



National Pg 3
Tanzania seeks \$1.3bn for projects



National Pg 4
Youth in Arusha for key assembly



National Pg 6
Fight against SGBV



Kilimanjaro regional commissioner Nurdin Hassan Babu cuts the ribbon at the Kilimanjaro International Airport at the weekend to launch NMB Bank Plc.'s first foreign exchange ATM. Second left is the bank's CEO, Ruth Zaipuna, and to the RC's left is Kilimanjaro Airports Development Company (KADCO) executive director Christine Mwakatobe. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Census attains 93.4pc on last day, checks on buildings next

By Correspondent James Kandoya

COVERAGE of households in the Population and Housing Census (PHC) had reached 93.45 per cent by early yesterday.

National census commissioner Anna Makinda made this observation at a press briefing whilst embarking on the last day of the census, after which the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) shifted to a more detailed survey of housing in enumerated areas across the country.

Describing this coverage as a notable achievement, she was of the view that the 6.55 per cent of households remaining would be enumerated within the next five days after which no census query or application will be

entertained.

During the five additional days allowed for individuals to make any presentations regarding their households being enumerated, those seeking the service will have to report to their street or sub-village leaders for enumerators to be informed to visit the area or direct them to such offices, she said.

Experience had shown that most of the remaining households were occupied by individuals, making enumeration difficult as they wouldn't be around when census clerks passed.

"At least 93.45 per cent of the households have been enumerated so far. It is our hope that the number of households will increase," she said.

TURN TO PAGE 2

NMB inaugurates forex ATM at KIA

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank has launched foreign exchange ATM services at the Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA) to ease access to currency change for clients at the busy northern zone international airport.

Ruth Zaipuna, the chief executive officer, said at the launch yesterday that clients will have access to foreign cash self-service units around the clock.

Having ATM services at any time will provide an added attraction for tourists and businessmen who wish to visit the country, she said, pointing out that tourists at the airport at night hours or late midnight will

still be able to access up to \$2,000 at the bank's automatic teller facility.

The facility was earlier launched at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) and is billed for installation at the Abeid Amani Karume International Airport in Zanzibar and at the Zanzibar Stone Town.

Kilimanjaro regional commissioner Nurdin Babu hailed the bank for the new facility, affirming that it was of long wait, for residents of the region, led by businessmen.

This innovation beefs up efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to enhance the tourism sector via 'The Royal Tour' documentary, he said, urging service

TURN TO PAGE 2

Cardiac facility lines up 500 children for surgery

By Henry Mwangonde

OVER 500 children are lined up for surgery at the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) as the facility calls for support from stakeholders to extend a helping hand.

Prof Mohammed Janabi, the JKCI executive director, issued this appeal at the launch of a fundraising marathon organized by the Tanzania Petroleum Development

Corporation (TPDC) yesterday in Dar es Salaam.

Funds that will be collected will be used to facilitate the surgery schedule by phases, he said, noting that so far the facility has lined up 511 children with congenital problems awaiting surgery.

Two million children are born yearly in Tanzania among whom upwards of one percent (20,000) are born with congenital challenges. At present 50,000 need surgery at the facility, the largest in East and Central Africa, he stated.

"We are serving people from various countries, which shows the workload that we have," he elaborated, citing the cost for conducting surgery for one child pegged at 8m/- to 10m/-, thus the need for more support.

Prof Janabi said the marathon will go together with blood donations, a vital component of surgery, as often one child

TURN TO PAGE 2

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan intends to end gender disparity in appointing judges, in an effort to strengthen the dispensation of justice and improve performance in the Judiciary.

Speaking yesterday after swearing in 21 recently appointed judges of the High Court and the Court of Appeal plus the Commissioner General of Prisons, she said the number of men to women judges currently stands at 50 to 37.

The figure will soon be 50 to 50, as experience has shown that female judges outshine their male counterparts on performance by integrity criteria, she said, saying she expects to realize that dream in the coming appointments.

Samia alleviates High Court gender disparity

Prisons not a business entity, new commissioner general reminded

She said she has done two appointments of judges since she took office 17 months ago, a total of 52 judges comprising 23 women and 27 men. Of the number 43 are judges in the High

Court and nine in the Court of Appeal. Those sworn in were 10 women judges and 12 men, with the president affirming that increased

TURN TO PAGE 2



Rev George Chiteto, lying prostrate on the floor, is consecrated in Dodoma city on Sunday as bishop of the Anglican Church of Tanzania's Mpwapwa Diocese. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Census attains 93.4pc on last day, checks on buildings next

FROM PAGE 1

affirming that there were enough clerks on the job. Those who had completed their duties will join others to make the exercise successful, she said.

The buildings census is expected to start today for three days as an addendum to data on population, to assist in improving housing policy.

Makinda said the real estate census was vital for status of ownership data, if occupants are landlords or tenants, its cost, since the quality of houses is measured by computing building materials costs, availability of basic infrastructure like water, sewerage,

electricity and roads.

In the 2012 population census, it was revealed that out of 9.3m available houses, 6.3m homes were roofed by corrugated iron sheets and three million were thatch and mud units.

The real estate census will provide detailed information about measures needed to bridge gaps in the quality of housing, she said.

The government is developing a new housing policy to review the real estate regulatory environment, the National Human Settlements Development Policy of 2000 and the Land Use Planning Act No. 6 of 2007, she added.



At least 93.45 per cent of the households have been enumerated so far. It is our hope that the number of households will increase



President Samia Suluhu Hassan pictured at Chamwino State House in Dodoma Region yesterday swearing in Mzee Ramadhan Nyamka (R) as Commissioner General of Prison Services. Photo: State House

Samia alleviates High Court gender disparity

FROM PAGE 1

numbers of female judges upholds professionalism as women judges are more patriotic and maintain high levels of integrity.

The president told the gathering that it is not easy to find female judges being involved in scandalous actions that their male counterparts are prone to succumbing to, urging women judges not to let her down.

Most vacancies in the Judiciary, especially judges' positions have been filled at present, she said, highlighting that a long list of names were forwarded to her but 22 managed to get the slots.

This has to do with the country's economic situation and thus fiduciary

capacity in the government, she said, affirming that more judges will be employed in the future as revenues improve and courts need more high level personnel.

Those sworn in yesterday and those in office must ensure they work diligently, observe constitutional bounds and exercise integrity via the fear of God in the provision of justice, the president declared.

Acknowledging the good work by Chief Justice Prof Ibrahim Juma and the Judiciary Commission in streamlining the judicial system, she said that she is compelled to favour the judiciary when officials seek permission to attend meetings and seminars outside

the country.

Such international activities help them share experience and knowledge to supplement what they learn in case law and other sources, she said.

She urged the new Commissioner General of Prisons, Ramadhan Nyamka to rapidly rectify what isn't right in the department, to ensure that prisoners obtain their rights.

Inmates have constitutional rights and should not be treated as people who merely deserve corporal punishment, she said, noting that some prisoners wrongly got into jail and weren't necessarily habitual criminals.

The department had in the recent past strayed from its core business of

a correction facility and moving into doing business, she cautioned.

The rights and dignity of prisoners must be upheld and the department has to solve challenges they face, as prisoners deserve acceptable meals, clothes and treatment. The facilities are correctional in design, not havens for punishment, she said, directing the new prisons head to root out poor administration by organizing training for staff, instructing wardens to uphold human rights and show respect to inmates.

Earlier, Home Affairs minister Hamad Yusuf Masauni reminded the new departmental head to differentiate his role from that of doing business.

Africa climate week 2022 set to harness opportunities for climate action ahead of COP27

LIBREVILLE

AFRICA Climate Week (ACW) 2022 kicked off yesterday in Libreville, Gabon, by convening Ministers from across the continent to discuss the threats and opportunities associated with climate change.

This high-level political push for collaboration on climate comes just months before Africa hosts the COP27 UN Climate Change Conference in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in November.

At the opening ceremony, President of Gabon, Ali Bongo Ondimba, was joined by Ministers and other delegates from 42 countries from across Africa and officials from key UN and multilateral agencies. ACW 2022 will run through 2 September and marks an important step towards COP27.

ACW 2022 convenes more than 1,000 key stakeholders from all parts of Africa to collaborate, discuss risk and work together towards opportunity. Public and private sector leaders and civil society working together at the regional level on climate action can drive progress towards global climate goals.

Gabon's President, Ali Bongo Ondimba, said: "In less than three months, the UN Climate Change conference will take place in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. COP27 is described as Africa's COP and will significantly shape our future. As one of the last major climate events before COP27, Africa Climate Week can bring us together to walk down the road to COP27 with unity of purpose and resolve for a better future. I urge you to take this opportunity to work on innovative, concrete and sustainable solutions and give African nations the means to fight climate change successfully."

In addition to hosting ACW 2022, Gabon is leading by example. Gabon has published its second Nationally Determined Contribution, in which the country commits to remain carbon neutral up to and beyond 2050. Forests cover nearly 90% of the country's surface, making it the second-most forested country on the planet. Last year, Gabon became the first African country to receive payment for reducing emissions by protecting its forests. And Gabon has passed legislation that will pave the way for the country to begin trade in carbon credits.

