did not have the capacity to oppose. In fact, I was never paid. With this experience, I realised I was not learned as Lawyers readily claim to be. This was a major push for me. I went back to school to read law.

Prof. Fogam and I come a long way, he was, (with late Prof. Adedokun Adeyemi, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, and many others), my teacher in the pursuit of a Bachelors in Law at Unilag. Graduating with flying colours as they say in English, I proceeded to the Nigerian Law School and was called to the Nigerian Bar over 32 years ago. In addition, Prof. Fogam Bella Okagbue and Prof. Osinbajo accompanied Prof. Adeyemi to Somalia as part of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II). In effect, we were co-sojourners for almost two years during UNOSOM II's search for the peace that continues to elude Somalia in the large part.

The depth of the exchange between Prof. Fogam and I on Pan-Africanism, I thought, requires further discussions, including by others, not only on "Ubuntu" but many philosophical and practical issues that should be useful for an African Renaissance, if anything like that is still possible.

As a fine lawyer should, Prof. Fogam, started by challenging my use of the word - rekindle - in my title that is restated above. He indicated that he was having two concerns on my write-up. He wrote: "First the word 'rekindle' means revive. That presupposes that the spirit of Ubuntu had existed before within African countries. With respect

to that is erroneous. The African colonial history teaches us that there was nothing in common with the colonial territories that needed or needs to be "rekindled". This is even more so (and that is my second point) when you invoke the spirit of Ubuntu. Ubuntu is a term of South African origin meaning "I am because we are" and translates in real life to mean "humanity towards others". Our colonial history was just the opposite Nigerians v Ghanaians; Congolese v Cameroonians; Senegalese v Gambians etc etc. where was the "humanity" that you are advocating for it to be "rekindled"?"

Prof. Fogam felt we should discuss further on another day. Definitely, those days, when I was young and everything, including our humanity had not become commercialised and the emphasis was being an "Omoluabi", this could be a basis for several radio/television dialogues to exchange knowledge, educate, and build towards policies that could ameliorate the African situation. Memories of students sponsored educative exchanges at Universities remain very fresh. The public spirited lecturers included names like fast talking sense personalities like: Dr. Tai Solarin, Dr. Bala Usman, Dr. Opeyemi Ola, Prof. Bade Onimode, Comrade Ola Oni, Dr. Akin Oyebo, Edwin Madunagu, Obarogie Ohonbamu, Funsho Akingbade, Alao Aka Bashorin, Comrade Hassan Sunmonu, and of course, Gani Fawehinmi etc. They educated Nigerians at large at platforms provided by students and broadcasted by public and private media dedicated to a better Nigeria as opposed to today's profits-oriented media houses ready to collect advertisements and "brown envelopes" from exploitative interests. In fact, a roundtable or seminar could be a major avenue for additional knowledge-sharing on the major poser by Prof. Fogam.

My response to my friend was to pose a number of questions: "What made Nigeria to be concerned about apartheid in South Africa? What made me happy to part with my one-month salary happily as part of support towards decolonisation and eradication of apartheid in Southern Africa? What made me take my 3-year-old daughter to demonstrate in front of Bank of America every Saturday morning while at UCLA with many other peoples of African descent, pushing for American divestment from South Africa? Tanzania and Zambia sacrificed so much with human and material payments. I concluded that we may not have had enough of the spirit of Ubuntu. But we can surely rekindle that little that is dying or wake up the dead.

His response was very apt. He wrote: We must not upgrade individual sympathies like you displayed to the spirit of non-existent humanity within us. After all, Ghanaians chased out Nigerians and vice-versa from their countries; even the South Africans that you risked your life and that of your daughter in the protests supporting them, see what they are doing to Nigerians and other nationals in their country today. Prof. why would you have to take a flight round Southern Africa before getting to Harare, why should it take you so long for a sister country to give you a visa let alone the treatment at airports. "Humanity" implies the quality of being humane; kindness; benevolence. This was killed in us collectively. We look at each other with utter contempt and suspicion and one is worse off if you carry a Nigerian passport".

My immediate response to these weighty points from my friend was to acknowledge that he had raised valid points. However, I suggested that we can try to build if not rebuild our humanity. How we could set about realising such conviction of mine I am unable to articulate in this piece. I hope we all can help towards such an effort.

In sharing my exchange with Prof. Fogam, I brought up the Yoruba term Omoluabi, that emphasises a human role model that empathises with others in society and an epitome of good character. Such excellent character in society is based on integrity and hard work. No short-cuts that refuse to care about what is left for others in society. It is the opposite of the egoistic self that the dog-eat-dog of Western competition orientation has foisted on us. Corruption is an anathema for an Omoluabi just as it is for Ubuntu. It is certain that corruption kills and eschews Ubuntu and Omoluabi, since a most crucial value for Omoluabi - integrity - is necessarily absent when corruption reigns. Corruption is sadistic for it destroys much of the lives of many in society even if the egoistic conscience-less individual appears to be happy.

Madiba Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu's views on Ubuntu are useful for the clarification on the term. Of course, such attempt to explain further on the concept of Ubuntu should raise questions on the relevance of Ubuntu and Omoluabi to today's Africa that is throwing away virtues, values and cultures of Africa in the pursuit of foreign values and norms being presented as natural for all of mankind.

On Omoluabi, my son once asked me if he should preach about the significance of being an Omoluabi in society to a kidnapper facing him with an AK-47?

On Omoluabi, my son once asked me if he should preach about the significance of being an Omoluabi in society to a kidnapper facing him with an AK-47?



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Key principles driving China's relations with Tanzania and Africa

By Chen Mingjian

IN March 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping came to Africa during his first overseas trip after assuming presidency, and Tanzania was his first stop in Africa. During that visit, President Xi was warmly welcomed and received by his Tanzanian counterpart Jakaya Kikwete and the hospitable Tanzanian people.

At the Julius Nyerere International Convention Center, a grand building constructed with Chinese assistance, President Xi delivered a keynote speech titled 'Be Trustworthy Friends and Sincere Partners Forever.' In that speech, he reviewed and summarized the glorious history and valuable experience of China-Africa relations with deep feeling, and on that basis, he proposed the principles of sincerity, real results, amity and good faith. As well as pursuing the greater good and shared interests.

Firstly, the principles of sincerity, real results, amity, good faith and pursuing the greater good and shared interests represent the glorious tradition and the current characteristics of China's diplomacy and they are important part of the Xi Jinping's thought on diplomacy.

Strengthening solidarity and cooperation with African countries has always been a cornerstone and a strategic choice of China's diplomacy. After taking office, President Xi has thought deeply of the question 'how to carry on China-Africa friendship, promote development of China-Africa relations and advance China-Africa cooperation in the new era'.

During his visit to Tanzania, he gave a resounding answer - uphold the principles of sincerity, real results, amity, good faith, and pursuing the greater good and shared interests, and jointly realize the 'Chinese dream' of national rejuvenation and the 'African dream' of unity and development.

The essence of these principles is to adhere to the fine traditions of true friendship, pragmatic cooperation, close bonds of friendship and be-

ing frank and honest to each other. We uphold a sense of righteousness and make it a priority in our cooperation with Africa. We support Africa's development with our own development and ultimately achieve mutual benefit and common development.

This concept summarizes the characteristics of China's policies towards Africa, meets the needs of strengthening unity and cooperation between China and Africa in the new era, reflects China's clear positioning as one of the developing countries, and demonstrates China's solemn commitment to being a sincere friend and close partner of African countries. It has been widely commended by the African countries and the international community.

In the past 10 years, the meaning of these principles has been continuously enriched, its status enhanced, and its advanced nature demonstrated. These principles, initiated in Africa, have become the basic policy guiding China's solidarity and cooperation with developing countries, making China-Africa relationship a model in China's relations with developing countries. These principles have also set a benchmark for international cooperation with Africa and made important contributions to promoting greater input in Africa by the international community and the establishment of a more equal and mutually beneficial partnership between Africa and other countries.

Secondly, the principles of sincerity, real results, amity, good faith and pursuing the greater good and shared interests are the common spirit and values of China and Africa, leading to continuous achievements in China-Africa cooperation.

Over the past decade, under the guidance of these principles, Chinese and African leaders have jointly promoted the China-Africa cooperation and achieved leap-forward development with a series of important progress. China-Africa relations have entered a new era of building a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future.



Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Tanzanian counterpart Jakaya Kikwete when the former paid a state visit to Tanzania in March 2013. File photo

President Xi attaches great importance to China-Africa relations. Over the past decade, he has visited Africa four times, travelling across the eastern, western, southern and central regions of the continent. President Xi attended the opening ceremony of two summits and one ministerial conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and met with more than 50 African leaders during the FOCAC Beijing Summit in 2018 one by one.

Through frequent communications and sincere dialogues, President Xi has established deep friendship and trust with African leaders, leading China-Africa relations on a steady and far-reaching path. This year also marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Over the past 10 years, the China-Africa cooperation and the BRI have achieved fruitful results. In 2022, the trade volume between China and Africa reached 282 billion US dollars, up by 11.1 per cent year-on-year, and China has been Africa's largest trading partner for 14 consecutive years. At present, Chinese enterprises have made cumulative direct investments of

nearly 50 billion US dollars in Africa, more than three times that of the end of 2012. Up to now, 52 African countries and the African Union Commission have signed the Belt and Road cooperation documents with China, and cooperation projects in such fields as roads, electricity, telecommunications and ports are spread all over Africa.

These 10 years have also been a decade for China and Africa to practise true multilateralism and jointly uphold international fairness and justice. In the face of increasing global security and development challenges, hegemonism, unilateralism and protectionism, China and Africa have upheld the spirit of solidarity and cooperation, helped each other and firmly supported each other on issues involving core interests and major concerns of either side.

The two sides have jointly safeguarded the common interests of developing nations and promoted fairer and more equitable global governance. China was the first to support the African Union's accession into the Group of Twenty and supports African countries in increasing their say and representation on the international

stage.

Thirdly, the principles of sincerity, real results, amity, good faith and pursuing the greater good and shared interests are reflected in all aspects of China-Tanzania cooperation, giving impetus to the development of bilateral relations.

Tanzania is an important country in Africa and plays an important role in China's relations with Africa. Ten years ago, Tanzania was the first African country visited by President Xi after he took office. In November last year, Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan visited China at the invitation of President Xi, becoming the first African Head of State received by China after the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. This fully reflects the exemplary role of China-Tanzania relations in China-Africa relations and South-South cooperation.

Ten years ago, during his visit, President Xi and President Kikwete jointly announced the establishment of a comprehensive partnership of mutual benefit and win-win cooperation between China and Tanzania. Last year, President Xi and President Samia agreed to upgrade their bilateral relationship to a comprehensive

strategic cooperative partnership.

China-Tanzania relations have achieved a great leap forward, with continuous expansion of cooperation areas, enhanced communication levels, and broader prospects.

Despite the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and weak global economic recovery, China-Tanzania pragmatic cooperation has maintained growth momentum over the past decade. China has remained Tanzania's largest trading partner and largest source of foreign investment for many years.

In 2022, trade volume between China and Tanzania increased by 23.7 per cent year-on-year, reaching 8.31 billion US dollars, which was 3.5 times that of 2012. A number of featured Tanzanian agricultural produce such as soybeans, avocado have been exported to China. The state-of-the-art library of the University of Dar es Salaam, the office building of Tanzania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation in Dar es Salaam, the new building of the National Defence College and the Kagera Vocational Training and Service Centre, built with Chinese assistance, have all been completed and put

into use. These buildings have become the new landmarks of China-Tanzania cooperation.

Major projects undertaken by the Chinese companies such as the construction of the fifth and sixth sections of the Standard Gauge Railway, the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Station, and expansion of the port of Dar es Salaam and the national ICT backbone network of Tanzania have progressed steadily. Chinese-invested projects such as the Jiangsu-Shinyanga Agricultural Industrial Park and Maweni Limestone Ltd have successively started operation, injecting new impetus into Tanzania's industrialization drive.

No matter how the international situation changes and no matter how far China advances, China will firmly uphold the principles of sincerity, real results, amity, good faith and pursuing the greater good and shared interests, advocate and implement the global development initiative, global security initiative, and global civilization initiative.

China will remain committed to enhancing solidarity and cooperation with African countries and continue to promote mutual learning, win-win cooperation and common development with Africa, aiming at building a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future.

I believe that under the guidance of the principles of sincerity, real results, amity, good faith and pursuing the greater good and shared interests, China-Tanzania and China-Africa relations will have a bright future and bring greater benefits to the people on both sides.

The author is the Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania. This article is an abridged version of Ambassador Chen Mingjian's speech at the Symposium Marking the 10th Anniversary of President Xi Jinping's Visit to Tanzania and the Principles of Sincerity, Real Results, Amity and Good Faith, and of Pursuing the Greater Good and Shared Interests, which was held at the Chinese Embassy in Tanzania on March 24, 2023.

Pushing African, other societies to embrace homosexuality is against international human rights law (1)

By Obadia Kajungu

THIS planet earth is one and it is for everybody and there is no one person who has a better right to enjoy than the other person. Every right shall not let other rights be vulnerable in the sense that if you rejoice in your rights on the planet, give a better place for others to rejoice in their rights too.

There is this debate about homosexuality and same sex marriage being promoted by states under the influence of activists, lawyers, media and but not limited to politicians vying to transform the whole world's human community to accept homosexuality where it is prohibited. The behaviour is supported by a global network of persons known as Lesbians, Gays, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer or questioning (LGBTQ) movement.

The movement haunts the minds of individuals and communities around the world for its ambivalent social perceptions and acceptability of homosexuality. Apparently, it is out to advocate the right of same sex to enjoy carnal knowledge or in other words, sexual intercourse even going beyond to advocate for marital union of same sex persons.

This movement is suspected to have been a result of a group of rich persons around the world who pressure governments to declare homosexuality and same sex marriages socially and legally acceptable through politicians, media, lawyers and activists on the pretext of human rights, particularly right to personal liberty and freedom of expression.

The activists and other proponents of the movement are vying to induce governments whose legislatures prohibit homosexual behaviour to dis-apply such laws and instead, pass new laws to warrant homosexuality and same sex marriages socially and legally justifiable on the pretext of human rights.