Egypt's Foreign Minister and COP27 President-Designate, Sameh Shoukry, said: "As we prepare for COP27, this week is opportune to articulate Africa's priorities for reducing emissions, building transformative adaptation, accessing appropriate finance and addressing loss and damage. The disproportionate responsibility placed on Africa, which contributes less than 4 percent of the world's energy-related emissions but faces serious consequences to the lives and livelihood of its people, cannot be described as anything but climate injustice. We need bold and collective

actions built on the principle of equity. Egypt's COP27 Presidency is committed to ensuring that no one is left behind."

In a video address, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Amina J. Mohammed said: "This is a much-needed climate conference on African soil. We are still far from meeting the 1.5 goal or achieving full protection for our populations. We need to provide means of implementation for all the objectives of the Paris Agreement."

"With less than 70 days until COP, we need to see that commitments made are commitments kept, including at COP26 in Glasgow (...) Africa has contributed least to the climate emergency. And yet it is facing devastating impacts, with biodiversity loss, water shortages, reduced food production, loss of lives and livelihoods. All of this is undoing years of progress and undermining the sustainable development goals. COP27 must show that multilateralism can deliver for Africa and for the world."

UN Climate Change Deputy Executive Secretary, Ovais Sarmad, said: "COP27 must be the implementation COP - where nations show how they will put the Paris Agreement to work in their countries through legislation, policies and programs. COP27 is also about supporting all segments of society under the banner of inclusive multilateralism, to drive significantly more climate action. This is all difficult, but we are making progress. In this time of mounting challenge, of crisis upon crisis, cooperation and consensus are fundamental to address the existential threat of climate change. And we must maintain our focus on that threat."



The disproportionate responsibility placed on Africa, which contributes less than 4 percent of the world's energy-related emissions but faces serious consequences to the lives and livelihood of its people, cannot be described as anything but climate injustice. We need bold and collective actions built on the principle of equity. Egypt's COP27 Presidency is committed to ensuring that no one is left behind



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi heads for the Zanzibar venue of the 44th meeting of the Organisation of Eastern and Southern Africa Insurers (OESAI), which he opened yesterday. Right is Tanzania Insurance Commissioner Dr Baghayo Abdallah Saqware. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Cardiac facility lines up 500 children for surgery

FROM PAGE 1

requires up to five pints (bottles) of blood.

TPDC managing director Dr James Mataragio said the corporate entity decided to hold the marathon as a way of giving back to the society, as the revenue generated will support 50 children as a starting point.

About 500 runners are registered to participate in the marathon, meant to support medical procedures. The event set for September 11 will be graced by former president Jakaya Kikwete, while registration is being done at TPDC via Goba Runners, a city fitness enterprise.

"The aim is to ensure that the society we live in continues to strive to assist children," he said, underlining that TPDC works in the society and thus seeks to ensure that the society benefits from its presence.

JKCI is one among specialized institutions at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) and its teaching wing, the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), offering cardiovascular care, training and research services.

It was established in October 2015 via a legal instrument, the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac (Establishment) Instrument of 2015, with a 103 bed capacity attending on average 700 outpatients and 100 inpatients weekly.

The facility labours to reduce instances of mortality and morbidity from cardiac dysfunction across the various demographic groups in the health system. Its strength lies in improving human resource capacity, training opportunities, the procurement of supplies and equipment, strengthening of referral networks and conducting operations research, the director affirmed.



Two million children are born yearly in Tanzania among whom upwards of one percent (20,000) are born with congenital challenges. At present 50,000 need surgery at the facility, the largest in East and Central Africa

NMB inaugurates forex ATM at KIA

FROM PAGE 1

managers at KIA and at NMB to ensure reliability.

KADCO CEO Christina Makotobe said introducing the forex services was a vital addition to airport services as KIA is the gateway for many travelers,

mostly tourists.

Bank of Tanzania (BoT) representative Ernest Ndunguru said the forex service will be a catalyst for

tourist visitations as timely access to foreign currency is one among criteria that influence travel decisions by tourists.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa exchanges greetings with Association of African Economic Development (AFRECO) President Tetsuro Yano in Tunis at the weekend. Both were in the Tunisian capital for the just-ended two-day Eighth Tokyo International conference on African development (TICAD 8), co-hosted by the UN, UNDP, the World Bank and the African Union Commission. AFRECO, which was established in 1970 primarily to promote economic and cultural cooperation between Japan and African countries for mutual prosperity, has shown interest in building a medical engineering school at the University of Dodoma. Photo: PMO

Tanzania submits funding request for US\$1.3bn projects at TICAD8

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has said the government has submitted eight projects valued at USD 1.334bn/- at the 8th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD8) that ended yesterday.

Projects submitted include the refurbishing of the Morogoro-Dodoma Road at tarmac level, Lake Victoria irrigation project, Lugada water project in Mufindi District, and enhancing the capacity of the Dar es Salaam fish farming centre.

Others are modern fishing port, establishing a laboratory of fish quality certification, refurbishing of Wete fishing port and the construction of Somanga-Fungu-Mkuranga power transmission line.

Speaking yesterday in Tunis, Tunisia while representing President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the conference, PM Majaliwa said he had the opportunity to tell participants and Japan on the implementation of projects in Tanzania Mainland and the Isles.

"Through this meeting, we have benefited from the construction of the Mfugale Bridge, Kinyerezi II power generating plant, and now we have asked for them to complete three other projects - Arusha Holili, Kigoma port

project and Zanzibar water project," he said.

The three projects whose funds have been sought on need a total of USD 343.8 million, out of which USD 221 is for the Arusha-Holili road project, USD 98.7 million for improvement of Zanzibar water project and USD 24.1 million for the Kigoma Port project.

Regarding the farming sector, Majaliwa said through TICAD8 Tanzania has asked to be accorded priority to enable it expand the farming sector.

"We need to make sure we have sufficient food and surplus for export," he said.

The Prime Minister also said he held discussions with officials from Japan Tobacco Incorporation (JTI), Mitsubishi Corporation and the President of Japan International Development Agency (JICA).

He also thanked JTI Chairman Mutsuo Iwai for the decision to build a boarding school for girls in Urambo District and appealed to them to continue buying tobacco from farmers.

"Last year they purchased 14 million tonnes of tobacco, hence we have called on them to increase the tonnage for this season to give our farmers a reliable market for their tobacco," he said.

Dr Mwinyi calls for devising, implementation of strategies to strengthen insurance services

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has said the aim of countries and various organisations in bringing about economic transformation should go in tandem with planning and implementing strategies to strengthen insurance services, on principle that investors always adhere to this issue.

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks at the 44th Conference of the Organisation of eastern and Southern Africa Insurers (OESAI) held at Madinat Al Bahr Hotel in Unguja Urban West Region yesterday.

He said the existence of better insurance services in OESAI member countries is among basic issues adhered by investors when they make decisions regarding investing in development projects.

He said the Conference's slogan "Boosting Insurance Sector for Future Development" goes in tandem with the intention of many African countries

undergoing huge economic transformation, expanding the scope in production sectors as well as developing new sectors.

He added that the importance in strengthening the insurance sector protection on huge capitals during this time regarding mining in the African Continent.

"Many island nations are now stressing on the development of the blue economy that concentrates on the better use of sea resources, while other countries have been strengthening their transportation, farming, fishing and livestock keeping sectors," he said.

According to him, Zanzibar, as an island nation, stresses on boosting the blue economy as in the past it had depended on the farming sector, especially the cloves crop and underscore the need of insurance services that should go in tandem with this transformation.

Meanwhile, Dr Mwinyi said efforts to bring about economic transformation in Africa face many challenges, including lack of capital, in particular financial resources.

He said as for now there is great competition in accessing capital to implement huge development projects. He rallied insurance institutions in Africa to be innovative and invest in development projects in their countries instead of concentrating in insurance services alone.

He said in developing countries, insurance firms, social security funds and other financial institutions have had great contributions in accessing finance and capital for development projects as well as increasing employment opportunities.

He advised financial institutions to abandon the practice of remaining with their money and called on them to learn from their counterparts in developing countries to see how the money can be

used in development projects.


President Mwinyi also used the occasion to rally insurance firms on the importance of going on with efforts to expand their services to reach various entrepreneurial groups, including farmers, fishermen and livestock keepers in rural areas.


He also stressed on the importance of educating the public on the importance of insurance cover as a measure to increase the number of insurance users.

For his part, Zanzibar Minister of Finance and Economy, Saada Mkuya Salum said at the two-day meeting that participants will have the opportunity to analyse achievements and challenges facing the insurance sector in OESAI.

Tanzania Commissioner for Insurance, Dr Baghayo Abdallah Saqware said the insurance sector is of great importance in boosting the nation's economic growth and increasing financial liquidity.

IN THE DISTRICT LAND AND HOUSING TRIBUNAL FOR ARUSHA AT ARUSHA
APPLICATION NO 128 OF 2021
KILIMANJARO GOLF DEVELOPMENT LTD - APPLICANT
VERSUS
DR. ALAN OMONI PAMBA - 1st RESPONDENT
BETH BONARERI - 2nd RESPONDENT
SUMMONS/NOTICE
TO: DR. ALAN OMONI PAMBA AND BETH BONARERI
WHERE EVER YOU ARE
TAKE NOTICE that Applicant has instituted a suit against you with particulars of claim set out in the application filed in this Tribunal.
Service of summons on you has been ordered by means of this publication. You are directed to collect copies of the said application from the Tribunal's Registry and the year's defence within 21 days after the date of this publication.
You are hereby summoned to appear in this Tribunal in person or by advocate or an agent duly authorized on 1st September 2022 at 9:00am when this suit will be mentioned.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, should you default to enter appearance in the Tribunal on the day and time mentioned above, the suit will proceed and judgment may be given in your absence. Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal this 15th August 2022.
CHAIRMAN



 Implemented by:
 

CONSULTANCY
Provision of IT services
Tender No. GIZ/SEAMPEC-II/2022/83418213-IT Service Provision for GIZ EAC Cluster
 The project Support to East African Market Driven and People Centered Integration (SEAMPEC) aims at deepening the economic and social integration of the six EAC partner states. Its objective is to improve the framework conditions for increasing value added in selected regional economic sectors in the East African Community.
 The GIZ Programme SEAMPEC operates a medium size office at the site of the EAC Headquarters in Arusha Tanzania. The programme runs an internal network, a number of desktops, laptops, printers, and a telephone system. The staff of the programme are required to maintain high standards of security on their machines and use corporate systems offered by GIZ.
 Support is required to ensure the maintenance, repair and smooth operation of the systems. Further support is also required to assist staff with their capacity to use the systems effectively.
 The objective of this assignment is to provide maintenance, support and capacity building to the Programme. The Consultancy services are requested from **1st of October 2022 until 30th of September 2023**.
 Interested candidates should request for detailed tender documents from giz-tanzania@giz.de no later than **09.09.2022** and submit Technical and Financial proposals by email no later than **14.09.2022**.



 Slipway Road, off Chole Road
 Plot # 1365 -Msasani
 PO Box 9270
 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

INVITATION TO BID
Provision of Catering Services in Makere processing centre

Date: 15 August 2022
Ref: KSL/IOM/337/22

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is an intergovernmental organization established in 1951 and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits both migrants and society.

In the framework of Provision of Catering Service in Makere processing centre, Makere-Kasulu district-Kigoma region in accordance with the General Conditions of Contract and the Terms of Reference as set out in this Request for Proposal (RFP).

Below list of documents are valuable resources to enable you to submit your proposal:

Instruction to Bidders:

1. Instructions to Service Providers
2. Technical Proposal Standard Forms
3. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
4. Terms of Reference
5. Contract Form

If you are interested in submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, please prepare your proposal in accordance with the requirements and procedure as set out in this RFP and submit it by the deadline for submission of proposals on or before **15 September 22**

Request for proposal documents can also be available at below sites:

IOM website: <https://tanzania.iom.int/do-business-us-procurement>

IOM Dar es salaam: Slipway Road, Off Chole Road Msasani Peninsula, Plot No. 1365, P. O. Box 9270, Dar es Salaam.

IOM Kasulu: Bogwe secondary road - opposite to Kasulu Teacher's College, P.O.BOX 303, Kasulu district
We look forward to receiving your proposal.

The enclosed RFP form shall be submitted in original and duplicated copy and must be delivered by hand on or before the deadline of the RFP submission date. The currency of the RFP and figures should be clearly indicated to avoid ambiguity. RFP that do not fulfill this requirement will be disqualified.

1. RFP submitted after the closing date will not be considered.
2. RFP shall be valid for period of 90 (Ninety) calendar days after submission
3. IOM reserves the right to accept, reject or cancel any or all bids and to annul the selection process and

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TGNP equips LGAs on best ways to prepare gender-responsive budget

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

THE Tanzania Gender Networking (TGNP) has organised a seminar for local government authorities (LGAs) in Dar es Salaam to discuss better ways to come up with a gender responsive budget (GRB) when preparing their financial plans.

Held last week in Dar es Salaam, the one-day seminar involved ward councilors, and planning officers, development officers from Dar es Salaam City Council, Ubungo and Kinondoni municipal councils.

TGNP's Training and Capacity Building Coordinator, Anna Sangai said that the seminar was aimed at brainstorming with officials who are the key players in their respective areas on the importance and need of coming up with a GRB that will address many challenges occurring in Tanzanian society. "Communities need to be empowered to challenge constraints to their participation in decision making on budgets related to their priority needs," Sangai noted.

She added: "People must be involved in all phases of the budget process and cycle. Government officials and institutions must be provided with adequate GRB knowledge and skills so they can use available democratic systems and structures to empower communities to engage in GRB."

According to Sangai, GRB is a tool that makes a follow up to see if the existing policies focusing at ensuring there is gender equality, are reflected in the formulated budgets.

She stressed that many issues regarding gender that are not reflected in the budget would be difficult to implement, noting: "GRB does not mean that it is for women only, but rather it is a budget that is meant to address all questions facing all people, females and males at all levels."

Seminar facilitator Deogratius Temba said that GRB targets inserting the gender outlook in the process of planning the budget in the distribution of the national resources, stating: "It is a budget that addresses economic justice challenges by ensuring all resources benefit men and women without segregation."

According to Temba, some of the benefits of a GRB include ways how public expenditures are directed

to address lack of gender equality in a society—it's about openness, responsibility, efficiency, successes and equality.

Special Seat Councilor for Kitunda Ward, Ilala District in Dar es Salaam, Eva Nyamoyo commended TGNP for organising that educative seminar on gender responsive budget, saying the seminar has equipped her with some gender budgetary skills that will help her when preparing for their council's budget.

Richard Mgana a Councilor for Kigogo Ward in Kinondoni District Council in Dar es Salaam said that from the previous seminar offered by TGNP they have been able to formulate GRB in their council.

He said: "In our council's budget we have put a conducive and enabling environment for women, youth and people with disabilities."

Kinondoni Municipal Community Development Officer, Alex Ntiboneka, also commended the government for coming up with a national budget that reflects gender issues.

DCC's Planning Officer, Skeeper Nkwama has commended TGNP for that seminar. Saying that it has equipped her with the knowledge she did not have, stating: "What I have learnt is that we should not only depend on donor funds to implement some of our activities, like buying girls' pads. We can use money collected from domestic collections to implement it."



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ALMC to build medical university

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

BETTER days for nursing fraternity are in the offing, thanks to the Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre (ALMC) for conceiving an idea to have a state-of-the-art medical university to offer a bachelor programme in nursing and midwifery students.

The ALMC chief executive officer (CEO), Elisha Twisa said that plans to establish the medical university are at an advanced stage as the master plan that will spearhead the mission, was ready.

Twisa was delivering a keynote address at the 7th graduation ceremony for Ekenywa based Arusha Lutheran Medical Training Centre (ALMTC) to bid a farewell to 57 diploma graduands in nursing and midwifery.

"After a brief working stint at ALMC, our flagship health institution, the need for well-trained nurses became very apparent – nurses that would efficiently heal the body but also the soul of the patients," he said.

At the moment, the Ekenywa nursing school offers diplomas in nursing and midwifery for pre-service and in-service students, Twisa said, adding that in the new semester beginning in October 2022, they will roll out a new course of social work.

"Social work is an exceptional profession rich with action and power to make a difference in various communities. This is why we saw the need to introduce the course in Ekenywa nursing school," ALMC boss explained.

He added: "Social workers pull communities together, help individuals and families find solutions, help relieve suffering, advance changes in social policy, promote social justice, and foster human and global well-being."

No wonder, social workers are the most sought cadre in public agencies, local governments, nonprofits organisations, private businesses, hospitals, schools, nursing homes, police departments, courts, and in

private practice.

He expressed gratitude to the USA based Operation bootstrap of Africa (OBA) organisation that has been bankrolling the nursing school.

"We are grateful to the president and two board members of our key partner --- OBA--- who recently paid a courtesy call at the ALMTC to get a glimpse of operations," Twisa said.

OBA is a Minnesota-based, non-profit, inter-denominational organisation dedicated to helping people help themselves in a variety of educational programmes in Africa.

Officiating at the graduation, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) North Central Diocese Assistant Bishop, Dr Godson Abel Mashauri counseled the graduands to serve patients with dignity whilst keeping their privacy as per their professional vows.

"God has deployed us in the World to serve humanity with dignity, so as nurses and midwifery personnel we are duty bound to treat patients fairly. Use a sympathetic language regardless of their status quo while observing their privacy," Dr Mashauri noted.

The college principal, Lilian Shuma said the nurse's course doesn't only cover medicinal dispensation, but also customer care services to patients.

In their speech read by Ngewani Richard, the graduands pledged to be a good example among the peers by working diligently in serving patients with love and dignity while observing the code of conduct for nurses.

The graduands also requested the ELCT to offer them an opportunity to volunteer in its hospitals and dispensaries to gain experience, instead of staying home due to lack of employment.