Promotion of homosexuality is against international human rights law. The acts of supporting, promotion or animation of homosexuality and single sex marriages are in principle a serious violation of international human rights treaties and for that reason, states, governments, activists and any other person or group of persons supporting in any way the movement are violating fundamental human rights, that is the right to cultural heritage and right to cultural identity and their continued actions attract condemnation from international human community.

The word culture includes arts and other manifestations of human intellectual achievement regarded collectively such as ideas, customs, religion, traditions, values and social behaviour of a particular people or society. Or culture is the set of distinctive spiritual, material, intellectual and emotional features of society or a social group that encompasses not only art and literature but also lifestyles, ways of living together, value systems, traditions and beliefs, according to UNESCO.

After the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on the 10th of December 1949, the United Nations Commission on

Human Rights divided the rights contained in the UDHR into two separate international covenants, one being civil and political rights as enshrined in International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the other being economic, social and cultural rights as enshrined in the Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) thus becoming common among lawyers and other human rights stakeholders to consider the International Bill of Human Rights as consisting of two distinct categories of human rights.

This movement has already put under the siege, governments of western countries particularly Western Europe and North America, and such governments have, in furtherance of the desires of homosexuals, passed legislations to extend the definition of a phrase non-discrimination to include non-discrimination on sexual orientation.

This definition of the term discrimination has been broadened by the governments already accepting homosexuality beyond ambits of the UDHR which as of today, Article 2 still provides that "everyone is entitled to all the rights without distinction of any kind such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status."

In Africa, the westerners are fiercely engulfing anti-gay governments to follow the compass needle by transforming the attitude of African tribal societies towards homosexuality through legislation even going beyond to threatening economic sanctions against such anti-gay governments.

Homosexuality is not a new phenomenon in human history as the behavior is traceable even in prehistoric societies and ancient Greece and Judea, but it has been declared a prohibited behaviour not only because of religion but also human conscience. Even in Africa where the religion was not yet preached, it has been the African moral standing until today that "the man is sexually impenetrable." Or it is the right of religions or members of African traditional communities to believe, continue believing and seeing that a marriage is between a

man and a woman.

The culture, customs, religions, traditions, moral values, tribal languages and alike of the world societies do differ from one society to another. There are some societies such as those found in Europe and North America which have no cultural diversity because of having no strong tribes or ethnic groups presumably because of migration or due to sociological revolution or for whatever reason thus having a high level of behavioral tolerance unlike those counties in which tribes, religions and ethnic groups exist like in Africa, South America and Asia. These tribes and ethnic groups have their religions, moral values, vernacular languages, customs, cultures and alike which do not accept homosexuality and same sex love or marriages.

Under international law these religions, moral values, vernacular languages, customs, cultures and alike are protected so that they should not go extinct. That is why in most African schools, slight caning punishment for children is allowed when they behave in a manner unacceptable unlike European and North American schools. The corporal punishments to school children in African schools seek to discourage children at a tender age from growing into behaviour which is undesirable in comparison with acceptable standards of African social morality.

Therefore, African education is dual traffic in the sense that it goes with academics combined with morality while European education is single traffic in the sense that it goes with only academics and let it go alone or in other words 'untamed mankind'.

What is the position of homosexuality and same sex marriages in the international law perspective? As observed above, the International Bill of Human Rights consists of two distinct categories of human rights which are categorized into three generations, that is to say, the first generation human rights namely civil and political rights; the second generation human rights namely economic, social and cultural rights but later a third generation human rights was added to the economic social

and cultural rights namely solidarity rights such as the right to self-determination and right to development.

So, within the economic, social and cultural rights is where we find second and third generation human rights. Just to cut the story short, the civil and political rights are fundamental rights which the states are prohibited to interfere with while economic, social and cultural rights are fundamental rights which the states are obligated to protect and promote. In principle, every human being is a member and beneficiary of fundamental rights in that no one has a better enjoyment of these rights than the other.

Article 22 of the UDHR provides that "everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international cooperation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each state, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality."

Also, Article 27 of the ICCPR provides for rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious or linguistic groups thus the governments have obligations to protect such groups' culture, traditions and religion against assault or any other threat. This right was also reiterated by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, 1992.

Now, based on the fundamental rights as outlined in the International Bill of Human Rights, it is worth noting that these rights are not meant to include every right to be basic or fundamental rights if they are not innate or inborn or inalienable rights to all human beings. Right to life, right to freedom of association, right to education, right to freedom of expression, right to freedom of belief, right to cultural identity, right to privacy and so on are fundamental or basic rights unlike addictive consensual behaviours such as same sex, alcoholism, cannabis, prostitution and unrealistic personal liberty without due regard to others' emotions. These cannot turn into fundamental rights simply because the person cannot refrain from the behaviour.

The author is an advocate of the High Court (To be continued on Wednesday)

Tanzania committed to tackling e-waste management in the East African region

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has expressed its commitment towards addressing the pressing issue of e-waste management in the East African region.

Nape Nnauye, Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology made the commitment recently in Dar es Salaam when inaugurating the 5th regional e-waste workshop on sustainable management that brought on board stakeholders from the East Africa Communications Organisation (EACO) member states, Africa and Europe.

Organised by Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) in collaboration with other stakeholders, the three-day workshop was themed: 'From awareness to action: Factoring sustainable e-waste management as a priority towards achieving 2030 sustainable development goals.'

Nape emphasized the importance of cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders to tackle this challenge. His presence at the event served as a clear signal of the government's willingness to work closely with partners to ensure a sustainable and effective approach to managing e-waste.

With the increasing proliferation of electronic devices in the region, the Minister's remarks underscored the importance of coordinated efforts toward minimizing the environmental and health risks associated with e-waste.

"E-waste is considered one of the fastest growing wastes in the world which are toxic and non-biodegradable, the increase in e-waste volume is a result of the increase of electronic communication equipment



Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Nape Nnauye. (File Photo).

coupled with the increase of digital transformation in our countries.

He emphasized that Tanzania is at the early stages of implementing Extended Pro-

ducer Responsibility where producers of e-waste will be paying an advance eco-levy fee for each electronic communication equipment introduced in the market," he

emphasised.

The workshop recommended the need to conduct more awareness campaigns, enhance collaboration, adopt public-private part-

nerships (PPP), and support the inclusion of e-waste management in the curriculum of educational institutions.

Participants called on the need for governments to allocate funds for e-waste management projects and create a statistical framework to harmonize data collection methods. They also suggested the need to continue implementing the 2nd regional e-waste management strategy while sharing experiences and success stories.

They also suggested the need to develop specific laws on e-waste management, with extended producer responsibility (EPR) being a potential tool in improving waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) management within the region.

Participants also recommended the need for capacity building for all stakeholders involved in the e-waste management value chain was also emphasized, with the recommendation that member states refer to ITU-T L. 1021 for guidelines on sustainable e-waste management.

The workshop recommended the need to provide a roadmap for sustainable e-waste management in the East African region, promoting a circular economy and contributing to achieving the 2030 sustainable development goals.

TCRA director general Dr Jabiri Bakari said that the authority has

been conducting various studies aimed to formulate ways through which e-waste can be managed, emphasising the need to put in place plans in partnership with regional and local stakeholders to ensure e-waste that emanates from electronic communication equipment is thoroughly contained through laid down strategies that include provisioning of awareness education to users on how to dispose electronic communication equipment upon expiry.

"TCRA is already working on a project based on extended producer responsibility modal, where manufacturers and importers are required to ensure that all electronic communication equipment are assessed to prevent importation of electronic communication equipment that have reached their end of life," said Dr Bakari.

"This has by far been the most successful workshop," EACO executive secretary Dr Ally Yahaya Simba emphasised.

Dr Emmanuel Manasseh, TCRA's industrial affairs director said the workshop has set a precedent for future meetings and demonstrated the commitment of all involved parties toward achieving sustainable e-waste management practices in the East African

Kitulo National Park in five-year campaign to consolidate tourism

By Correspondent Daniel Sabuni

KITULO National Park is in five-year strategy to boost tourism by building accommodation facilities (hotels) and advertising it through various exhibitions.

The strategy will help to increase the number of tourists visiting the park per year. Currently, there are an average of 800 tourists visiting the park, 600 of them being Tanzanians and 200 foreigners.

"This number is not encouraging. That's why we've come up with this strategy to complement the government's target of registering more tourists to five million in near future," says Theodora Batiho, park's assistant commissioner for conservation.

In an exclusive interview with this reporter, Batiho revealed that the developed strategies include educating primary and secondary school students on issues of conservation as a way to impart patriotism on children living around park areas.

"Already students from Mafiga and Matamba primary schools, as well as from Matamba and Kinyika secondary schools have visited Kitulo National Park to see for themselves the attractions therein," she says.

According to Batiho, other strategies is to mobilise residents around the park to visit the conservancy itself and

this has been done when a group of 40 women did so in December 2022.

Encouraging investors to chip in and invest in hospitality is one of the park's priorities, "so that we've more decent accommodation for our visitors visiting the area, taking into account that the conservancy is blessed with a unique national park of flowers with over 200 species."

"We've been working hard to make the park known to the world. All what we've here are promoted," she stated. "We thank Tanzanians and visitors who continue to be attracted by the beauty of our park from its good scenery, including its flora, wildlife, its natural ecosystem, hills and valleys and waterfalls that have been attracting both investors and tourists," she said.

Batiho adds that the park plans to establish tourism in which visitors will be carried on donkeys and horses inside the park, as well as establishing Kitulo Marathon to be held annually including bicycle races.

"Another kind of tourism being envisaged is through prayers in which followers of various faiths can visit the park for meditation in a quiet atmosphere," Batiho notes, explaining that Kitulo National Park has various kinds of wildlife including a new monkey specie known as "kipunji" discovered in 2003, zebras brought from

Mikumi National Park and gazelles from Ruaha National Park.

The conservator also states: "Accessibility to the park was one of the serious challenges that thwarted the conservancy from registering more and more tourists, but we've started to see lights at the end of the tunnel on the matter, as the government has started building roads at tarmac level to the park."

"This will make the conservancy accessible at all time of the year as opposed to the current situation, when seasonal-rains kept tourists away," she says, adding: "This will make the park easily accessible from Mbeya City, 110km away and from Igawa in Mbarali District it is 70km, while from Makete in Njombe Region it is also 70 km away."

The conservator says the completion of 36.3 kilometres of tarmac road from Kitulo to Kibiho in Makete District will maximize tourism potential in the southern circuit.

The project is part of a larger plan to construct a 96.2-kilometre tarmac road from Isonje to Makete town, connecting Njombe (Makete District) with its neighbour, Mbeya Region, thus simplifying transportation of people and goods.

According to Batiho, the best time to visit Kitulo National Park to view its natural beauty including flora



Kitulo National Park's conservation officer tourism unit Suzana Tesha (C), explains about operations of the park to the Spanish tourists who visited the park recently. Photo: Correspondent Daniel Sabuni.

and fauna is December to April when many types of attractive flowers bloom. Beginning September up to November is the best time to scale the mountain while June to August is marked by very cold weather.

Marc Antillach, one of the tourists who found the park from Catalonia, Spain says what had attracted him most to visit the Park was the existence of various plants and flowers, various wildlife and waterfalls. Antillach said he has visited many African countries including Rwanda, but he has been mostly attracted by many attractions in Tanzania including the unique Kitulo National Park, and added that when he goes back home he will be a good ambassador to advertise the Park to others.

Mafiga Primary School head teacher in Missiwa village, Ipelele Ward, makete District, Laynada Mwasanga said recently they took students to the park to see its beauty including the many varieties of flora and fauna.

Makete-based Kinyika Secondary school headmaster, Faida Ngulo said what attracts many people are the

beauty of various natural attractions in Kitulo National park.

Kitulo Park is most renowned for the abundance of flower species that bloom throughout the plateau. And its stunning orchids, proteas, geraniums, and huge lobelias, particularly from December to March, have earned the park the nickname "God's Garden."

"We've constructed from Kitulo to Kibiho because we want this section to be traversable at all times," Prof Makame Mbarawa, minister for Works and Transport said when inaugurating construction of the road last year.

Mbarawa is of the view the completion of the Kitulo-Kibehe road project will provide easy access to the park in all seasons, as visitors currently prefer to visit the park, which was designated as one of the seven natural wonders in 2014, during the dry season, despite the fact that the best time is during the rainy season.

Njombe Regional Commissioner Antony Mtaka also noted that the said national park was difficult to reach due to poor infrastructure, but it is a habitat for migratory birds migrating thousands of kilometres from Europe

to Tanzania.

RC Mtaka believes that the park's underdevelopment, along with poor road infrastructure, has resulted in a limited flow of visitors; thus, the construction of the stated road would make it simpler to highlight Tanzania's heritage in the southern circuit. According to media reports, the country's nature-based tourism receives more than a million tourists each year; nevertheless, the southern circuits account for less than 10 percent of all visitors to Tanzania's national parks and less than 1.5 percent of park earnings.

Mtaka added: "Local and international visitors can arrive at Songwe airport and travel to Kitulo Park. Kitulo bird movement, like the Serengeti wildebeest migration, is a hidden gem that President Samia's administration wishes to reveal to the world."

During her Njombe tour in August last year, President Samia Suluhu Hassan revealed that the second part of the Royal Tour documentary, to be known as 'The Hidden Tanzania', was in the pipeline and will include Kitulo National Park in Njombe Region.

EAC academic integration thrust localising globalisation, countering indigenisation pull

By Guardian Correspondent

MOVES to broaden the scope of East African integration to learning at East African universities are likely to provide the answer that those who support modernisation and globalisation in the education sector. They are constantly faced with an undercurrent of indigenisation tied up with the country's history of political culture, especially the radical anti-colonial thrust embedded in the Arusha Declaration of 1967 and in the TANU Guidelines of 1971. These key policy documents have since paled into the background but their ripples persist.

The new thrust that anchors globalisation in competitiveness and curriculum harmonisation was spelt out recently in a regional forum, the 12th academia-public-private partnership forum (APPPF) and exhibition in Dar es Salaam. It laid emphasis on the need for the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) as enabling countries to widen the scope of integration

through education. There was similarly a lot of emphasis on educational exchange among higher learning institutions in the region. More significantly was the stated goal of harmonising competence, promoting integration and enhancing the international character of public universities. Clearly the language dimension emerges as among the critical competences.

Integration in East Africa shows that the more countries are cosmopolitan in their outlook, that is, worldly inclined rather than inward looking, the better are the prospects of integration. In the 1960s, the moment the three principal integration zone countries attained independence, they started diverging, while they were more and reasonably cohesive within the colonial administrative context. When students met at Makerere College in Uganda they basically felt East African rather than Kenyan, Ugandan or Tanganyikan.

At the moment that Kenyan independence was not yet approaching its inde-

pendence, the last to gain formal freedom, the leader of the nationalist movement in Tanganyika, Julius Nyerere, suggested that Tanganyika delay its accession to independence so that the three countries come to independence together. Uganda was becoming free sooner, late 1962 while the Kenyan case was a bit complicated as it mirrored that of South Africa, close to three decades later. It involved negotiating with a powerful nationalist leader who was in prison, possibly life imprisonment, to arrive at the modalities of Uhuru and harmony among its inhabitants - Europeans, Asians, Africans.

Prof Adolf Mkenda, the Education, Science and Technology minister took note of this atmosphere when he said at the regional academic symposium that during the liberation struggle students were able to choose either to study in Nairobi, Dar es Salaam or Kampala, asserting that the EAC partner states need to reintroduce that practice to promote academic cope-

ration. That was true just in part as it refers to Southern Africa liberation struggles, as when the partner states were moving to independence, only Makerere was a university college. Others were formally constituted in later years.

Independence brought about national political characteristics which were now having to be accommodated in the system of learning, and these were far apart one from the other. Kenya for example did not share positively in the sentiment of overthrowing the Sultanate of Zanzibar, even if it had considerable radical expression in the ranks of the nationalist movement. Later, with intense cleavages arising in the ruling parties after independence, one nationalist party became the enemy of another owing to strategic choices. Tanzania was the rearguard of the liberation movements whose members or fighters would be arrested if they crossed into Malawi, or repatriated.

There were other choices which reinforced these divisions like the radical shift in Tanzania in 1967, raising socialist values in a radical

way and embedding them into the system of education. The University of East Africa that Prof. Mkenda was thinking about had rapidly to be dismantled and the University of Dar es Salaam came up in 1970 as hitherto it was a college within the University of East Africa, itself pegged to the University of London. Secondary school education was based on syllabus chained to Cambridge University.

With the creeping imperative of anchoring all national productive systems in a competitive economy and the market in the context of a regional free trade area (now being extended to the whole of Africa) this careful architecture of radical nationalism is coming apart. Setting up harmony among universities in the region can only proceed from global values underlying the United Nations system as we live it on a day to day basis. It can't be based on radicalism, or leave room for indigenisation of learning, except as an option, where some universities could offer Kiswahili-based degrees.

If we value human rights and rule of law, then we must fight for climate justice

By Jotham Napat and Patricia Scotland

HUMAN life is sacred and every individual deserves an equal chance in life. We have a common desire, we all want to lead a free, fulfilling existence, with dignity, where our basic needs are met, with opportunities to advance and equal treatment under the law. These are fundamental human rights, protected by international law, which we all have a shared responsibility to protect.

Out of the horrors and bloodshed of war, we created an international system for cooperation between nations under the United Nations, with our rights enshrined by the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

Today, our rights are threatened not only by weapons, but by the destruction of our environment, our earth, our only home. Climate change is wreaking havoc on people's basic human rights to life, food, water, housing, health and a decent standard of living. And as the IPCC stated just this week, we have a "rapidly closing window of opportunity" to prevent this destruction.

We cannot let these rights be taken away from us - particularly from vulnerable communities. We must act.

This month, when formidable twin cyclones Judy and Kevin slammed into the small island nation of Vanuatu within days of each other, they laid waste to homes, infrastructure and crops, severely impacting more than 80% of the population.

And like many other climate-vulnerable Pacific Island countries, whose territories are 99 per cent ocean, Vanuatu could see more than a metre rise in sea levels by the

end of the century, placing entire coastal communities further in jeopardy.

Elsewhere in the world, drawn-out droughts in East Africa - the worst seen in 40 years - are killing millions of livestock and placing 17 million people at risk of starvation.

In South Asia, tropical cyclones are becoming ever more destructive, with the likes of Cyclone Amphan (2020) displacing nearly five million people across India and Bangladesh.

These worsening conditions are not freaks of nature, they are a predictable - and predicted - process of intensifying environmental damage caused by human activity. The world's scientific community is unanimous and unequivocal that human influence has driven up average global temperature, causing unprecedented changes across the entire climate system.

The burning of fossil fuels to supply skyrocketing energy needs and the release of harmful greenhouse gases continue to trigger harmful, irreversible consequences for the environment - and it is the most vulnerable which suffer the most.

It is one of the world's deepest injustices and the root of growing inequality. While the most climate vulnerable countries have contributed the least greenhouse emissions that cause climate change, they are forced to endure the very worst of its impacts. Small island developing states - two thirds of which are in the Commonwealth - contribute less than 1 percent of global emissions, while the world's poorest nations contribute less than 4 percent. Yet it is their people who are frequently and directly in jeopardy, including their rights to development, self-determination and a healthy environment.



Cyclone damage in Vanuatu. Credit: UNICEF/ReliefWeb

Addressing these injustices provides the foundation for an initiative led by Vanuatu, a Commonwealth member country, to obtain official advice from the world's highest court.

On 29 March 2023, Vanuatu, along with more than 115 other co-sponsoring countries including a host of Commonwealth nations, will table a proposed resolution at the United Nations General Assembly requesting an advisory opinion on climate change from the International Court of Justice.

Such an opinion, though non-binding, would outline the obligations of states under international law to protect the environment and future generations from climate change. It would also clarify the legal consequences of harming the environment, taking into account the impacts on vulner-

able communities and future generations.

This is not an attempt to blame or shame countries for the policies of the past, it is an attempt to clarify international climate obligations which can help all nations be more ambitious and effective. It has the potential to focus climate action not only on degrees of Celsius and tons of carbon, but on preventing the most serious climate impacts on our people and our planet.

This moment deserves our attention. All Commonwealth countries adhere to the Commonwealth Charter, which places the utmost importance on protecting the environment, and centralises the need for multilateral cooperation, sustained commitment and collective action on climate change. The International Court of Justice

plays a vital role in multilateral cooperation as the main judicial organ of the United Nations - and the Commonwealth Charter emphasises the value of the rule of law at every turn.

There is no question that international law can be a vital tool in establishing and delivering climate justice. In the most vulnerable parts of the world, it is often all that stands between climate resilience and catastrophe, between prosperity and destitution.

When the resolution is tabled at the General Assembly, it will be worthy of careful consideration and support by all UN Member States. The breadth and diversity of countries at the heart of this effort underscores the grim reality that climate change does not, and will not, spare any of us. In this, we do not have a choice, only a responsibility, because it is a matter of life or death. We must therefore use every mechanism at our disposal to rise to the challenge of climate justice in a fair and effective way.

Jotham Napat is the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade of Vanuatu, a Pacific Island nation on the frontlines of climate change.

Patricia Scotland, KC is the sixth Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, and the first woman to hold the post. She leads an organisation of 56 countries working together to promote democracy, peace and sustainable development.

IPS UN Bureau

By Elaine Pearson

Bhutan's long-serving political prisoners should be released

“THE physical torture was merciless,” said one man, “so we had no option but to present ourselves to the court based on [the security forces'] demands and their statements.”

“They would beat me up, so I confessed, although it wasn't true,” said another.

Such allegations have appeared over and over again in the work of Human Rights Watch around the world. But most people don't expect to hear them from the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, whose rulers famously claim to maximize “gross national happiness” instead of mere GDP. This idea, enshrined in the kingdom's 2008 constitution, has been taken up by economists and the United Nations, and inspired an annual World Happiness Report.

But Human Rights Watch has documented the presence of at least 37 inmates in the country's prisons who are described under Bhutanese law as “political prisoners” because of alleged political crimes against the state.

The origin of most of these cases goes back to the period around 1990, when the Bhu-

tanese state drove around 90,000 Bhutanese who speak Nepali as a first language into exile. In a country that had around 550,000 people, that was a large share of the population.

The ruling elite, from the Ngalop community, had come to see the Nepali-speaking community as a threat to Bhutan's cultural identity and their own dominant position. New, discriminatory citizenship laws stripped many of their citizenship, while “Bhutanization” laws aimed at enforcing a version of national identity based on Ngalop culture and language.

Amid widespread security force abuses, many Nepali-speakers were forced to flee and became refugees in Nepal, although a sizable Nepali-speaking community remained in Bhutan.

Thousands were arrested for peacefully protesting these policies. Many were released on the condition that they leave the country, or after serving their terms. But the longest serving political prisoners have been in prison, serving sentences



Longtime political prisoners in Bhutan, in photos provided by their families. Top row: Lok Bahadur Ghaley; Rinzin Wangdi; Chandra Raj Rai; Kumar Gautam. Bottom row: San Man Gurung; Birkha Bdr Chhetri; Omnath Adhikari; Chaturman Tamang. © Private.

of life without the possibility of parole, since 1990.

They include eight former Nepali-speaking soldiers of the Royal Bhutan Army who allegedly attended protest at a secretive and remote jail used to imprison former officials accused of treachery.

Another 15 Nepali-speaking Bhutanese have been imprisoned since 2008 - 12 of them serving sentences of life without parole. These were young

men who had fled Bhutan as children with their families, and came back to Bhutan as part of a campaign for the right to return by a banned group called the Bhutan Communist Party.

Most were captured shortly after their arrival, some with small arms and others with political pamphlets. At their trials for treason, the prosecution contended that because their families fled when they were infants, these young men had

“abandoned the country and decided to be enem[ies] of Bhutan.”

Five of the political prisoners belong to a different community known as Sharchops (“Easterners”). Four men and a woman are imprisoned for alleged connections to another banned political party, the Druk National Congress, which campaigned for parliamentary democracy and human rights in the 1990s - before Bhutan

adopted a democratic constitution.

In every case for which Human Rights Watch obtained testimony, it was alleged that the prisoners were severely tortured at the time of their arrest and trial. “He was tortured by the army,” said the sister of a prisoner who was arrested in 2008 and sentenced to life. “They [the prisoners] were beaten and burned. When I met him, he was very sad, his eyes were full of tears.”

Under the Bhutanese legal system at the time, none of the accused had defense lawyers at their trials. In 2019 the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention interviewed some of these prisoners, noted that under Bhutanese law they have “no prospect” of being released alive unless they are granted an amnesty, and recommended that their convictions be reviewed.

A prisoner who met the Working Group told Human Rights Watch that guards had warned inmates not to tell the UN experts the truth about their treatment: “You have to

live with us. They will leave tomorrow, so think wisely before speaking.”

The prisoners are prevented from making or receiving telephone calls to their families in Nepal, or other countries - such as the United States, Canada, or Australia - where refugees have resettled. They are also prevented from sending letters, and their families do not know whether the letters they send are delivered. This causes great distress to the prisoners themselves, and their loved ones, who don't know what condition they are in.

Bhutan's legal philosophy is guided by Buddhist principles emphasizing concepts such as “compassion.” The country is now a parliamentary democracy, but King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck is still uniquely empowered to release these prisoners. It can be done. In 1999, his father King Jigme Singye Wangchuck granted amnesty to 40 political prisoners. Only last year, the king granted amnesty to a political prisoner serving a life term.

These cases belong to a different time, before Bhutan's 2008 democratic reforms. Bhutan should let all the political prisoners return to their families.

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 UDONGOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.15 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.20 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.25 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.30 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.35 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.40 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.45 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.50 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.55 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.05 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.15 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.20 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.25 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.30 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.35 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.40 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.45 AM YALIVOMO 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One

Radio One

BUSINESS

Angelina Ngalula crowned 'Malikia wa Nguvu' in the business group

By Guardian Reporter

THE managing director of Bravo Group of Companies and Agricom Africa, Angelina Ngalula, has scooped a prestigious award of influential woman in business leadership of the year 2023.

Ngalula was feted over the weekend in Dar es Salaam with the ultimate annual honor of the Clouds Media Group 'Malikia wa Nguvu' Awards as winner in business leadership category.

"Angelina Ngalula, is honoured for having emerged winner in business leadership of the year 2023" organizers declared, amid the applause from the floor.

She is awarded based on her rise from humble beginnings to one of the most successful business lady. Her story is inspiring to many, as it started from her brave decision to quit employment and venture into a male dominated logistics industry.

As it happened, Ngalula now owns over 100-fleet of trucks as well three internal container depots (ICD) servicing highly valuable minerals from neighboring countries destined for export markets.

She has also contracted a Tea Auction facility, a first of its kind in Tanzania that will see Tanzanian tea being traded in Tanzania, ending the previous arrangement where the tea was auctioned in neighboring country.

Ngalula Agricom's Africa currently controls the largest market share in Tanzania in agri-equipment business. This is clear testimony that women can be a game changer in doing big businesses in Tanzania and the region.

Ngalula, is also a chairperson

of the Tanzania Private sector Foundation (TPSF) representing four million businesses, and the giant East African Business Council (EABC) overseeing 7 member states.

"I thank God for his all-round blessings because without his hand, I wouldn't be able to win. I dedicate this award to all women in Tanzania and beyond who are struggling to do business," she noted.

Ngalula expressed her gratitude to the Tanzanian who overwhelmingly voted to her for recognizing her efforts in developing business in Tanzania as the private sector leader and the Cloud Media group for organizing awards specifically for women.

"My sincere thanks go to the government under the robust leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan for showing the way for us and creating an enabling environment for investment and business" Ngalula said.

Ngalula, a successful entrepreneur with diverse understanding of national and regional business, particularly in the freight and logistics as well as agricultural value chains, is known as a modern flamboyant lady whose personality and bearing have shaped the private sector in Tanzania and beyond in the past 10 years.

"Indeed, she is an icon of the private sector and our very own role model in Tanzania" said Dr Jacqueline Mkindi, the CEO of Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA).