The ALMTC board member, the ELCT's renowned reverend, Zakaria Matinda was grateful to all who made the college's dream a reality, imploring the graduands to bring hope to the despaired patients as it was the case for the biblical good Samaritan.



Simanjoro legislator Christopher ole Sendeka participates in the implementation of a village water development project at Najuu in Langai ward at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Minister Chana commends NCAA for conservation of Laetoli Footprints

By Guardian Reporter

THE Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Pindi Chana has showered praise on the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) for strengthening conservation activities in regard to its heritage attractions including the Laetoli Footprints.

Laetoli human footprints aged nearly 3.6 million years were discovered by scientist Dr Mary Leakey in 1978.

Amb Chana made the remarks

during her visit in Laetoli area at the weekend and said:

"The footprints and other heritage attractions are among very important and rare attractions for tourists inside our country which the Royal Tour Film sequel, to be known as "The Hidden Tanzania" will have a good opportunity to show the world."

The minister further directed NCAA officials to continue taking care of these heritage sites by working together with ecology experts in order to preserve the unique history for

future generations.

Meanwhile, Acting NCAA Commissioner for Conservation Dr Christopher Timbuka explained that the NCAA, in collaboration with UNESCO is set to implement government instructions in seeing the best way to unearth the Laetoli Footprints in order to show them in the open for tourists.

Deputy Commissioner for Conservation, Need peace Wambuya told the deputy minister that due to the unique sensitiveness of the

Laetoli Footprints area, NCAA has taken it as a strategic area by identifying areas fit for investment as well as boosting road infrastructures from Olduvai to Laetoli to enable tourists visit the place and view its attractions inside NCAA.

NCAA Senior Commissioner for conservation dealing in cultural heritage and geology, Eng Joshua Mwankunda, explained that the Laetoli Footprints is the only area with scientific proof for the world's first human beings to stand up on both legs.

"These footprints have been buried into the ground since 1996 but now we plan to unearth them to be in the open for tourist activities, conservation and research," he said.



Some Mwanga Hakika Bank founders and shareholders attend the bank's second annual general meeting in Mwanga District on Saturday. From-L: Cleopa Msuya (consultant), Ridhiwani Mringo (board chairman), John Msemu (director), Zukra Ally (director), Bank of Tanzania representative Leodgar Haule, Jagjit Singh (managing director) and Nancy Kisanga (secretary). Photo: Correspondent

African youth urged to work together to solve problems facing continent

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE chairman for the Center for International Studies and Relations (MS TCDC) Makena Mwabobia has asked youth in the continent to work together and collectively solve problems facing the continent.

He made the remarks when opening the African Rising All African Movement Assembly which involved

750 young people from 31 African countries.

He said the conference is aimed at crafting ways to unite African youth so that they collectively find ways to address challenges facing people in the continent.

He also said young leaders have the responsibility to ensure that the available resources benefit their citizens equally without any bias.

"90-percent of the resources in our African countries are owned by few who are only five percent, so young leaders and activists need to change that system by finding alternative ways," said Mwabobia.

Coumba Toure, from Senegal, who is the Co-Coordinator of the conference, said that the participants were youth, saying half of them were women.

He said there is a need for the

realization of an African continent with peace and solidarity, free Africa without hindrances, a continent whose people will speak the same language.

Muhammed Lamin, from Gambia, who is the co-organizer, said the youth are the group that is supposed to be at the forefront to bring about change.

"We have seen a group of young people who are ready to change Africa in terms of leadership, the existence of justice, gender equality and responsible leaders," he said.

He also said that in the conference, they will discuss and set strategic plans and follow up on the recommendations emerging from the conference.



Shunashu Musa, a senior community relations officer with Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML), presents 50 mattresses to Bukumbi Elderly Home supervisor Jonas Tarimo (L) at the weekend for use by the centre. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

GGML supports Bukumbi Elderly Home Centre

By Guardian Reporter

GEITA Gold Mine Limited (GGML) has donated 50 mattresses to the Bukumbi Elderly Home Centre located in Misungwi District, Mwanza Region.

Speaking during the handing over event, GGML senior officer for community relations, Shunashu Musa explained that the support is aimed at improving conducive housing and living conditions for the elderly living at the facility.

He said GGML staff and their peers have been supporting the facility on

various occasions and donated some consumables. This time the company's management decided to also help by contributing to the improvement of the sleeping quarters.

"We received a request to consider supporting this center in various ways. We understand the center was established many years ago so some of the infrastructure and facilities may need improvement, which is why management decided to donate the 50 mattresses," he said.

He noted: "As part of AngloGold Ashanti, one of GGML's business values is that the communities and societies

where we operate must be better off for us having been here. We hope these mattresses will improve the lives of more than 50 elderly people who live here."

Bukumbi Elderly Home Centre supervisor, Jonas Tarimo appreciated GGML's support, saying it would help provide comfortable and safer accommodation services to the elderly members in the facility.

"This is the only elderly living facility near Geita and Mwanza. We are privileged to be supported by Geita Gold Mine which brings happiness to the needy," he said.

GGML has been a beacon of investment in the community since its inception in 2000, with the main priorities being health, education, water, roads, income development projects and many other social projects aimed at improving the social welfare of the host community.

Earlier this year, the company was declared the overall winner of companies performing well in the mining sector in Tanzania for the year 2020/2021 after winning awards in corporate social responsibility, environment, safety, best taxpayer and local content.

Ex-premier assures investors of friendly investment climate

By Getrude Mbago

FORMER Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda has assured investors from across the globe that Tanzania is a peaceful country to invest in and that the government works closely to support development of the investments.

Speaking during the opening of the conference which brought together eleven big Chinese companies, Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) and Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) and other stakeholders, Pinda said Tanzania has abundant areas for investment including agriculture, tourism, construction, processing factories and communication, fishery and livestock.

He said the government has continued to create a conducive environment to facilitate smooth investment operations and thus investors should also be assured of security of their investments.

He said the move by the big Chinese companies based in the United States who have come to the country to explore investment and business opportunities has been stimulated due to the attractive environment set by the government.

"Having investment opportunities is one thing but a peaceful country attracts more investors, so we should thank God for granting us peace and stability," he said.

He also emphasized on ethical leaders who prioritize serving investors faithfully while fighting corruption and bureaucracy with all means.

He hailed TIC for improving systems that facilitate smooth serving of investors which include reducing delay.

"We have witnessed how President Samia Suluhu Hassan has invested her time to promote Tanzania abroad,

through the Royal Tour, Tanzania has been known by many in various countries, so we should serve our guests well by helping them in their investment projects," he added.

TIC acting executive director John Mnali said the delegation is seeking for potential areas so as to establish investment projects in tourism which include constructing five-star hotels and international conference halls.

They are also interested in establishing human drug factories, agriculture and films.

He said the centre will continue improving registration systems for investors to access information and services easily.

"Our role is to ensure that we support them during permits and licence acquisition, let me assure them that we are here to serve them," he said.

Jinfeng Zhu, chairperson of the Chinese business community in the country hinted on the note that Tanzania has conducted a lot of reforms which have helped improve various obstacles which were once thwarting investment.

He said Tanzania has a number of investment opportunities which are yet to be fully used thus needing more to come and utilize them.

“Having investment opportunities is one thing but a peaceful country attracts more investors, so we should thank God for granting us peace and stability”

By Guardian Correspondent,

Morogoro

THE Natural Resources and Tourism ministry is planning national strategies for the sustainable use of charcoal products to make sure when it is harvested and reaches the market, it should be in a sustainable way to ensure the value chain.

James Nchare, the ministry's official from its Forests and Beekeeping Division made the remarks here at the weekend when closing a two-day workshop of forests stakeholders organised by Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and sponsored by Swiss Development Corporation (SDC) that discusses charcoal issues.

Nchare said the issue of validation of forest products is among agendas in the national forest policy for 2021/2031 that stressed on the importance of authenticating forest products and charcoal.

He said in collaboration with various stakeholders including WWF and TFCG they aim to authenticate the products to assist in enhancing the value chain and quality to benefit both the community and the

Government 'studying' ways to make better use of charcoal

government.

He further said apart from ongoing government efforts through the Energy ministry in mobilising for alternative energy instead of depending on forests - such as electricity and gas, the new policy will oversee the sustainable harvest of forest products and conservation of forests.

He said more than 85-90 per cent of Tanzanians depend on charcoal for domestic use and this means that charcoal is still in need, but stressed that its use should be sustainable without affecting the

environment and existing forests.

He said there is a difference between illegally and legally harvested charcoal in the market which he added was a great challenge, but through the planned strategy there are ways to properly manage and identify the two.