"She uses her talent for not only raising the profile of the private sector, but also for helping individual entrepreneurs," explained Mkindi.



Bravo Group of Companies and Agricom Africa's managing director, Angelina Ngalula.

Stanbic Bank pledges to deepen Tanzania-China trade activities



By Guardian Reporter

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has hosted a China Day event aimed at increasing trade between Tanzania and China and discussing insights on micro and macro indicators that could improve collaboration and trade between the two countries.

The event was attended by stakeholders from the Chinese embassy, Industrial Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) Africa Representative, and traders.

Over the past few years, Tanzania has experienced significant growth in trade activities with China. In 2021, Tanzania imported roughly USD 6.7 billion in goods and services from China, while it exported over USD 600 million to China. In the same year, the value of foreign direct investment into Tanzania

reached over USD 100 million.

Leveraging its global network and expertise, Stanbic Bank Tanzania has been facilitating trade between the two countries by working closely with ICBC, the largest bank in the world.

Through their Africa-China Agency proposition (ACAP), known as Biashara Exchange in Tanzania, Stanbic Bank Tanzania has been helping unlock new business opportunities for local companies.

During the event, Stanbic Bank's Chief Executive, Kevin Wingfield, said:

"As a bank, we are cognizant of the role organizations like ours play in trade activities and economic growth. Through our Biashara Exchange solution, we have supported several traders in Tanzania to access Chinese suppliers, with over USD 270M

in inward and outbound payments and USD 10M in LCs since 2022. We are proud to facilitate such important economic activity."

Stanbic Bank has been supporting the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) by offering trade products and simplified banking solutions. In addition, the bank provides tailored structured deals, vehicle asset financing (VAF), FX facilities, and other non-financial support, such as the Business Incubator program, which has already trained almost 100 participants in business skills.

"We are committed to supporting and driving the development of this vital sector to complement the government's efforts in transforming Tanzania," said Wingfield.

Representing the Chinese

Ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian, the representative from the Chinese Embassy, Yang Zeyu, reiterated the Chinese government's dedication to contributing to Tanzania's economic growth and assisting the nation's goal of becoming a middle-income country by 2025. He emphasized the importance of exploring new avenues of cooperation between Chinese and Tanzanian businesses to make this ambition a reality.

ICBC Representative, Li Hunan, stated that Tanzania has been one of the most dynamic economies in East Africa while also witnessing the bilateral cooperation between China and Tanzania developing rapidly in recent years. "In 2022, the bilateral trade between China and Tanzania reached USD 8.31 billion in total, up by 23.7 percent year on year.

Of which, for China, the export number is bigger than the import number from Tanzania, with the export number from China being USD 7.7 billion, and the import reaching 540 million dollars in 2022," said Li.

Li reiterated that the strategic cooperation between ICBC and Standard Bank is key in creating significant value to help the Chinese in Tanzania capture new opportunities crucial to developing trade and the economies of both countries.

Four Points by Sheraton Arusha rolls out tree planting to mark Earth Hour

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

A STRATEGIC hotel in the northern tourism circuit over the weekend marked the earth hour 2023 by rolling out a tree planting drive along the Themis River in Arusha city as part of its efforts to mitigate the impact of climate change.

The Four Points by Sheraton Arusha, The Arusha Hotel, also switched off its lights for an hour to create awareness about a global movement marked each year on March 25, dubbed Earth Hour 2023.

This year's theme, 'Invest in Our Planet', highlights the importance of dedicating our time, resources, and energy to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Hotel general manager, Krishna Suri said the idea behind the plantation initiative and turning off the lights was aimed to raise awareness and mitigate the effects of climate change both in urban and rural ecosystems through improved ecosystem management.

"Tree plantation is an effective way to curb the



Four Points by Sheraton, the Arusha hotel general manager, Krishna Suri, (Left) kneeling with a spade alongside with the staff after launching a tree planting drive along Themis river in Arusha city at the weekend.

effects of climate change as they benefit the ecosystem in multiple manners and is a great way to invest back into the planet," Suri noted.

He said given the socio-economic effects of climate change, all organizations should come together to mitigate this, by investing in green initiatives.

"As the pioneer corporate hotel, we would like to do our part of investing in our planet. We believe that trees are one of the most powerful tools to combat the effects

of climate change" chipped in Senior Sales and Marketing Manager, Farida Khatibu

Founded in 1894, formerly The Arusha Hotel has been a city landmark-playing host to many dignitaries and well-known personalities for close to a century.

Located steps away from the famous Clock Tower, known to mark the center point from Cairo to Cape Town, it is easily accessible from both Arusha as well as the Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA).

Nestled within three acres of lush tropical gardens, it sits snugly in the central business district of the city, within the shadow of the majestic Mount Meru forming the perfect gateway to the popular Serengeti Northern Safari Circuit and to Mount Kilimanjaro.

"Tanzania has long been on the global travelers' bucket list and the Four Points by Sheraton brand with its blend of stylish comfort and genuine service offers an ideal choice at an honest value," Suri noted.

Women scoop awards for playing major role in Rwanda's economy

KIGALI

A total of 73 awards were received by women and institutions in line with acknowledging and appreciating the roles they played in building Rwanda's economy.

They were recognised at a glamorous event dubbed "Rwanda Women in Business Awards (RWIBA) 2023," held at Kigali Marriott Hotel on Friday, March 24, and organised by Thousand Hills Events Ltd.

The Thousand Hills Events Manager, Nathan Ntaganzwa,

pointed out that the awards in three categories were in line with celebrating wins and sharing achievements to motivate people and businesses.

There was also an additional category where judges selected two women who have been supporting and encouraging other women to succeed but never looked for their own fame.

"In that category we recognised a woman of honour. It was won by the Rwanda Transparency International boss, Marie Imaculee Ingabire, for her contribution, and the unsung hero,

which was Mary Balikungeri," Ntaganzwa said.

According to Ntaganzwa, the winner of the unsung hero award through her NGO, as the Founder and Director of Rwanda Women's Network, contributed a lot in helping and empowering women in various ways.

The uniqueness of this year's edition included the fact that 30 women, one from each of the country's districts, were recognised and awarded for their distinctive services and leadership roles in championing the development of their communities.

Commenting on the way forward, Ntaganzwa disclosed that together with different partners they will do follow-ups on the winners and those who failed to get to the finals to help them improve and grow in several ways.

The Executive Secretary of the National Women's Council, Jackline Kamanzi Masabo, commended Thousand Hills events Ltd for the initiative to empower women and all supporters for their contribution towards RWIBA 2023.

Masabo pointed out that the National Women's Council rec-

ognizes the tireless efforts that women have made in advancing the country despite the challenges they face. She noted that it is not always easy for them, but they continue to fight for progress.

"We are very proud of you women wherever you are, whatever you do, you are passionate, and courageous when it comes to the love for your family, society, and country. And that is what made you do more than what people expect," she added.

Masabo promised continuous support to such initiatives

aimed at empowering and celebrating women. She noted that such events send a message to the world and encouraged others to contribute to the country's development.

Angelique Nyiransabimana, a farmer from Ngororero District who won an award as a community builder, expressed her gratitude to the organisers and sponsors of the event.

"This award is motivation, inspiration, encouragement and also empowering to us all women in general and especially to us in rural areas," she noted.

CBE sees the basis of apprenticeship training

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

COLLEGE of Business Education (CBE), has said that apprenticeship training has greatly helped to reduce the burden for employers who have to spend a lot of money to develop employees who are hired when they still do not have enough skills.

This was said over the weekend in Dar es Salaam by the Acting Rector of the college, Professor Edda Lwoga, during a morning meeting with human resources managers of various companies in the country (HRO's Breakfast).

Professor Lwoga said the college met with the heads of the human resources units of various Government and private institutions and organizations (HRO's Breakfast), the aim being to strengthen the relationship between CBE and their Institutions.

She mentioned that another goal is to receive various contributions and feedback from human resources officers of institutions that

receive and employ CBE graduates. Professor Lwoga said the feedback is used by the college to improve the curriculum and teaching methods so that they are in line with the real job market and the skills required for employment.

"You are witnesses, if a student graduates and you hire him without enough skills you end up spending a lot of money to develop him to get more skills. Therefore, we have started an apprenticeship program where the student spends 50 percent in the classroom and 50 percent at the employer and it has helped a lot to build their capacity in practice," she said.

She said that through the apprenticeship program carried out by CBE, they help employers to a great extent to find employees who do not need to be further developed as they already have sufficient knowledge and skills in their fields of expertise.

"By doing this we believe that we are going with the speed of the sixth phase and helping employers to develop their employees," she said.

She said that CBE also started a



CBE acting rector professor Edda Lwoga, speaks during the 3rd HRO's breakfast with human resources managers from various companies and institutions. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

business incubation program for the students of the college and it has been a great success since it was established.

"Students come with creative dreams, we nurture them and we do

not do it alone, we collaborate other institutions like SIDO to build their capacity and those who have business dreams can start doing business while in college, we connect them with marketing and teach

them how to register a business," said Professor Lwoga.

She said they have started a procedure to call lecturers from outside the college who are experts in business to come and give lectures to their students.

She said that the procedure has helped to a large extent to sharpen the students and give them the confidence that when they finish college they can go to work effectively and show good results.

She said that CBE has also put in place a procedure to develop its lecturers in all its four campuses where there are 215 teachers and 459 staff in general.

She said among those lecturers, 30 have studied at the PhD level and 71 are still on studies in different levels adding that this shows that CBE is on the right track to find lecturers who will prepare the best graduates.

He said last week was the peak of the second season of the meeting with the managers led by the slogan "Towards building a high-skilled workforce, what should be considered."

Professor Lwoga also gave them feedback on how the college has benefited from the ideas given in the previous events and she encouraged them to continue the relationship for mutual benefit.

He said curriculum improvements that are in line with the job market are the best key for graduates to face the job market where colleges, government institutions and private organizations have a lot of room to improve.

The main speaker of the event, Moses Raymond from Crystal Humal Capital LTD, praised CBE for seeing the importance of bringing together various stakeholders to improve its curriculum and emphasize its importance.

"This is a cross-cutting and integrated matter in which every stakeholder has to do their part, the government, education providers, private sector, employers and other stakeholders need to stay together to eliminate the current vacuum and finally achieve the goals of obtaining a workforce with high potential," said Raymond.

NAIROBI

THE government of Kenya is close to approving a restructuring plan for Kenya Airways (KQ) to replace one introduced by the previous administration and backed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the airline's CEO told Reuters.

The airline, one of Africa's three biggest, fell into insolvency in 2018 after an expansion drive left it with hundreds of millions of dollars of debt.

The administration of former President Uhuru Kenyatta introduced a plan in 2021 under which the government agreed to provide loans and eventually take over \$800 million of the airline's debt.

Kenyatta's successor William Ruto, who took office last September, has said he will cut borrowing and called into question the government's participation in Kenya Airways.

A new restructuring plan is with the government, CEO Allan Kilavuka told Reuters.

"The government is currently at the tail end of approving this strategy," he said, in written responses to Reuters' questions.

Also responding to written questions, Treasury Cabinet Secretary Njuguna Ndung'u said the government wanted to turn around KQ so it can secure a strategic investor but did not provide details of the new plan.

The IMF approved the previous scheme as part of a \$2.34 billion lending programme it agreed in April 2021 with the government, which holds a 48.9 percent stake in the airline.

Mr Kilavuka said the plan would include some of the same elements as the previous one, including eliminating loss-making routes, but did not say how the two would differ.



A fleet of Kenya Airways planes at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

State soon to approve Kenya Airways restructuring plan

A senior KQ source, who asked not to be named, said it was not yet known if the new plan would maintain the government's commitment to taking over the \$800 million in debt.

The IMF's representative in Kenya did not respond to requests for comment.

Kenya Airways will present its 2022 results to investors on Monday.

Kenya Airways (KQ) has revived the chief operating officer (COO) post it scrapped nearly three years ago and appointed captain George Kamal effective March 14.

KQ, as the airline is known by its international code, has been restructuring to return to profitability and cut reliance on Treasury handouts for operational cash.

Cap Kamal is a former Air Arabia

operations director and Iraqi Airways COO.

"He will, therefore, be involved in the coordinating activities in various departments including flight operations, technical services, ground services, integrated operational control centre and supply chain," KQ managing director Allan Kilavuka said Tuesday in a memo to staff.

"Please join me in welcoming George to the KQ family and wishing him all the best in this critical assignment."

Cap Kamal started his aviation career

as a first officer and captain at Egypt Air, then moved to Etihad Airways as a captain and type rating instructor.

He has 27 years of experience as a pilot, flying Airbus 300, 330, and 320 and Boeing 777 planes.

Cap Kamal takes over the COO role last held by Jan de Vegt, who exited the airline in 2019, citing a lack of support as the reason for his departure.

Mr de Vegt was appointed COO on August 1, 2016, taking over from Yves Guibert, who had left in July.

KQ said it did away with the position following the expiry of Mr de Vegt's contract.

Mr Kamal joins the airline that has been a perennial beneficiary of State bailouts, with the carrier expected to receive another Sh35 billion in the current financial year, some of which will be used to repay its debts.

He holds a master's degree in Aviation Management Transformation in New Digital Decade from London Metropolitan.

Kakuzi stock plunges 37.5 per cent despite its record earnings

NAIROBI

KAKUZI's share price plunged 37.5 percent on Wednesday when it announced record earnings and dividends, setting the agricultural counter on a long path to recovery.

Market data shows that 2,000 shares were traded on that day, valuing the transaction at Sh480,000.

Trading rules allow share prices to drop or rise by a large margin on the day when a material announcement—such as financial results—is made.

Kakuzi's shares trade infrequently and can force a seller to quote lower prices to get a buyer.

The Wednesday trade means it will take a long time for Kakuzi's stock to recover since daily price movement caps of 10 percent now apply.

The stock had previously traded at Sh384 on Friday last week. The latest transaction sent the share price to a new 52-week low and places its 12-month decline at 43.5 percent.

The firm's share price had hit highs of Sh450 over the same period.

The Wednesday plunge came despite the company declaring a record dividend of Sh24 per share or a total of

Sh470.3 million for the year ended December.

The new payout marks a nine percent increase from the Sh22 per share amounting to Sh431.1 million which was paid for the prior year.

The agricultural firm's net income more than doubled to Sh845.8 million in the year ended December, up from Sh319.7 million a year earlier.

Sales increased 34.5 percent to Sh4.4 billion which the company attributed to higher production and exports of its key products led by avocados.

Production of Hass and Pinkerton avocados increased and there was also a higher contribution from both macadamia and tea operations, Kakuzi said.

The firm says it plans to grow avocado exports to the Chinese market which has the potential to become one of the largest destinations for Kenyan fruit.

Kakuzi's performance is an indication that other agricultural firms could also post higher earnings for their respective financial years.

Besides rising demand for commodities on recovery from the pandemic, producers are also benefitting from the weakening shilling against major world currencies such as the US dollar.

Museveni tips investors on 7 clusters of value addition



President Museveni inspects a stall as he interacts with business persons and investors at a recent Lohana International Business Forum at Munyonyo in Kampala.

KAMPALA

PRESIDENT Museveni has called upon investors to ensure value-addition to Uganda's raw materials in order to make it to a first world economy.

"This economy can quickly become a first world economy. It is now entering the middle-income level, but it can easily go faster, why? Because the raw material base is already big," Mr Museveni said, mentioning coffee, which is fetching Uganda \$900 million (about Sh3.4 trillion).

He added that Uganda is also doing well on steel production.

"For a long time, we didn't have investors in steel but now they're rushing to develop a steel industry inside the African continent so that we don't have to get steel

from China, Ukraine or India," he added.

While addressing the Lohana International Business Forum (LIBF) at Munyonyo in Kampala, the President highlighted seven key clusters of raw material base in Uganda ready for value addition on Wednesday.

These include Agro-processing (fruits...oil seeds, agricultural products), minerals (iron ore, steel, copper, phosphates, cobalt, gold, Nicol, lithium and niobium), fresh water resources to facilitate fish farming, forest products (furniture, ceiling boards, paper industry), knowledge sector like the automobile industry, services sector and pathogenic economy.

"These human diseases are a problem but also a very big opportunity. Our scientists here discovered

one substance called Covidex which cured many people of corona. Uganda only lost 1,600 people to Corona," he added.

About the automobile industry, the President said Uganda is on the right track when it comes to production of motor vehicles and would soon stop importing from Japan and other countries.

"We have designed our own buses and electric cars. I don't want to hear about assembling, that one I will not accept. We must manufacture and fabricate here not assembling," the President said, adding that part of the problem of Africa has been confining ourselves to producing raw materials and not adding value.

He gave an example of coffee whose global business in the world is \$460 billion but the coffee

producing countries only share \$26 billion.

"When we produce and sell a kilo of coffee beans, we get \$2.5 per kilo. But when somebody roasts and packages that same amount of coffee, gets \$25 from our product and all the jobs are exported," Mr Museveni said.

He added that the same applies to textiles, which has about seven levels of activities during production namely: spinning, weaving, printing colours, tailoring, among others.

He said the struggle of NRM to wake up Ugandans to stop working only for consumption is progressing well.

"Africa is big but fragmented politically, that's why we revived the East African Community. We now have a ready market of 300 mil-

WORLD

WWF: Earth Hour 2023 'a crucial moment' to reverse nature loss

GENEVA

AS lights around the world turned off at 8:30 pm local time on Saturday to mark Earth Hour 2023, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) warned that the next seven years will be crucial to stop irreversible nature loss and climate change.

This year's event is needed more than ever to inspire and mobilize millions of people to take action and shine a spotlight on critical environmental issues, the WWF urged.

"Switching off lights is great for creating awareness and celebrating, but we also want people to reflect and act on nature because the challenges we are facing are so big," Cristianne Close, WWF's deputy global conservation director, told Xinhua in a recent video interview from Brazil.

"In 2014, the Galapagos Islands banned plastic bags during Earth Hour. In 2019, Indonesia planted thousands of mangroves," she said.

Now in its 17th year, Earth Hour is the WWF's flagship global environmental event and was created in Sydney in 2007.

Over the years, it has grown to become the world's largest grassroots movement for the environment, inspiring individuals, communities, businesses and organizations to take tangible environmental action.

"The climate and the nature crisis are completely linked. We cannot see them as separate. If temperatures are not kept at 1.5 degrees Celsius, we will lose much more nature. Wildlife populations have already plummeted by an average of 69 percent since 1970 and we really need to create awareness of this," Close said.

Taking action

Earth Hour has featured many of the world's most iconic landmarks switching off their lights, from the London Eye in Britain to the Eiffel Tower in France and the 2,000-year-old Colosseum in Italy.



A projection marking Earth Hour is set up in front of Germany's landmark Brandenburg Gate shortly before Earth Hour in Berlin, Germany, on Saturday. (PHOTO / AP)

"The two main things we want from governments and businesses is to really implement the transition towards clean energy and phase out fossil fuel. That's a must for everybody," Close said. "Nature is said to be linked to at least 50 percent of the global gross domestic product (GDP). We depend on nature for economic well-being," she added.

"That's why we are calling on businesses and governments to really, really create this awareness. Earth Hour is a way of society signalling to leaders 'we care' and we need to do something about it before it's too late," she said.

This year, apart from the symbolic "lights off" moment, the WWF is calling on individuals, communities, and businesses across the world to "give an hour for Earth" and spend 60 minutes doing something positive for the planet.

Ideas range from cleaning up beaches, planting trees, cooking dinner with sustainable ingredients, or getting friends together for an Earth Hour event, the WWF said.

No time to waste

This year's Earth Hour comes hot on the heels of the historic Kunming-Montreal Agreement at COP15, which in December committed the world to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030.

Close told Xinhua the next seven years will be crucial for ensuring that the decade ends with more nature and biodiversity than when it began, not less.

She also said it was not too late yet to achieve the target and stay under the 1.5 degrees Celsius climate threshold needed to avoid irreversible damage to the planet.

Fresh alarm over marine 'plastic smog'

SYDNEY

WALK along any beach in the world, no matter how isolated, you will find plastic of some kind washed up on the shoreline, offering a reminder of the reckless throw-away culture of the present-day world.

Now, a study has sounded a fresh warning on the damage caused to the marine ecosystem due to discarded plastics, which eventually has a bearing on human health due to the seafood we consume.

In a paper titled 'A growing plastic smog', published on March 8 in PlosOne, a peer reviewed science, engineering and medicine research journal, researchers called on governments around the world to take sweeping action to address the "unprecedented plastic pollution" of the world's oceans.

The call came as they determined that around 170 trillion particles of plastic are floating in the world's oceans. And that is a conservative estimate.

The plastics break down over time into minute particles that cannot be detected by the naked eye but find their way into the marine ecosystem and into the seafood humans consume.

No one knows for certain what the long-term damage will be to marine life and humans, but the study placed much of the blame on the plastics industry for failing to recycle or design for recyclability.

Charlene Trestrail, research associate at the University of Technology Sydney and technical advisor for environmental organization Plastic Oceans Australasia, said the study shows just how big the problem is and one which "we have been underestimating".

"Microplastics are a problem because they are mistaken for food and eaten by small marine animals, like mussels, oysters, and shrimp," she said.

"Once eaten, microplastics can wreak havoc on an animal's internal tissues," Trestrail said, noting that they "interfere with the production of digestive enzymes in the stomach, damage the intestines, and leak potentially harmful chemicals inside animals' digestive tracts".

Paul Harvey, an environmental scientist and author of The Plasticology Project, a book on the plastics pollution crisis, said the numbers in the latest study are "staggeringly phenomenal" and almost "beyond comprehension".

"Globally, we have reached a point where we can no longer ignore the plastic pollution pandemic that is infecting our oceans," he said.

"This research shows us that beach clean-ups and citizen science projects that focus on the environmental fate of plastics have little impact on solving the enormity of the plastic problem. It is time for policymakers, governments, and businesses to wake up and take the issue seriously," Harvey said.

Lead author of the study and co-founder of the 5 Gyres Institute in California Marcus Eriksen said in a statement that the findings were a "stark warning that we must act now at a global scale".

"We've found an alarming trend of exponential growth of microplastics in the global ocean since the millennium, reaching over 170 trillion plastic particles," Eriksen said. "The exponential increase in microplastics across the world's oceans" makes it imperative to "usher in an age of corporate responsibility for the entire life of the things they make".

"Clean-up is futile if we continue to produce plastic at the current rate, and we have heard about recycling for too long while the plastic industry simultaneously rejects any commitments to buy recycled material or design for recyclability. It's time to address the plastic problem at the source."

Oliver Jones, a professor of analytical chemistry at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia, said the study is part research and part call-to-action on the issue of plastics in the oceans.

"Much as we tend to hate plastics, we might also remember that they are made for a reason, and they do have benefits. They protect our food from spoilage for instance and insulate our homes, and, while we don't do a good job of it, they can be recycled," Jones said.

"That said, I do agree with the authors that plastics in the environment is an important issue that isn't going away and as such is something that the global scientific community, industry, and politicians should start to work together on solving sooner rather than later."

The study involved scientists from the United States, Sweden, Chile and Australia who examined previously published and new data on floating plastic pollution pertaining to 1979-2019 from 11,777 stations across the North Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Pacific, South Pacific, Indian, and Mediterranean regions.

"The situation is much worse than expected," said co-author Patricia Villarrubia-Gomez, a researcher at the Stockholm Resilience Center in Sweden.

"In 2014, it was estimated that there were 5 trillion plastic particles in the ocean. Now, less than 10 years later, we're up at 170 trillion."

Agencies

Erdogan, Putin discuss grain initiative renewal over phone

ISTANBUL / MOSCOW

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed the Black Sea Grain Initiative renewal over the phone on Saturday.

The Turkish presidency's communications department said Erdogan thanked Putin for Russia's positive stance on the extension of the initiative.

Erdogan expressed his gratitude for the help that Russia rendered in overcoming the aftermath of earthquakes in Türkiye, the Kremlin said, adding that the presidents agreed to continue working on the potential delivery of construction materials from Russia.

The Turkish leader also reiterated Türkiye's commitment to a peaceful resolution to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Brokered by Türkiye and the United Nations (UN), the Black

Sea Grain Initiative was signed by Russia and Ukraine last July to establish a maritime humanitarian corridor and export grain and fertilizer from Ukraine and Russia amid the conflict.

Initially in effect for 120 days, the deal was extended in mid-November 2022 and again on March 18.

According to the UN, some 25 million tons of grain and foodstuffs were transported to 45 countries during the first two terms of the initiative, which helped to bring down global food prices and stabilize the markets.

Putin also discussed topics concerning the Russian-Turkish partnership in various fields during a telephone call with Erdogan, according to the Kremlin.

"Both sides expressed satisfaction with the positive dynamic of trade and economic relations, the successful implementation



This handout picture taken and released by Turkish Presidential Press Service on Aug 5, 2022 shows Russia's President Vladimir Putin (right) meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Sochi. File photo

of joint strategic power engineering projects, including gas supplies, and the construction of the Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant in Türkiye," the Kremlin said in a statement.

Erdogan expressed his gratitude for the help that Russia rendered in overcoming the aftermath of earthquakes in Türkiye, the Kremlin said, add-

ing that the presidents agreed to continue working on the potential delivery of construction materials from Russia to restore destroyed infrastructure and residential buildings.

"The Turkish leader positively assessed Russia's consent to extend the Istanbul Agreements, which deal with the export of Ukrainian grain from Black Sea

ports and the unblocking of exports of Russian food and fertilizers for 60 days," it said.

The importance of continuing the normalization of Turkish-Syrian relations was also underlined. "Erdogan highlighted the constructive mediatory role Russia has played in this process," said the Kremlin.

Agencies

Israel's attorney general accuses Netanyahu of breaking the law

JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S attorney-general on Friday accused Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of breaking the law by ignoring a conflict of interest over his ongoing trial for corruption and getting directly involved in his government's judicial overhaul plan.

In the face of intensifying protests against the proposed changes, which its critics charge would weaken the Supreme Court, Netanyahu said on Thursday he was putting aside all other considerations and would do "anything it takes" to reach a solution.

The letter from Attorney-General Gali Baharav-Miara added to the headwinds facing the plans, which

have caused a deep split in Israeli society, bringing tens of thousands of protesters to the streets, alarming the business establishment and opening cracks in the right-wing coalition itself.

Israel's Channel 12 reported that following Netanyahu's speech, about 200 elite reservist air force pilots said they were suspending their service on Friday due to the planned legislation, escalating protests from within the military.

After media reports that Defense Minister Yoav Gallant would call for the plans to be halted on Thursday, Netanyahu summoned his defense chief who outlined the potential impact of the overhaul on the armed



forces, where growing numbers of reservists have declared they will not serve.

However Netanyahu, who is on trial on corruption charges that he denies, has pushed ahead, declaring in a televised address on Thursday that he

would try to pass a central part of the package next week.

On Thursday, the Knesset amended a law to limit the circumstances in which a prime minister can be removed from office but Baharav-Miara said Netanyahu had to stay out of the judicial overhaul package, which has been handled by Justice Minister Yariv Levin.

"The legal situation is clear: you must refrain from any involvement in initiatives to change the judiciary," she wrote in the letter made public by the office of the justice ministry spokesperson. "Your statement last night and any action you take in violation of this matter is illegal."

Agencies

China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era to keep advancing at high level

DURING his three-day visit to Russia starting on March 20, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin had sincere, friendly and fruitful talks on the bilateral ties and major regional and international issues of mutual interest, and reached new, important common understandings in many fields.

In March 2013, Xi chose Russia for his first trip abroad as Chinese president. Ten years later, Xi again picked Russia for his first overseas visit following his re-election. The visit is a trip of friendship, cooperation and peace.

On the streets of Moscow, it's easy to see Chinese signs in public places, merchants speaking Chinese to greet

customers, as well as Chinese brand vehicles. These Chinese elements are a vivid epitome and witness of the continuously upgrading China-Russia ties.

"Old friend" is a term for more and more Russians to address China. Messages and articles about Xi's visit to Russia are seen on many Russian newspapers and magazines.