In the same vein, TFG empowerment officer Simon Lugazo said the existence of policy plans in the authentication of charcoal will help charcoal products to be more beneficial including good markets within and outside the country.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF INSTALLATION AND PRE-COMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES FOR MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS REF ETJ-BB-PE-EI-MEP-SI-001-00	
<p>BESIX Ballast Nedam Limited, executing Early Services for the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites experienced specialist Companies to express their interest for:</p> <p>Installation and Pre-Commissioning Activities for Mechanical and Electrical Installations.</p> <p>The Republic of Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), the United Republic of Tanzania and/or Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), as well as other international oil companies are partaking in the implementation of the EACOP Project.</p> <p>The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania incl. a Jetty with Load Out Facility for Oil Tankers, near Tanga in Tanzania.</p> <p>BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS / SERVICES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Installation of Cable Trays, Earthing & Bonding Systems, Lighting System - Installation of MV, LV and ELV Cables - Installation of field instruments - In situ welding of 30" pipeline pre-installed on fabrication yard and installation of 30" dia expansion loops - Installation of 20" pipe spool piece - Installation of 4" and below size CS piping including supports and valves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coating of pipes and valves - Installation of GRE pipe by bonding - Post Weld Heat Treatment on welding - NDT services of pipe welding - Installation of process and fire-safety equipment - Installation of secondary structural steel - Procurement of consumables and tools necessary for erection. <p>MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:</p> <p>Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Company profile with prove of sufficient financial capabilities and sufficient and capable resources. - An experience list with relevant supply history / track record showing minimum of five (5) years' experience in execution similar services of required installation as per international standards common in the Oil and Gas business or comparable market - List of qualified pipe welders - Company's Quality and HSE plans and certification: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, OHSAS 18001 (ISO45001:2018), EN ISO 14732, EN ISO 90606-1, ISO 11484, EN ISO 90609-1, EN ISO 10893-8, 10893-11 or equivalent certificates - Compliance with petroleum (local Content) regulation of 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania - Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is highly recommended. <p>Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to procurement@bbnjv.com (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before 14th September 2022, 12 noon Tanzania Time.</p> <p>Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will be evaluated and if selected will be invited, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), to participate in the bidding process.</p> <p>Note: Only pre-qualified companies will receive an invitation to submit their bid in furtherance of the Call for Tender process.</p>

“...the existence of policy plans in the authentication of charcoal will help charcoal products to be more beneficial including good markets within and outside the country”

	217018002
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) CONSULTANCY TO CONDUCT BASELINE SURVEY FOR HER MONEY, HER LIFE PROJECT PROJECT COVERAGE: TANGA, IRINGA, NJOMBE AND MBEYA REGIONS	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction: CARE Tanzania with Bloomberg Philanthropies support is implementing a two-year scaling initiative from 2022-2023 that aims to increase independence and economic opportunities for women farmers to boost quality, quantity, and diversification in Tanzania's tea sub-sector. CARE TZ in collaboration with Kazi Yetu Limited and other key partners in the tea industry including Tea Board of Tanzania (TBT), Tanzania Smallholders' Tea Development Agency (TSHTDA) and processing companies in tea production regions (DL Group, East Usambara Tea Co, Wakulima Tea Company, Bombay Burmah Tea Corp. etc.) are working together to support 30,000 small-scale tea farmers (at least 80% women) direct participants reaching 150, 000 people direct and indirect at the household level, as part of saving groups and cooperatives, to invest collectively in production, processing, and growth. Mode of implementation: HMHL project will deploys CARE's unique Collective Investment Model in transforming lives of tea farmers especially women through VSLAs approach. CARE and Kazi Yetu Ltd are direct implementing partners working with tea, herbs and spices farmers as well as getting field support from the Local Government Authorities (LGAs). Tea Board of Tanzania (TBT) and Tanzania Smallholders' Tea Development Agency (TSHTDA) are providing strategic support, oversight and guidance on how to implement strategic activities of the project. Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is a general overseer of the tea sub-sector in Tanzania providing Ministerial level advisory support. Survey implementation: The baseline survey will provide information on the current situation on the small-scale farmers agricultural productivity (average yield), profitability analysis, marketing challenges for tea small scale farmers in the four regions. In addition, the survey will also collect data on accessing agricultural inputs and other agricultural investments in tea value chain. The survey will also collect data on involvement of farmers on VSLAs and cooperatives, willingness to access loans for investment in production activities and gender relations in tea value chain. Required competencies: CARE Tanzania wishes to engage a highly experienced, reputable, competent and well-established consultant firm or individual with intensive knowledge of M&E, comparative baseline and endline assessment experience, proven expertise in gender equity and underlying aspects, value chain development as well as distinguished business development services evaluation acumen. Application procedure: Request for a comprehensive Terms of Reference (ToR) from Ms Furaha Mgeni using email furaha.mgeni@care.org for more details and mode of application. The outlined procedure for application is well illustrated in the ToR, follow them to prepare the expression of interest (Eoi). 	
You can view detailed ToR through this Link: https://www.care-tanzania.org/about-us/call-for-proposals	
Expressions of interest should be sent to TZAcurement@care.org then Cc. Furaha.Mgeni@care.org . Deadline for submission of Eoi will be two weeks after the date of advertisement.	
(Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted).	

Global action needed to fight 'plague' of sexual and gender-based violence

By Guardian Reporter

A TOXIC combination of global conflict, Covid-19 and climate change is exacerbating sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) against vulnerable women, children and adolescents worldwide, including in the East and Horn of Africa, it has been said.

In a jointly authored commentary published last week, three leading advocates for women's health and rights - the Rt Helen Clark, PMNCH Board Chair and former Prime Minister of New Zealand; Michelle Bachelet, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and former President of Chile; and José Manuel Albares, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Spain - call for urgent multi-lateral action to tackle what they have described as a 'plague' of rape, or other violent physical or mental abuse, targeting vulnerable women, children and adolescents, especially those living in humanitarian settings.

The documentary notes that in 2022, 274 million people will need humanitarian assistance and protection. This number is a significant increase from 235 million people a year ago, which was already the highest figure in decades. While global estimates show that nearly one third of ever-partnered women and girls ages 15-49 has experienced physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime, the threat of SGBV is elevated in humanitarian contexts. The risk and scope of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is accordingly being exacerbated by the unprecedented number of compounding crises the world is experiencing - from Covid-19 to climate change to conflict. Yet, less than 1 percent of global humanitarian funding is spent on protection from SGBV.

"Sexual and gender-based violence flourishes whenever armed conflict occurs, because fear, chaos and confusion provide perfect cover for the perpetrators," write Clark, Bachelet and Albares.

"Conflicts exacerbate gender inequalities that disproportionately affect women and girls worldwide and worsen the levels of violence they are subjected to. The breakdown of social norms, legal restraints and common protections gives armed men the opportunity to prey on vulnerable women, children and adolescents. Often this is an intentional tactic designed to terrorize the population."

According to the advocates, migrant women, children, and adolescents also face an increased risk of sexual violence given the lack of safe and regular migration pathways.

Since the outbreak of Covid-19, emerging data and reports from those on the front lines have shown that all types of violence against women and girls, particularly domestic violence, has intensified, which has been termed the "Shadow Pandemic". Eighty percent of recent studies find evidence of increased violence against women and children during the Covid-19 pandemic. Domestic violence hotlines in some countries reported a five-fold increase in calls after physical distancing and lockdown measures were introduced.

At the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, 68 percent of reproductive services, including safe abortion and post-abortion care, were at least partially disrupted. In low- and middle-income countries in 2021, 1.4 million

unintended pregnancies are estimated to have occurred before women were able to resume use of family planning services; and up to 10 million more girls will be at risk of becoming child brides over the next decade as a result of parental deaths and other pandemic-related factors, such as school closures, economic stress, service disruptions and pregnancy.

The three global advocates are calling for concerted multilateral effort to tackle SGBV, involving every sector and all stakeholders.

At a global level, they are calling for concerted multilateral efforts to accelerate action to tackle SGBV and to strengthen international collaboration for comprehensive SRHR for all individuals.

The advocates also call for gender responsive and age-sensitive reparations for all survivors, in line with international human rights and international humanitarian law.

At national level, the three global advocates are calling for countries to create policy and focus resources to protect the physical and mental health of refugees and others at risk of personal violence and displacement because of conflict.

In mainstreaming this agenda, national governments and other stakeholders should include investments for capacity strengthening, monitoring and data analysis, and for the essential training of health care workers, including providing an enabling and safe environment in which they can work.

"We have the tools to end this plague, but it will require an integrated partnership approach at all levels," conclude Clark, Bachelet and Albares. "Our actions must be guided by key human rights principles - equality and non-discrimination, participation and empowerment, accountability and access to justice. No single input will work on its own, so every sector and stakeholder must contribute to stamp out sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and humanitarian settings."

The impact of SGBV on the physical and emotional health of women, girls and adolescents will be among the subjects explored in a forthcoming summit hosted by PMNCH, the world's largest alliance for women's, children's and adolescents' health.

A communiqué issued by G7 member-states in June 2022 echoed this call. PMNCH's 2020 global Call to Action on addressing the multiple and intersectional impact of COVID-19 on global health and wellbeing also included the prevention of SGBV through integrated education and protection programmes.

Conflict related sexual violence is on the rise globally - in a report of the UN Secretary General to the UN Security Council, 49 parties were noted as being credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for patterns of rape or other forms of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict in 2021. Women and girls accounted for 97 percent of conflict related sexual violence cases reported in 2021.