A student named Sophia from Moscow State University told People's Daily that Xi's visit will bring more vitality to China-Russia ties and make China-Russia friendship even closer.

Head-of-state interaction is the compass and anchor of China-Russia relations. Under the strategic guidance of the two heads of state of the

two countries, the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era has maintained strong momentum for development. The two countries' political mutual trust, strategic coordination and pragmatic cooperation have reached new heights. They have set a good example of good-neighborly friendship and win-win cooperation between major countries and neighboring countries.

Today, our world, our times and history are changing. China and Russia have worked together to fulfill their responsibilities as major countries and played a leading role in bringing stability to a world of change and disorder. They have always maintained

strategic focus, remained committed to promoting a multi-polar world, championed and practiced true multilateralism and played a constructive role in promoting world peace and global development.

The two countries have delivered remarkable performance in pragmatic cooperation. In the first two months of this year, bilateral trade between China and Russia increased 25.9 percent year on year to nearly \$33.69 billion. China and Russia have continuously synergized the Belt and Road Initiative with the Eurasian Economic Union, witnessed progress in cooperation in both traditional and emerging fields.

Besides, the two countries are also

seeing closer sub-national cooperation, frequent people-to-people and cultural exchanges, as well as the development of the Years of Sports Exchange. The social foundation for China-Russia friendship has been further strengthened.

As a Chinese saying goes, a partnership forged with the right approach defies geographical distance. To develop a comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era is a long-term strategic choice made by the two sides.

Both China and Russia are at a key stage of development and revitalization. The cooperation between the two countries enjoys huge potential and promising prospects.

It is believed that the comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era between China and Russia will keep advancing at a high level, better benefit the two countries and the world at large.

People's Daily



Today, our world, our times and history are changing. China and Russia have worked together to fulfill

World Bank vows to step up support for long-term development agendas in Africa

ADDIS ABABA

THE World Bank has vowed to step up its support to African countries with a special focus on their long-term development agendas, a senior official of the bank has said.

"We need to continue to support areas of long-term development agendas in Africa with a special focus on infrastructure, agriculture and other real sectors that will help remove bottlenecks and unleash growth," World Bank Regional Vice President for Eastern and Southern Africa Victoria Kwakwa told the press on Friday in Addis Ababa as she concluded her three-day visit to Ethiopia.

She said, over the past two years, the bank has been supporting African countries in their COVID-19 response and helping them strengthen health systems. "We have strong operations and we are discussing with governments of the continent to augment the possibility of growth across the continent," Kwakwa said.

"The World Bank welcomes the AfCFTA (African Continental Free Trade Area) very much and it is investing on the physical connectivity among the countries of the continent, involving the transboundary roads and trade facilitation," she said.

Regarding the Ethiopian economy, she said that the East African country has seen a rebound of growth despite multiple challenges including the conflict in its Tigray and neighboring regions, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukraine crisis, as well as drought and conflict in the northern region, adding that Ethiopia is making progress.

Appreciating the cessation of hostility reached between the government of Ethiopia and the Tigray People's Liberation Front, she urged for consolidation of the peace agreement not only in Tigray but also in other parts of the East African country.

Rwandan president pardons jailed prototype character in 'Hotel Rwanda', co-accused

KIGALI

RWANDAN President Paul Kagame has pardoned jailed Paul Rusesabagina, a former hotelier portrayed as a hero in a film called "Hotel Rwanda" and Callixte Nsabimana alias Sankara, a cabinet communique issued by the Office of the Prime Minister announced late on Friday.

The two alongside 18 other co-accused members of a rebel group -- the National Liberation Front (FLN), a military wing of Movement for Democratic Change and the Party for Democracy (MRCD), are to be released on a presidential pardon. The decision of early release was approved at a cabinet meeting on Friday chaired by Kagame.

"In accordance with article 228 of the law on criminal procedure, the prison sentences of the following individuals convicted of terrorism-related offenses have been commuted by Presidential Order after consideration of their requests for clemency: Paul Rusesabagina and Callixte Nsabimana alias Sankara," the statement said.

Another 18 members of MRCD-FLN convicted alongside their leaders Paul Rusesabagina and Callixte Nsabimana were granted collective commutation under article 229, it added.

The presidential pardon also saw 361 convicted in unrelated cases and various offenses have their sentences commuted, according to the statement. Rusesabagina who was serving a 25-year jail sentence was in September 2021 convicted on eight counts related to acts of terrorism committed by the FLN in 2018 which claimed the lives of nine civilians in Rwanda's southwest.

In a letter written by Rusesabagina to Kagame in October 2022 to request a pardon that was released by the Rwandan Ministry of Justice on Friday, Rusesabagina said he wished to express regret for any connection with the MRCD. "As a former head of MRCD, I regret not taking more care to ensure that the MRCD coalition fully adhered to the principles of non-violence in which I fully and deeply believe, and have always ascribed," Rusesabagina wrote.

"If I am granted a pardon and released, I understand fully that I will spend the remainder of my days in the United States in quiet reflection," he continued. "I can assure you through this letter that I hold no personal or political ambitions otherwise. I will leave questions regarding Rwandan politics behind me."

Rusesabagina was made famous by "Hotel Rwanda," where he saved over 1,000 ethnic Tutsis during the 1994 Rwandan Genocide against the Tutsi, which claimed more than 1 million lives. However, survivors and experts disputed the story as exaggerated.

Until his arrest, Rusesabagina had long been living overseas and was the subject of an international arrest warrant for alleged terrorism, arson, kidnap, and murder, perpetrated against civilians on Rwandan territory.

WFP warns 'unprecedented' food insecurity in drought-affected Horn of Africa countries

ADDIS ABABA

THE United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) on Friday warned that "unprecedented" levels of acute food insecurity have persisted in drought-affected Horn of Africa (HOA) countries.

In its latest Horn of Africa drought response and situational report, the WFP said countries in the region, mainly Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, have been facing severe drought for two and a half years after five failed rainy seasons.

It said the region is currently experiencing the most severe and protracted drought in decades, leading to unprecedented levels of acute food insecurity in southern and southern-eastern parts of Ethiopia, Kenya's arid and semi-arid lands, and much of Somalia.

Noting the Horn of Africa region is known for its recurring droughts, the WFP said the situation has been exacerbated by various factors such as population growth, macroeconomic volatility, pandemics, extreme poverty and conflicts. The WFP said the latest figures project 5.4 million people to be food insecure in Kenya from March to June 2023. In Somalia, an estimated 6.5 million people are forecasted to face a crisis or worse food insecurity outcomes from January to March 2023, it said.

In Ethiopia, some 11.8 million people need emergency food assistance in drought-affected areas alone, an increase of 59 percent compared to early 2022. "The current catastrophe in the Horn of Africa has made it one of the most food-insecure regions with substantially higher prevalence rates than other regions of the world," it said.

The WFP warned that the occurrence of another poor rainy season between March to May 2023 as forecasted would have devastating consequences for communities. It said regardless of seasonal performance, humanitarian needs will remain high in 2023, and multi-sectoral assistance must be scaled up to save lives.

Xinhua

The current catastrophe in the Horn of Africa has made it one of the most food-insecure regions with substantially higher prevalence rates than other regions of the world

UN 2023 Water Conference closes with bold action on new agenda

UNITED NATIONS

THE UN 2023 Water Conference ended on Friday after adopting the Water Action Agenda, an action plan containing almost 700 commitments to protect "humanity's most precious global common good."

From making better food choices to reevaluating water as an economic driver and cultural treasure, the agenda lays out a series of game-changing commitments.

In his closing remarks at the conference, which ran from Wednesday through Friday, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called it an "ambitious vision." "Your dedication to action and transformation is propelling us towards a sustainable, equitable and inclusive water-secure future for people and planet alike," he said.

"This conference demonstrated a central truth: as humanity's most precious global common good, water unites us all, and it flows across a number of global challenges."

From protecting the spread of disease to fighting poverty, the natural resource also flows through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at a time when the world is grappling with climate change, water scarcity, and pollution, said the secretary-general.

"That's why water needs to be at the center of the global political agenda," he said. "All of humanity's hopes for the future depend, in some way, on charting a new science-based course to bring the Water Action Agenda to life."

Doing so translates into such forward-looking actions as developing new, alternative food systems to reduce the unsustainable use of water in agriculture, while launching a new global information system to guide plans and priorities to realize the SDGs, said the top UN official. New considerations include appointing a special envoy for water ahead of the SDG Summit in September,



he said.

The secretary-general pledged UN support "every step of the way," as member states take action through the second half of the Water Action Decade. "Without water, there can be no sustainable development," Guterres said, thanking all stakeholders.

"As we leave this historic conference, let's re-commit to our common future. Let's take the next steps in our journey to a water-secure future for all." "I am amazed by the ambition and solidarity you show in devising a water-secure future for all," said UN General Assembly President Csaba Korosi at the closing of the conference.

It is "an agenda for which you have pledged more than 300 billion U.S. dollars at this conference, with the potential of unlocking at least 1 trillion dollars of socioeconomic and ecosystem gains," he said. "The outcome of this conference is not a legally binding document, but it still turns the page of history," he noted. "You have reconfirmed the promise to implement the human right to water and sanitation for all."

"We will keep our ears and minds open to scientific evidence as we move forward to realize the transformation discussed," he added. Civil society and the private sector are at the heart of this transformation and "key to our success" he said, adding that they must be part of more inclusive partnerships and solutions.

"Today, we hold the pieces of a water-secure and more peaceful world in our hands," he said. "Together, we can launch the transformation for a water-secure world, and these gamechangers can take us there." Lending multiple perspectives and expertise to navigate the challenges ahead, more than

2,000 government representatives, scientists, academics, civil society groups, indigenous peoples, members of the private sector, and youth delegates attended the conference held at the UN headquarters in New York.

The Water Action Agenda commitments cover a broad range of activities, from capacity-building to data collection and monitoring, as well as improving infrastructure resilience, said Under-Secretary-General Li Junhua.

"This is just the beginning," he said. "The online platform hosting the Water Action Agenda will remain open for submissions and available for all to view through the conference website."

Another key outcome of the conference will be a summary by the UN General Assembly President, capturing the many ideas, recommendations, and solutions to protect and support "our world's lifeblood" that emerged during five interactive dialogues, four special events and hundreds of side events, he said. "At the 2023 UN Water Conference, a determined global community came together to make a difference not only for the future of water but for the future of the world," he said. *Xinhua*

China-Russia economic, trade cooperation in steady development

CHINA-RUSSIA relations have always maintained a healthy development momentum over recent years. Last year, bilateral trade between the two countries rose 29.3 percent year-on-year to a record high of nearly \$190.3 billion. China has remained Russia's largest trading partner for 13 years in a row.

The two countries have witnessed steady progress in their economic and trade cooperation, as well as new achievements in cooperation in fields such as energy, investment and connectivity, which contributed to their common development.

China's investment in Russia is growing rapidly, expanding from traditional fields such as energy, agriculture and forestry to more sectors, including automobile, home appliance and food processing.

Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of Russia Alexei Gruzdev noted the upgraded economic and trade cooperation between Russia and China, as well as the significant rise in bilateral trade, will constantly drive the Russia-China relations.

Boris Titov, chairman of the Russian side of the China-Russia Friendship Committee for Peace and Development (CRFCPD) noted that Russia-China economic and trade cooperation has achieved positive results and bilateral trade kept growing. The market share of Chinese products was on a rise in Russia as more Chinese businesses entered, he said.

According to Russian analytic agency Autostat, Chinese automakers have launched multiple products tailored for the Russian market, which were welcomed by Russian consumers. Autostat's general director Sergey Tselikov said that the quality of Chinese automobiles kept increasing, and the number of Chinese vehicles bought by Russian consumers hit a record high in 2022.

In addition, Chinese manufacturers are also expanding their businesses in Russia, selling home appliances such as refrigerators, freezers and washing machines to Russian buyers. Chinese smart home products, in particular, are



A freight train carrying construction materials and home appliances departs from Beijing for Moscow, Russia, March 16, 2023. (Photo by Sun Lijun/People's Daily Online)

very popular among Russian consumers.

Russian Ambassador to China Igor Morgulov said in a recent interview that he had witnessed the popularity of Russian food in the Chinese market since he took office, from which he saw the bright prospects for enhancing bilateral cooperation and expanding Russian agricultural exports to China.

Moscow opened the 71-km Big Circle Line (BCL), Russia's biggest metro line construction project, on March 1 this year. The southwest section of the BCL was constructed by China Railway Construction Corporation, which includes three stations and nine tunnels.

The high-quality and efficient construction by the Chinese side has further diversified the charm of the Moscow Metro, which is dubbed as an "underground museum," with unique Chinese-style designs.

China and Russia have continuously deepened the synergy between the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Eurasian Economic Union over the recent years, with each cooperation project in steady progress.

Park Huaming, of Chinese Business Center, a trade center in Moscow, has completed construction.

Major energy projects, including the second line for the China-Russia oil pipeline project and the China-Russia east-route natural gas pipeline project, have been put into operation.

Projects in connectivity are well underway, including international transportation corridors, the Mongolia-China-Russia economic corridor, and the China-Europe freight train service.

China and Russia are each other's largest neighbors and emerging markets in the world, and the cooperation between the two countries boasts strong resilience, ample potential and wide space.

Their cooperation at the sub-national level is booming. Collaboration in information technology, cross-

border e-commerce, digital economy, biomedicine, and other emerging areas are showing strong momentum.

China and Russia have continuously improved and enriched the "Yangtze River-Volga River" and "China's Northeast-Russia's Far East" regional cooperation mechanisms. Sub-national cooperation platforms between the two countries such as the China-Russia Expo are showing vitality.

Besides, China and Russia also enjoy broad prospects of cooperation in digital infrastructure construction, talent training, industrial investment, e-commerce and 5G technology.

Zhou Liqun, president of the Union of Chinese Entrepreneurs in Russia, believes that the digital economy, green development and biomedicine will become new growth points of China-Russia economic and trade cooperation and inject new momentum into the two countries' economic development.

The two sides signed the roadmap for high-quality development of China-Russia trade in goods and services in February 2022, which charted the course in achieving bilateral trade targets.