Girls and women caught up in conflict may also be forced to trade sex for food, money or other resources they need to survive. And in some places, they are married off early or forcefully to protect or care for their families. Due to loss of liberty and violation of rights, child marriage is of itself a form of GBV, and is recognised as such in international law.

Aim for closer relations with local communities, conservationists told

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

NATURAL Resources and Tourism Deputy Minister Mary Masanja has asked conservationists to strengthen relations with local communities so as to facilitate smooth implementation of projects in the protected areas.

The Deputy Minister made the call yesterday here during her visit to Buhindi Tree Farm in Sengerema District, Mwanza Region.

"Building good relationships with the residents surrounding the protected areas is important, because this will help reduce various challenges such as charcoal production, theft of trees, and sending livestock in the reserve," she said. She wanted the conservationists to establish a good procedure for harvesting trees by complying with existing laws, regulations, and guidelines which include creating a friendly environment for a transparent

process of tree harvesting.

The farm's manager Mussa Tinda said apart from implementing protection initiatives, the reserve has also been helping the community in various areas where 150m/- has been used to extend support to the people.

"We have provided 300 bags of cement to support construction of dormitories and classrooms, digging water well in the Ilenza secondary school, construction of a police station, donating desks and building classrooms," Tinda explained. He also said that the reserve has allowed the people to conduct agricultural activities in open areas within the farm and thus improving livelihoods.

Tanzania Forest Industries Federation (TFIF) Fue Kandawala thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for removing VAT on trees and reduced council charges from 5 percent to 3 percent.



Dr Esebi Nyari (L), Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology's gas station manager, shows CCM ideology and publicity secretary Shaka Hamdu Shaka (right behind him) yesterday one of the vehicles running on compressed natural gas following modification. The latter was on a routine visit to the institute. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

'Ruvuma at 63 pc of census target by Friday'

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

RUVUMA regional commissioner, Colonel Laban Thomas has said that as of August 26, the national Population and Housing Census had reached 63 percent of the target of counting more than 450,000 households in the region.

Addressing residents in Peramiho on the outskirts of Songea town as part of his visit to inspect the ongoing census exercise, RC Thomas said the region

was proceeding well and confident to achieve the intended goal.

He urged the residents to continue to cooperate with the clerks by showing up to be counted so that the region can get the required data to help the government plan well for the region and country at large.

The RC emphasized the citizens to participate in the exercise so for the region to break national records.

He congratulated district executives

for good supervision in the exercise and urged leaders in all councils to continue to educate the citizens to come forward to be counted in order to achieve the intended goals.

"I hope we will go well, I ask my fellow citizens to continue to show up so that we can get accurate data, these data are useful for us and for our nation," said RC Thomas.

Neema Maghembe, Songea District Council executive director explained

that the council with 16 wards, expects to count more than 36,000 households, and that until August, 25, they reached a total of 28,000 households.

"So, the exercise is going well and people are coming forward to be counted, we hope that we will achieve the intended target," said DC Neema.

Ruvuma Regional leaders are on special visits to review the progress of the population and housing census exercise in the region's councils.



Amon Mpanju (L), Deputy Permanent Secretary for the Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups ministry, visits a vegetable garden at Misufini Elderly Home in Tanga Region at the weekend. He was with his counterparts from the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), Prime Minister's Office (Policy and Parliament), Water ministry, and Industry, Trade and Investment ministry. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Cleric appeals to parents, guardians to invest in children's care

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast,

Bukoba

BISHOP of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT)-North West Diocese, Dr Abednego Keshomshahara has appealed to parents and guardians to invest in the development of their children which include fulfilling all the essential needs to enable them realise their full potential.

Bishop Dr Keshomshahara said this over the weekend at Ntoma Orphanage centre in Kanyangereko ward, Bukoba district of Kagera Region, at a fundraising event to support the centre.

"It is high time now that parents and guardians treat their children with care and give them all important needs. Being close to children and creating a friendly environment with them, enables them to be open to speak of any challenge they face, grow well and achieve their dreams," he said.

He added: "Every person's life depends on one another, human dignity is determined by actions to care for the needy such as young children, orphans, widows and other vulnerable people. Let us create a habit of extending help to those who are in need."

Sir Penina Kaimukilwa, head of the orphanage, said the institution takes care of babies who lost their mothers

during birth, and those whose mothers have mental disabilities.

"We also support children who have been abandoned and have no one to take care of them," she said.

She informed that 1,290 children have been supported since the orphanage was founded, 70 years ago and that when a child turns two years old is returned to family members, and if found the family is incapable of delivering good parenting, the child is then handed to Bethania care centre at Kemondo township.

Sir Kaimukilwa appealed to the government to scrap the levies imposed on various materials the centre receives from donors, as they

all mean for charity and not for profit making.

Jason Rweikiza, chairperson for fundraising organizing committee and Bukoba Rural MP thanked all who made an event successful, as the target was to collect 27m/- but it surpassed to 30m/-.

Currently Ntoma Orphanage is attending 33 children, regardless of their religion, however its capacity is to accommodate 30 children. He noted that the Early Childhood Programme (NM-ECDP) will also benefit the orphanage by increased access to adequate health and nutrition services, appropriate responsive care services and opportunities for early learning.



Land Transport Regulatory Authority director Johansen Kahatano (R) pictured at Mwanza city's Nyegezi bus stand at the weekend making a follow-up on the recently introduced but initially contested use of electronic tickets on commuter buses. Photo: Correspondent Vitus Audax

Temeke embarks on strategy to end land-related wrangles

By Naima Ahmad, TUDARCo

AUTHORITIES in Temeke Municipal Council have come up with land surveying strategy to reduce land-related disputes.

The move is executed in collaboration with a Dar es Salaam-based land surveying firm—Agc-Sun Consultant. The move came at a time when the government wants every piece of land being surveyed and the owner being given a title deed to avert land-related squabbles.

Chairperson of Machinjoni A Street in Charambe ward, Hakika Katani said this last week when speaking on what his leadership was doing to address land conflicts in the area.

“We’re facing land conflicts in this area and one day we convened a street meeting and deliberated that we should measure the areas so that each person knows the border of his area and to have patent,” Katani said, adding:

“We agreed that for every land owner to have patent he must pay 150,000/- and the money is for the measuring exercise which will be paid to the company dealing with the issue.”

“Until now we have issued 120 title deeds and other 400 are in process

so the implementation is great, and through this we’ve got areas for social services for example for putting water tanks that will solve the water problem, also we’ve found an area where we’ve built a local government office and we’ve got a football ground,” he said.

Katani added: “The success is great and we expect to get more social services through the areas that are found after measurements.”

One of the residents in the area, Abdul Karim Ramadhan commended the leaders in the area for solving the problem that was causing conflicts among the public and sometimes weak people were robbed their areas.

Another resident Amina Mkilalu said: “The water problem was hurting us a lot especially us mothers who need water for most of household activities but through land formalisation we’ve been able to get water services near our homes.”



The success is great and we expect to get more social services through the areas that are found after measurements

Mabwepande residents have reason to smile on completion of water project

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

KIBESA residents in Mabwepande ward, Kinondoni District, and those in Mpiji Magohe area of Ubungo District in Dar es Salaam Region have started to get reliable clean water supply after years of shortages.

This is after the Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA) implemented a project to expand and improve water services in the two areas.

Commenting on the completion of the project, Kibesa Street chairperson Said Diuchile said they are satisfied with the availability of water in their street and urged residents who are not connected to visit DAWASA offices so that they can be connected to enjoy clean and safe water.

He said prior to the project, the residents used to spend a lot of money to buy water from street vendors, which was not even safe, and sometimes spent much time searching for water from unsafe water wells.

“We have held a series of meetings with DAWASA officials where they assured us that by August, this year, we will start getting water and they have fulfilled their promise, we are very happy for this project, on behalf of the residents here I commend the management of the authority for this,” he said.

Catherine Challe, a Kibesa resident said for a very long time they were in great demand of clean and safe water so the completion of the water project in their area is a great relief to them.

“Everyone here knows how we have suffered. Projects like these are like a daydream to many of us, but we thank God we have come to the end of our long time problem and we have enough time to conduct our income generation activities,” Catherine said.

She commended DAWASA management for the completion of the project and promised that they will pay their water bills on time for sustainability of the project.

Eng Juma Kalemera, project supervisor from DAWASA-Mabwepande, said currently many people show interest and they have applied for water connection after the project.

“We are currently connecting people with water after the completion of Kibesa water project which its source is Malolo water tank which has the capacity of six million liters, our expectations is to connect up to 1,600 customers here at Mabwepande (Kibesa) and Mpiji Magohe, and currently we have already connected 100 people,” said Kalemera.

Recently DAWASA chief executive officer, Eng Cyprian Luhemeja declared that the authority has invested 1.1trn/- to implement different water projects for the Coast and Dar es Salaam regions and improvement of water availability.

He said the aim of the investment is to ensure that 100 percent of Dar es Salaam and Coast regions residents get clean water by the year 2023.