Enterprises from both sides will expand their cooperation on low-carbon energy and green infrastructure, actively advance innovation in green technology and foster new growth points for China-Russia economic and trade cooperation.

Georgy Zinoviev, head of the First Asian Department at the Russian Foreign Ministry noted that Russia-China bilateral cooperation still enjoys potential and the two countries are complementary to each other. The two countries will work to promote further development of the ties between the two countries and benefit the two peoples, he said.

People's Daily



NBC Bank's Mlimani City Branch Manager, Lilian Mutalemwa (L), presents a football to Rehema Mushi after the latter had emerged as a winner of the 'Mkeka wa Ushindi na ATM za NBC' campaign in Dar es Salaam last weekend. The campaign aims to give NBC ATM users a chance to win various prizes as part of enjoying the NBC Bank sponsorship for the Mainland Tanzania Premier League, once the users make transactions through NBC ATMs. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

NBC Bank launches new campaign

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has announced the launch of its new campaign, dubbed 'Mkeka wa Ushindi na ATM za NBC'.

The campaign, according to the institution, is aimed at allowing NBC's ATM users to win various prizes as part of enjoying the NBC Bank sponsorship for the Mainland Tanzania Premier League.

Speaking during the launch of the campaign held at NBC's Bank Mlimani City Branch in Dar es Salaam last weekend, NBC's Head of Marketing, David Raymond, said the 'Mkeka wa Ushindi na ATM za NBC' aims to encourage NBC customers and non-NBC customers to use NBC ATMs to do their transactions.

He said customers who will use their ATM cards to make various transactions during the campaign will have the opportunity to win exciting gifts, including tickets to watch the NBC Mainland Premier League matches, jerseys, and many other gifts.

Raymond said: "We are happy to launch this 'Mkeka wa Ushindi na ATM za NBC' campaign that offers prizes to all NBC ATM users, be it NBC customers or non-NBC customers. Exciting prizes, including tickets to watch NBC Premier League matches, jerseys, and many more will be offered."

The official noted: "We understand the importance of convenience in banking services, and we are increasingly moving banking services closer to customers by adding new ATMs to different locations in the country."

"NBC ATM users can put money on any NBC account through existing ATMs in our branches across the country," the NBC official said.

Raymond added: "Those who do not have an account can, by using the 'NBC Cash Popote' service, also with-

draw cash from any NBC ATMs. People who have VISA cards, Union Pay, and Mastercard can use NBC ATMs to withdraw cash."

"All these groups have the same opportunity to win various prizes in this campaign. We believe that users of NBC ATMs will continue to enjoy our services, and we welcome them all to use NBC ATMs," Raymond noted.

The NBC Bank's Head of Digital Banking Services, Ulrik Thobias, added that the prizes would be handed over instantly, whereby as soon as the customer is done with his or her transaction via the NBC ATM, he or she will instantly find out what prize he or she has won by looking at the back of the transaction's receipt.

Thobias noted: "We always keep our customers close and make sure they enjoy our services anytime and anywhere. Through our 'Mkeka wa Ushindi na ATM za NBC' campaign, we are pleased to give our customers the chance to win tickets to see the premier league matches, jerseys, and other exciting prizes."

"We hope that this campaign will further strengthen our relationship with our customers as well as all users of our ATMs," Thobias pointed out.

According to him, such a campaign focuses on all NBC Bank ATMs users residing in Dar es Salaam and Coast Region.

"Every NBC ATM user should, after making a transaction, ensure he/she takes the receipt and turn it back to look at the prize he/she has won. He/she should then go with his or her receipt to any branch next to him/her to take his or her prize," Thobias said.

The launch was attended by NBC customers and journalists who had the opportunity to learn more about the 'Mkeka wa Ushindi na ATM za NBC' campaign and had an audience with the NBC team.

Pundits unsettled on Mbwana Samatta in 1-0 win for Taifa Stars over Cranes

By Correspondent John Kimbuta

DISCUSSION over the 1-0 win by Tanzania's Taifa Stars over the Uganda Cranes lately has been interesting and also somewhat disappointing.

Before the match, the pundits largely agreed that Uganda was better than Tanzania in virtually all spheres of play or 'departments' in technical terms and, while Uganda loses frequently in friendly matches against Stars (which are used to experiment with players), it is not so for this kind of competitive engagements. Yet the opposite happened, putting bets at risk.

Over and above this hiatus in expectations over who stood to win in that match, a second aspect was to explain the game pattern by Taifa Stars, not so much how they came to win but the chances they stand in the future, including the return match with the Cranes at Dar es Salaam's Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, alias 'Estadio Lupaso'.

There is already a measure of inconsistency lingering, for if one cannot explain how Taifa Stars won over the Cranes, how far can the same person, or that school of thought can project what happens next? Is it a repetition of the last match or Uganda makes key corrections?

That issue was not overly broached as the idea of how the Cranes reorganize their pattern of play, implicitly head coach Milutin 'Micho' is not something that most listeners wish to hear, as if one is addressing a crowd sympathetic to the Cranes.

Yet from a matter of consistency or personal honesty rather than exercising the liberty to change the point of view (which does not mean personal opinion but the vantage point of looking at the match) demanded that this matter be settled.

If the pundits had nearly by one voice admitted Uganda's tested superiority, what next?

In other words, without even going over what happened in the latest Taifa Stars versus Cranes match where no side was at home, it can be asserted that chances exist for the Cranes to overturn the tables even in an away match.

That possibility is eroded or removed if the loss Uganda suffered lately arose



Senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' attacker, Mbwana Samatta (R), outfoxes Uganda's Cranes fullback as the squads took on each other in a 2023 Africa Cup of Nations Qualifiers' Group F duel that took place at Suez Canal Authority Stadium in Ismailia, Egypt on Friday. Taifa Stars won 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

from a newly experienced state of weakness inflicting a clear structural disadvantage vis a vis their neighbours, whom they are used to beating in competitive encounters.

That much could have been raised, whether there is a structural hiatus with the Cranes, or there isn't any.

The lack of having examined this aspect implies that there was no real discussion of what is likely to happen next, as it focused rather on what should happen.

When one shifts the gaze in that direction, the discussion begins to center over the way the side played, and how far that is assuring to continue with the same game or improve upon it.

That aspect of the discussion is useful and helpful but it could have been more enlightening to know why previous projections on the Cranes' chances failed, and if this will remain a consistent pattern. Taifa Stars' consistency is not enough.

That is how pundits arrived or rather took up the discussion around the way the striking pattern is organized, differing especially on the role of Mbwana Samatta, the team captain.

It appears plenty of discom-

forts had been expressed in that regard in earlier instances, and for those without similar expertise as the pundits, it is often hard to make out what perspective is objective and what is contrived.

At times the weaknesses of the approach are clear as they result from psychological haste.

Since the pundits take a lot of time discussing international matches, the Premier League circuit in Europe (UEFA zone) in the first place, two examples appear to suffice.

Pundits often scorn or look complacently at a player until one sees the fellow in action and is surprised at how good he is, like Ivorian Franck Kessie of Barcelona, whose transfer market price cited at present is modest (28m pounds) but seems as good as any in timing or reactions, and is on the starting line-up.

They then appeared to take appointments of aging coaches for some premier league sides somewhat lightly, virtually as a joke and avoided touching Carlo Ancelotti at Real Madrid.

The rule is that what is good for the goose must be good for the gander too.

When it comes to Mbwana Samatta there were usual complaints about there being chances

of making a timely pass, which is wasted when it could have resulted in scoring.

That is true but if the positioning was just accidental rather than expected in that pattern of play, it would follow that the player was not aware that the coach (not the fans) would expect him to pass at that moment.

Still, the sort of passing that one talks about is often hypothetically projected to be effective though it could fail.

But finally, trying to take the Taifa Stars captain for this or that failure comes up to take the rest for granted, for which one can simply remain skeptical.

At times it is a matter of a cup that is half empty or half full, for instance when Samatta holds the ball, and dribbles, it also enables other players to take effective positions while the skipper draws defenders.

So the technique is not faulty as at times it needs actual penetration, not just successful passes, as most pundits are likely to be aware.

Taifa Stars could not have won by 3-0 but in a flight of imagination, undeniably, Msuva scored an exceptional goal by directly hitting a loose ball, a rare chance.

Singida Big Stars set to gain from partnership with US Monastir

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

FOOTBALL is the most popular sport in the world that brings people together and they zealously carry it in their hearts.

It raises many strong emotions and, with the addition of development issues, it is possible to see football just like another common project.

It is a vision and a belief, it is a tool for experienced persons to pass important life messages to their youngsters through a popular game.

Football is a perfect opportunity for people with similar views to meet, which means a football match is an occasion offering people space to create, learn, advertise, or sell products and services, and share the fun.

On March 20, Singida Big Stars signed a partnership

agreement with Tunisia's US Monastir, as the Tanzanian club targets to turn into one of the best football clubs in the country and Africa.

The agreement focuses on cooperation including the exchange of expertise, development programs, and technical knowledge.

US Monastir has further provided Singida Big Stars with a special offer to set up a pre-season camp for the 2023/24 NBC Premier League at the former's base in Tunisia.

According to sports analysts, both US Monastir and Singida Big Stars are expected to benefit from the partnership.

They explained that that partnership will be followed by the realization of ideas because both have their experiences and skills and will work on their projects in their home countries.

The analysts stated that there

will, first, be complementary skills of the two outfits' members that will provide a wider pool of knowledge, skills, and moral support and allow for more creative brainstorming administratively, economically, and technically.

The issues will propel the sides to success because they will create efficiency, reduce operational costs, and open up new income streams.

They further explained that the pre-season camp for 2023/24 NBC Premier League offered to Singida Big Stars offered will ensure the club gains experience in CAF inter-club competitions.

US Monastir has enjoyed significant achievement in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup, having booked a place in the continental competition's last eight.

Singida Big Stars is lately positioned third in the 2022/23 NBC

Premier League standings after posting 48 points.

Out of its 25 rounds of home and away games, the Singida club has won 14 matches, drawn six, and lost five.

Other benefits are opportunities for the two outfits' coaches to undergo training to improve their skills, and knowledge, as well as exchange experiences.

Moreover, the clubs' activities and information placed on their websites and social media pages will be seen by a wider range of sports fans because they will act as a stop-shop.

The move will enable the clubs to attract various sponsorships due to having a great number of followers.

Subscribers and advertisers will seek the chance to advertise their services and products through the two clubs' merchandise or online media.



Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) Head of Innovation, Bertha Vedastus (C), speaks to female artists (not in picture) and some guests during a seminar aiming at empowering Tanzania's female artists. The progressive seminar, which took place in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, was organized by one of Africa's biggest online music platforms, Mdundo, under the sponsorship of SBL. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

No Haaland as Spain beats Norway; Wales draws with Croatia

LONDON

NEW faces dominated European Championship qualifying on Saturday as Spain coach Luis de la Fuente swept aside Norway in his first game in charge and a Wales forward rescued a dramatic draw in his first international match.

Best known until now for coaching Spain's youth teams, De la Fuente didn't have to deal with Norway's striker Erling Haaland, who missed the game with a groin injury. The 3-0 victory extended Spain's record of 23 consecutive home wins in qualifying games for the European Championship.

Spain was in control after Dani Olmo's 13th-minute opening goal but didn't close out the game until substitute Joselu scored twice in quick succession late on in his international debut.

For Norway, it was a frustrating reminder of the difference Haaland can make. The Manchester City striker has scored 21 times in 23 games for his country since his debut in 2019, but has now missed seven of Norway's last 15 games with various injury and fitness concerns.

In the other game in Group A, Scotland beat Cyprus 3-0 in coach Steve Clarke's first match since extending his contract through to the 2026 World Cup. Scotland is aiming to qualify for consecutive European Championships for the first time since 1996.

Scotland led by a single goal for most of the game after John McGinn scored in the 21st before Manchester United midfielder Scott McTominay scored twice in the final minutes to ensure the win.

WALES RESCUES DRAW

Nathan Broadhead had a dream debut for Wales as the substitute salvaged a 1-1 draw with a goal in stoppage time against World Cup semifinalist Croatia.

Broadhead, who plays for Ipswich in the third tier of English soccer, was first to the ball when a long throw was flicked on in the third minute of stoppage time. Wales was playing its first game since Gareth Bale retired following the World Cup.

Andrej Kramarić gave Croatia the lead after latching on to a long pass from goalkeeper Dominik Livaković in the 28th. Luka Modrić, still playing for his country at age 37, played in Ivan Perišić to a good position late on but the Tottenham midfielder hit the crossbar.

Also in Group D, Turkey recovered from conceding an early own-goal to beat Armenia 2-1.

QUICK HAT TRICK

Renato Steffen needed less than a half-hour to score a hat trick as Switzerland demolished Belarus 5-0 in Group I. No fans were there to see the feat.

Steffen scored in the fourth, 17th and 29th minutes, with all the goals from inside the six-yard box. Steffen had scored just once for his country in 29 previous games.

Russia was banned from Euro 2024 qualifying by UEFA but its close ally Belarus was allowed to keep playing on condition of hosting its games in neutral countries with no fans allowed. Belarus chose Novi Sad in Serbia.

Israel and Kosovo drew 1-1, and Romania beat Andorra 2-0.

GERMANY WINS

Hansi Flick and his team don't have to go through qualifying because Germany is the host nation of the European Championship next year. Following a disappointing group-stage elimination at the World Cup, Germany started its rebuild Saturday with a 2-0 win over Peru in a friendly.

Niclas Füllkrug opened the scoring off a pass from Kai Havertz in the 12th minute and made it 2-0 in the 33rd off a cross from right back Marius Wolf, who was making his debut for Germany. Havertz missed a penalty in the second half. Apart from Wolf, Flick gave debuts to Brentford winger Kevin Schade and Augsburg forward Mergim Berisha off the bench.

AP

Tuchel 'dumbstruck' by Bayern appointment

MUNICH

NEWLY-APPOINTED Bayern Munich coach Thomas Tuchel said on Saturday he was "dumbstruck" at being offered the position after replacing the sacked Julian Nagelsmann.