The CEO said the authority has done the best to strengthen the availability of clean water for 96 percent of Dar es Salaam and Coast regions dwellers through the strategic business plan which is implemented for three years from (2021/22 - 2023/24).



we are very happy for this project, on behalf of the residents here I commend the management of the authority for this...



SWISSPORT TANZANIA PLC UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

Commentary

The Board of Directors of Swissport Tanzania Plc. hereby publishes unaudited financial results for the period of six months ended 30 June 2022. Total revenue during the period increased by 25% from TShs 14,242 million to TShs 17,763 million, and total operating cost increased by 10% from TShs 13,879 million to TShs 15,202 million. Consequently, the Company reports a net profit of TShs 2,152 million compared to a net profit of TShs 174 million reported in June 2021. This performance is attributed to significant business recovery from the impact of COVID-19 and continued cost cutting measures implemented by the management to sustain profitability of the business.

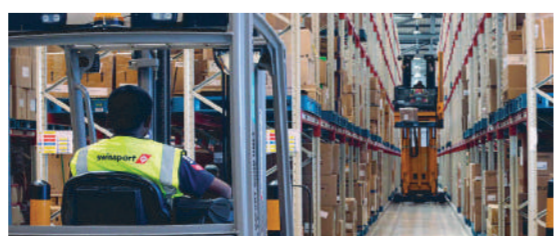
Dividend to Shareholders

The Board has not declared an interim dividend to enable the Company to implement its 2022 investment plan and settle its maturing obligations.

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS	2022	2021	% Change
For the Six Months Ended 30 June	TShs M	TShs M	
Revenue	17,478	13,977	25%
Other operating income	285	265	8%
Total revenue	17,763	14,242	25%
Total operating expenses	15,202	13,879	10%
Operating profit	2,561	363	606%
Finance costs	409	189	116%
Profit before income tax	2,152	174	1137%
Income tax expense	-	-	
Profit for the period	2,152	174	1137%
Earnings per share	59.78	4.83	1137%

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As At 30 June	2022	2021	% Change
	TShs M	TShs M	
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Intangible asset	12,272	13,402	(8%)
Property and equipment	13,926	15,203	(8%)
Right of use of assets	3,513	1,625	116%
Deferred tax assets	1,050	1,421	(26%)
Staff receivables	191	171	12%
30,952	31,822	(3%)	
Current assets			
Inventories	440	497	(11%)
Trade and other receivables	3,700	6,617	(44%)
Income tax recoverable	1,983	1,983	0%
Cash and cash equivalents	8,799	8,118	8%
14,922	17,215	(13%)	
Total assets	45,874	49,037	(6%)
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity			
Share capital	360	360	0%
Retained earnings	31,371	28,195	11%
Total equity	31,731	28,555	11%
Non-current liabilities			
Retirement benefit obligations	1,719	1,700	1%
Lease liabilities (long term)	2,685	1,611	67%
Related party Loan (long term)	-	1,507	(100%)
4,404	4,818	(9%)	
Current liabilities			
Related party loan (short term)	1,589	2,389	(33%)
Trade and other payables	7,162	12,546	(43%)
Lease liabilities (short term)	988	729	36%
9,739	15,664	(38%)	
Total equity and liabilities	45,874	49,037	(6%)



Future Outlook

The Recovery of both ground handling and cargo services business has been consistent to the management expectations, it is therefore envisaged that stable and solid operational and financial performance will be sustained for the remainder of the year 2022. Measures are taken to enhance operational performance through investment in human resources, ground support equipment, warehouse facilities, processes, training, and technology to support strong business recovery to the satisfaction of our esteemed airline customers.

Appreciation and commitment

The Board would like to thank all customers, authorities and other stakeholders for their continued support and our employees for their hard work.



Dirk Goovaerts
Board Chairman

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For Period Ended 30 June	2022	2021
	TShs M	TShs M
Cash flows from operating activities		
Profit before income tax	2,152	174
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation of property and equipment	1,370	1,233
Amortization of intangible assets	1,155	1,108
Depreciation of right of use assets	375	380
Interest expense on lease liabilities	113	59
Interest expense on loan	141	81
Provision for retirement benefit obligations	155	198
Adjustments for:		
Inventories	57	(73)
Trade and other receivables	2,917	(2,974)
Trade and other payables	(3,475)	3,483
Cash generated from operating activities	4,960	3,669
Retirement benefits paid	(74)	(1,385)
Interest paid on lease liability	(113)	(60)
Interest paid on loan	(211)	(141)
Net cash from operating activities	4,562	2,083
Cash flows from investing activities		
Acquisition of property and equipment and intangible asset	(442)	(926)
Net cash used in investing activities	(442)	(926)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Proceeds from loan	-	4,595
Repayment of Loan	(1,166)	(699)
Dividends paid to the Company's shareholders	(1,909)	-
Payment of lease liabilities	(364)	(456)
Net cash (used in)/from financing activities	(3,439)	3,440
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	681	4,597
Movement in cash and cash equivalent		
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	681	4,597
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July	8,118	3,521
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June	8,799	8,118



From landing to take-off: we care !

Dirk Goovaerts
Board Chairman

Mrisho Yassin
Chief Executive Officer

Imani Mtafya
Chief Financial Officer

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Equal opportunities for women mean a whole range of benefits

ONE big cost of inequality is that African economies do not reach their full potential. In many countries, for example, women account for most unpaid work, and are overrepresented in the low productivity informal sector and among the poor. Raising the female employment rate could contribute significantly to Africa achieving its goal in SDGs of becoming a middle-income countries.

Economic opportunities for women matter not just because they can bring money home. They also matter because opportunities empower women more broadly in society and this can have a positive impact on others. If women have a bigger say in how household money is spent this can ensure more of it is spent on children.

Improvements in the education and health of women have been linked to better outcomes for their children in many countries. In giving power to women at the local government level led to increases in public services, such as water and sanitation.

Just as the costs of inequality are huge, so is the challenge in overcoming it. The gaps in opportunity between men and women are the product of pervasive and stubborn social norms that privilege men's and boys' access to opportunities and resources over women's and girls'.

What is therefore required is a

sustained, comprehensive drive to end inequality.

This will require addressing multiple and reinforcing barriers to equality among families, job and product markets, as well as among formal and informal institutions.

A first step would be to improve the access for girls to education to reduce the in-built disadvantages that they have from birth onwards. This is recognized by many across sub-Saharan countries and there has been a lot of progress, with initiatives such as Educate Girls in many countries tackling the root causes of gender inequality in education. Many countries have achieved gender parity in primary education and more must be done to narrow the gaps in secondary education.

A second step would be to address market and institutional failures that lock women into low return, highly vulnerable forms of employment and of self-employment.

Much can be achieved by encouraging the creation of a large number of jobs that are seen as suitable and safe for women.

No country can reach its full economic potential and achieve widespread prosperity if half its population cannot participate fully in the economy. As we marked Women's Day, it is important to remember that equality for women is to the benefit of all.

The future of farming in Africa is not agriculture but agribusiness

AGRIBUSINESS is the business of agricultural production. The term was coined in 1957 by Ray Goldberg and John Davis. It includes agrichemicals, breeding, crop production (farming and contract farming), distribution, farm machinery, processing, and seed supply, as well as marketing and retail sales. All agents of the food and fiber value chain and those institutions that influence it are part of the agribusiness system.

Within the agriculture industry, 'agribusiness' is used simply as a portmanteau of agriculture and business, referring to the range of activities and disciplines encompassed by modern food production. There are academic degrees in and departments of agribusiness, agribusiness trade associations, agribusiness publications, and so forth, worldwide.

In the context of agribusiness management in academia, each individual element of agriculture production and distribution may be described as agribusinesses. However, the term 'agribusiness' most often emphasises the 'interdependence' of these various sectors within the production chain.

Africa is a farm lover's dream: abundant uncultivated arable land, roughly over half the global total; tropical climates that permit long growing seasons; a young labour force; and an expanding population that provides a readily available market for produce consumption.

Yet, African countries are yet to harness these opportunities to ensure sustainable food security and food production. The average age of farmers is about 60 years—in a continent where 60 per cent of the population is under 24 years of age. Farmers are also less educated, with younger, more educated Africans are leaving rural areas, where farms are located, and moving to cities.

Some of these youngsters are also discouraged by the difficulties of accessing funds or land, the reliance on manual technology in smallholder agriculture, all compounded by the

low and volatile profits.

But to remedy these issues, a new report suggests governments should change their outlook on agriculture from a subsistence, daily activity into a commercial enterprise.

The African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET) says focusing on the entire value chain of the process—land tenure, farming technology, markets, and pricing—would help transform food systems around the continent. Positioning farming "as a business and entrepreneurial endeavor" would also help draw younger people into the practice, and make them see it as less of a "cool" idea and more as a "career option."

Former Nigerian president Olusegun Obasanjo, a commercial farmer himself, told Quartz in an interview last month that he sees agribusiness as one of the few sectors that can "create the quantum of jobs needed for Africa's youth."

This marked transformation could be instituted by boosting productivity within the farms and bolstering the link between the farms and other economic segments. For instance, strengthening land tenure privileges ensures the rights of women and minorities and increases the formality of property rights.