Tuchel, 49, has been appointed on a contract that runs until 2025 after Nagelsmann was dismissed in just his second season in charge of Bayern.

Nagelsmann lost his job with the six-time European champions on Friday with the club second in the Bundesliga, but he had guided them through to the Champions League quarter-finals.

Tuchel was fired by Chelsea in September despite leading the club to the Champions League title in 2021, and spoke to Bayern bosses late on Tuesday.

"Believe me or not, I was a bit dumbstruck in the first 30 seconds of our first discussion," Tuchel told reporters.

"I didn't know what we were talking about. It became clear that it was for right now.

"I was completely surprised. The timing was surprising. There was no contact beforehand," the former Paris Saint-Germain boss added.

Tuchel has a reputation for occasional abrasiveness and demands total backing from his employers -- a requirement which strained relations at both Chelsea and PSG. AFP

Morocco stun Brazil for first time in friendly international

RABAT

MOROCCO stunned Brazil 2-1 in a friendly international on Saturday as the north African side recorded a first ever win over the five-time world champions.

Midfielder Sofiane Boufal, a former Southampton star, but now playing with Al Rayyan in Qatar, gave Morocco the lead after 29 minutes, scoring with a powerful turn and drive from a pass by Bilal El Khannous.

Brazil skipper Casemiro levelled in the 67th minute when his weak shot was fumbled by goalkeeper Yassine Bounou.

But on-loan Sampdoria midfielder Abdelhamid Sabiri struck the winner with a volley in the 79th minute as Morocco showed that becoming the first Arab or African nation to reach the World Cup semi-finals last year was no fluke.

"I wouldn't say we lacked understanding,

it's about putting into practice the ideas of a new coach," said Manchester United's Casemiro.

"I think we played a good game and did everything as far as possible to win."

Only 10 of the 23-man squad that took Brazil to a disappointing quarter-



Morocco's Sofiane Boufal scores their first goal against Brazil during their friendly match at Grand Stade de Tanger, in Tangier, Morocco on Saturday. REUTERS

final exit at the World Cup made the trip to Morocco for the game.

The injured Neymar was again missing with his number 10 shirt passing to Real Madrid youngster Rodrygo.

Brazil also had a new manager in the dugout with interim coach Ramon Menezes having re-

placed Tite who stepped down after the World Cup last-eight exit at the hands of Croatia.

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) hopes to be able to announce the name of its new coach before the start of qualifying for the 2026 World Cup in September.

According to Brazilian media, the CBF's first choice is Carlo Ancelotti, currently in charge of Real Madrid.

However, he is not expected to make a decision on his future before the end of the European season.

Before kick-off at the Ibn Batouta stadium,

both teams paid tribute to Pele, who died last December at the age of 82.

Until Saturday, Morocco had suffered defeats in their only two other meetings with Brazil -- 2-0 in a 1997 friendly and 3-0 in the group stages of the 1998 World Cup in France.

AFP

Uefa are powerless in race for multi-club empires

BY SAM WALLACE

THE great clubs of Europe - and many of those for whom greatness remains stubbornly out of reach - will meet this week to discuss their collective futures, although of all the issues concerning money and scheduling, there is one that will be impossible to unpick.

Multi-club ownership is at the top of the agenda again, forced into the spotlight by the future of Manchester United and those who seek to buy it. Yet multi-club ownership has grown so rapidly over recent years that it is now thought that around 200 clubs globally are part of a multi-club structure. Everything from the 12-strong worldwide empire of City Football Group; to those club owners with minority stakes elsewhere; or investors who have multiple interests.

The game has moved so swiftly that Uefa now finds itself contemplating a great network of interest over which it will exert even less power. Little wonder, then, that when its president Aleksander Ceferin was asked recently about the future of multi-club ownership, he was surprisingly sympathetic. The issue is not whether Uefa permits multi-club ownership, and teams from the same group competing in its competitions, because that moment has long since passed. It is now about how the governing body tries to make peace with it.

The European Club Association [ECA] will meet for its annual congress on Monday - a body so powerful that it co-owns a joint venture with Uefa to control the €3.5 billion in revenue that the three Uefa club competitions earn annually. Its chairman is Nasser Al-Khelaifi, the man who sits atop some of the biggest hills in football: president of Paris St-Germain, chairman of its ownership group Qatari Sports Investments [QSI] and chairman of beIN Media Group, one of the biggest sport rights owners in the world.

Al-Khelaifi is Ceferin's key ally in the post-European Super League world - and what Al-Khelaifi says on the issues of the day has a profound effect on the thinking of those running football at Uefa.

"Multi-club ownership is everywhere, the idea that Uefa can dismantle it is fanciful

Qatar interests are chasing United, and those concerned will tell you that Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad Al Thani is doing so in a private capacity and absolutely distinct from the sovereign wealth fund Qatar Investment Authority that owns PSG. Whether people believe that or not is largely irrelevant. It is what Ceferin thinks that matters. Either way the other United bidder, Sir Jim Ratcliffe, the British billionaire founder of Ineos, is not even attempting to deny his own part in multi-club ownership. He already owns Nice in Ligue 1 and Lausanne-Sport, formerly of the Swiss Super League.

Multi-club ownership is everywhere. The owner of the second largest stake in West Ham, Daniel Kretinsky, owns Sparta Prague. Tony Bloom, who has invested around £350 million in Brighton, owns Royale Union Saint-Gilloise in Belgium. Nottingham Forest's billionaire owner Evangelos Marinakis also owns the perennial Greek champions, Olympiakos. The Red Bull drinks conglomerate has RB Leipzig and Red Bull Salzburg as well as New York Red Bulls. The Miami-based investment

company 777 Partners has stakes of various sizes in Genoa, Sevilla, Standard Liege and Hertha Berlin, among others.

The notion that Uefa is about to police this network of shared interests, much less dismantle it, is fanciful. The multi-club ownerships are dictating to the governing body and the consequence will be ever greater power concentrated in the hands of the individuals who control the clubs.

Al-Khelaifi already has his eye on another acquisition. QSI has a 21.7 per cent stake in the Portuguese club Braga but this week he announced that the fund is look-

ing at buying Malaga, the Spanish club that reached the Champions League quarter-finals in 2013, and now very much a distressed asset languishing near the bottom of the domestic second tier. They are currently in the ownership of another Qatari member of the Al Thani family, albeit not one with the golden touch of some of the other Al Thanis.

Either way, it seems unlikely there will be any major obstacles placed in the path of Sheikh Jassim or Ratcliffe if either persuades the Glazers to sell United. There are few ways of regulating these global networks



Aleksander Ceferin

of clubs, or of knowing truly whether wages are being paid from which entity. Some will argue that it is a useful way for smaller clubs to attract investment and build useful alliances. Ultimately, however, it is also a way of exerting control, and of giving a wealthy owner different options in different territories.

"There is a growing sense that the biggest and the wealthiest will get what they want

The allegation is that Roberto Mancini's salary at Manchester City was in part paid by another club under the Abu Dhabi ownership, as denied by the man himself this

week in Naples, as well as the club previously. Those questions will be for the Premier League's independent commission to answer but there is no doubt that multi-club ownership is much harder to regulate than the simple notion of one club and one set of financial results.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Morocco stun Brazil for first time in friendly international

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Samatta: Stars focuses on doing a double over Uganda



Senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' goal-getter, Mbwana Samatta (R), seeks to get the better of Uganda's Cranes center-back, Livingstone Mulondo, as the two squads locked horns in a 2023 Africa Cup of Nations Qualifiers' Group F clash that took place at Suez Canal Authority Stadium in Ismailia, Egypt on Friday. Taifa Stars won 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

for those who have not had a chance to participate, they have a great desire to compete."

The goal-getter pointed out: "Therefore, I think every player will give 100 percent to make sure we fight to earn the AFCON opportunity."

Samatta was also quick to explain how their focus is on the battle ahead rather than the financial rewards promised.

He thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her hefty winning bonus promises but added it is about winning and helping the nation succeed in the sporting field.

"We thank Mama (President Samia Suluhu) for the promise, it's a good thing, but we as players our focus is on making sure we win in all matches. If Mama has decided to uplift our motivation and morale, it's a good thing, but right now we don't think much about that, the important thing is to fight for the country and make sure we do well in the field of sports."

Samatta, Himid Mao, Simon Msuva, Aishi Manula, and Mudathir Yahya are the current members of the Taifa Stars squad that participated in the African Cup of Nations finals that were held in Egypt in 2019.

By Correspondent Michael

Mwebe

TANZANIA's senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' captain, Mbwana Samatta, will be hoping to fire the squad back into the Africa Cup of Nations finals when they take on Uganda's Cranes in a Group F of the qualifiers at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday.

Taifa Stars' hopes of making a return to the African Cup of Nations finals were boosted by a crucial 1-0 away win over Uganda in Ismailia, Egypt on Friday.

Simon Msuva scored the all-important goal in the second half to hand the Cranes the second defeat in the campaign after the latter's

2-0 loss to Algeria on match day one.

Tanzania, now placed second in Group F with four points, will host the Cranes, who are languishing at the bottom of the group with just a point from a draw with Niger.

Having won away on Friday and playing at home on Tuesday, Taifa Stars can elevate their dreams with a

victory over the Ugandans at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Speaking ahead of the game upon landing in Dar es Salaam, Samatta said following their victory in Ismailia, they want to do a double over Uganda's Cranes to fulfill their desire to return to the African Cup of Nations.

"Our full focus is on

Tuesday's game. We thank God we won the last match but that is behind us now, our focus is on Tuesday's game to make sure we get a win as well," the KRC Genk striker said.

He added: "We must desire a return to the AFCON finals, every player has that desire. For those who were there in 2019, they want to return and

5 EATV MONDAY

TONIGHT @ 9:00

5Sports

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
14:00 SKONGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Aili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Bongo Hit
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 5SPORTS LIVE
22:00 Zote kuntu
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

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06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
14:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

German organization members set to visit Tanzania

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MEMBERS of the Germany-based Asante Sanaa organization, which supports East African artists, are set to visit Tanzania next month.

Tanzanian realistic painter, Athuman Hamisi, one of the beneficiaries of the group's tour to the country, said its members will hold the tour from April 2-20, in which they will visit Arusha, Moshi, Bagamoyo, Zanzibar, and Dar es Salaam.

Asante Sanaa was formed in 2020 by German volunteer students and it helps artists from East Africa, its mission is fighting injustice, promoting good livelihood, and intercultural exchange.

Hamisi, popularly known as Ochu, said: "Due to the lack of tourism as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many artists in Tanzania and East Africa faced massive financial problems, Asante Sanaa helps artists from the region tackle their problems and build a cultural bridge with Germany," he said.

He said to raise money and help East Africa artists, the Asante Sanaa organization prints the paintings created by the East African artists on T-shirts, hoods, and burlap bags that are sold in Germany.

"The products bearing the artists' original and unique paintings are sold in Germany, they have created a fashion brand around the art, which diversifies the artists' income and contributes to sustainable fashion consumption, it shows the beauty of East Africa's paintings," he said.

Ochu further disclosed that Asante Sanaa also creates cultural understanding and gives the artists an international stage on which they can express themselves.

The artist noted that he is delighted that the German organization will use one of his paintings in the newly launched campaign, dubbed 'Ona'. 'Ona' is a Swahili word meaning to observe, feel, and sense.

The artist further described the just-ended artist exhibition in Germany, known as Indien Tansania-Deutschland, held at Kurtur Kirche OST in Cologne as a success.

The exhibition had artworks created by artists based in Germany, as well as their counterparts from Tanzania and India.

Ochu, who creates acrylic on canvas artworks, mentioned his works exhibited in Germany as Expectations (40x60cm), The Truth (50x40cm), and Lazarus Syndrome (40x60cm).

He disclosed that his coming artistic works will be focusing on feminism as he wants to use his talent to advocate for women's rights, equality, and parity.

The artist noted: "I'm very delighted that the art exhibition in Germany that I took part in has ended and one of my works was sold."

"I'm waiting for other works to as well be sold and, due to the success at the exhibition, I will in my next works dwell much on feminism, I want to use my God-given talent to advocate for women's rights," he said.

Singida Big Stars eyes Federation Cup top honour

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SINGIDA Big Stars has expressed a desire to win silverware this season after coming close to doing so in this year's Mapinduzi Cup tournament played in Zanzibar in January.

The NBC Premier League debutants lost 2-1 to Zanzibar's Mlundege FC in the Mapinduzi Cup final and now their only hope for silverware remains in this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC).

Singida Big Stars have set up camp in Dodoma preparing for their ASFC last eight's encounter against Mbeya City FC slated for March 30-April 2 at Liti Stadium in Singida.

Ibrahim Mohamed, Singida Big Stars' coordinator, disclosed their team's preparations are going on well and they expect to get good results in the quarterfinal so that they can make it to the semi-finals.

Mohamed pointed out: "We have set up a camp in Dodoma because the weather here is similar to that of Singida, so we wanted to change the environment for the players so that they can regain their fitness and morale after the seven-day break."

"We will be here for several days and then we will return to Singida to face Mbeya City FC, with intense preparations I believe that we will succeed to qualify for the semi-final of this showpiece," the coordinator stated.

Mohamed revealed: "This



Singida Big Stars. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SINGIDA BIG STARS FC

year we almost won Mapinduzi Cup, thus our ambition remains to win Federation Cup."

Singida Big Stars are missing some players now playing for their respective countries' national squads in the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers and those who are nursing injuries.

The Singida Big Stars coordinator stated: "In the training, we are missing Meddie Kagere and Yusuph Kagoma who are on national team duty, we will

also be missing Kelvin Nashon who got injured in training as well as Said Ndemla who is serving suspension because of having been shown a yellow card on three occasions."

"It is going to be a tough match but we have talented and committed players who we believe will shine in the encounter," he said.

Singida Big Stars is enjoying top-flight football and is moreover seeking to represent Tanzania in next season's

CAF inter-club competitions should the outfit finish in the top four this season.

The outfit is lately sitting third in NBC Premier League log with 48 points after 25 games.

After their quarterfinal decider against Mbeya City FC, Singida Big Stars will face Polisi Tanzania in a Premier League clash at Liti Stadium in the quest to keep their continental football dreams alive.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