Technology and mobile phones should also be increasingly adopted as a way to not only to reach farmers, but also as a mechanism for data collection and analysis on soil conditions, fertilizer application, and climate change. Mechanisation should also be expanded in order to ease the back-breaking manual labor and increase yields.

And just like in the modern workplace, the report notes that women should be put on an equal footing with men in order to drive agricultural transformation in Africa. Many countries still have laws governing marriage, divorce, and inheritance, which still put a barrier against women land ownership—and hinder them from using their plots as collateral for loans.



Ending AIDS still possible after COVID-19: Highlights of AIDS2022 Conference

By Martin Odiit UNAIDS Country Director for Tanzania

UNAIDS estimates that globally there were approximately 38.4 million people living with HIV in 2021. In Tanzania, with an estimated 1.7 million people living with HIV, an adult prevalence of approximately 4.5% and 54,000 annual new infections, HIV and AIDS remains a major public health priority.

Since 2010, annual new HIV infections in the country have reduced by an estimated 47 percent while AIDS related deaths have dropped by 60%. However, efforts to accelerate these reductions are needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal target 3.3 of ending AIDS by 2030.

To strengthen policies and programmes that ensure an evidence-based response to HIV and related epidemics, the 24th International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2022), the world's largest gathering on HIV and AIDS was held in Montreal, Canada from 29th July to 2nd August 2022. For the first time, it was hosted in-person and virtually.

AIDS 2022 brought together thousands of researchers, policymakers, program implementers, advocates, and others to present and discuss the latest HIV research, move research into action, share innovative programs and practices, and strengthen local, national, and global efforts to end the HIV epidemic.

Tanzania was represented at the conference. In this article, is a summary of some of the critical issues, important results, and key recommendations that were put forward during the conference.

The theme of AIDS 2022 was "Re-engage and Follow the Science". The conference opened with a report from UNAIDS highlighting concerning trends in global HIV data that suggests progress against HIV has faltered in recent years. The report is entitled 'In Danger' and this title says it all.

The numerous and intersecting crises that have had a global impact have also had a devastating effect on people living with and affected by HIV. The global response to the AIDS pandemic has been significantly thrown off course.

The report indicates that there were 1.5 million new infections last year. Globally, the number of new HIV infections dropped only 3.6% between 2020 and 2021, which was the smallest annual decline in new HIV infections since 2016. At the same time, far too many people cannot access lifesaving medicine.

However, many attending the conference were confident that the global response can get back on track despite disruptions to HIV services during the pandemic. In this regard, a call was made during the conference for full replenishment of the Global Fund to sustain significant gains in the fight against HIV, TB and malaria and to get back on track to end these and emerging pandemics.

AIDS 2022 saw donors making new commitments; exciting developments in the testing, prevention and treatment space; and several scientific innovations. It was a breakthrough conference for new long-acting ARVs to stop HIV.

New research showed that injectable PrEP is among the most effective tools for preventing HIV available and that it works well in multiple populations.

During the conference, the World Health Organization published new consolidated guidelines on HIV, viral hepatitis and STI prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care for key populations including guidance for the use of long-acting injectable cabotegravir (CAB-LA) as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV. Drugmaker ViiV has announced licenses for generic manufacturing of the drug in 90 countries.

This could be a game changer if ViiV can provide an affordable price for low- and middle-income countries now, in the tens of dollars not hundreds of dollars, since it will be several years before generic production comes online and if generics are made available beyond these original 90 countries.

According to findings presented to AIDS 2022, there are still significant gaps when it comes to hearing about Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U) and making sense of it for people living with HIV globally.

It was reaffirmed during the conference that there is zero risk of sexual transmission from a person living with HIV with an undetectable viral load and that healthcare providers need to communicate this life-changing research finding.

Globally, only half (52%) of children living with HIV are on life-saving treatment, far behind adults where three quarters (76%) are receiving antiretrovirals, according to the data that has just been released in the UNAIDS Global AIDS Update 2022.

Concerned by the slowdown of progress for children, and the widening gap between children and adults, three UN agencies (UNAIDS, UNICEF and WHO) took the opportunity at the conference of announcing the launch of a new coalition to end AIDS in children by 2030 and by doing so address one of the most glaring disparities in the current AIDS response.

The Global Alliance for Ending AIDS in Children by 2030 is based on a partnership that will be active in 12 African countries during its first phase. Tanzania is participating in the alliance. It will be officially launched in Africa in Nigeria in October 2022.

Despite decades of scientific advances in HIV prevention and treatment, the failure to progress in the global HIV response directly connects to intersecting individual and structural stigmas and discrimination from service provision to service uptake.

Research shows that HIV-related stigma acts as a barrier to accessing prevention methods, HIV testing uptake, treatment initiation and adherence to antiretroviral therapy. Yet, the impacts of stigma and discrimination across the HIV care continuum are often overlooked.

At the Conference, the Global Fund announced the release of a new report unveiling key findings of its Breaking Down Barriers program, a ground-breaking initiative launched in 2017 to provide intensive financial and technical support to 20 countries to address stigma and discrimination, criminalization and other human rights-related obstacles that continue to threaten progress against HIV, tuberculosis (TB), and malaria. The report reveals that all countries involved in the Breaking Down Barriers program saw progress in removing

human rights-related barriers to HIV services. However, the report also showed that COVID-19 slowed the progress of the Breaking Down Barriers initiative in many countries. The Breaking Down Barriers experience demonstrated that, where there is sufficient funding and technical support, multiple stakeholders can be energized to combine and strengthen their efforts, and as a result, can make real progress in removing long-standing barriers.

During the conference, the newly appointed leader of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Ambassador John Nkengasong, proposed a "reimagined" global AIDS program where governments work together and leverage existing PEPFAR capabilities to contain new disease outbreaks.

In conclusion, the conference underscored the need to continue to invest appropriately in HIV so that the scientific advances presented at the conference can be brought to scale to serve populations equitably.

Governments and donors will need to urgently increase funding the HIV and AIDS response to enable the findings of the conference to turn into reality on the ground.

Working with the HIV affected communities from design through delivery of services is critical to ensure an effective, person-centered approach to HIV testing, prevention, care and treatment.

Medical treatment alone will not succeed in addressing and halting the spread of HIV and that the right enabling environment must be in place so that biomedical activities are supported by corresponding actions in policy, legal, and social arenas.

The commitments made by African governments and by international partners who have come together in the new global alliance to end AIDS in children could, if followed through, ensure that every child living with HIV is on antiretroviral medicine, and that no more children are infected with HIV.

As the UNAIDS new report, In Danger, highlighted, courageous political leadership is essential to end AIDS and save millions of lives.

The Taiwan saga: US continues to erode her credibility

By Humphrey Moshi

ONE needs to recall that the on-going Russia-Ukraine War, which is having devastating social and economic impacts across the globe, including loss of human lives and sufferings, would have provided valuable lessons to nations that provocation, tensions and ultimately wars should be avoided at any cost. This is because wars are not one-off events and their impacts outlast the duration of wars. In disregard of these lessons, the US has undertaken provocative actions in Taiwan, which are geared towards undermining peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

It needs to be remembered that in the China-US Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations signed in December 1978, the US committed itself to abiding by the one-China policy.

The subsequent China-US Joint Communiqué signed in 1982 continued to underscore this principle, while specifically stating that the US has no intention of interfering in China's internal affairs, or pursuing a policy of "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan."

Apart from these, countries world-wide adhere to the one-China principle, as embedded in the UN General Assembly Resolution 2758, which was adopted in October 1971. Consequently, over 180 countries have established diplomat relations with China on the basis of the one-China principle.

The trip to Taiwan by Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the US House of Representatives, and the following visit by five other US lawmakers, are clear acts of infringement on China's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Indeed, these visits display a high degree of denial, disrespect and adamancy. Furthermore, it seriously violates the long-held principles and international consensus on Taiwan's status, since it is both a direct and an indirect support to the Taiwan Independence separatist forces.

The reaction taken by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of conducting drills aimed at enhancing combat preparedness across the Taiwan Strait, and the sanctions on Pelosi and her immediate family members, coupled with a series of countermeasures which stalled US-China cooperation on a number of fronts are justified.

They send a clear message that China would never compromise on the Taiwan question since it relates to China's core interests. However, the countermeasures would inevitably affect international cooperation in addressing global challenges, such as transnational crimes, illegal immigration, and climate change.

Following Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, China released a white paper titled "The Taiwan Question and China's Reunification in the New Era" to reiterate the fact that Taiwan is part of China, to demonstrate the resolve of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese people to national reunification. The reunification agenda is informed and backed by both history and law. Therefore, it is disheartening to learn that the US is intervening in China's national reunification process.

Given the above facts, people tend to ask the question: Why is the US doing all these? There are basically two broad reasons, each reinforcing the other.

The first reason is that the rise of China as the second largest economy in the world has made



A Taiwan resident displays a placard reading "oppose Pelosi visit to avoid war between two shores" as US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi arrived in New Taipei City on Aug 3, 2022. (Photo/Agencies)

the US nervous, to the extent that it has sparked an unnecessary post-Cold War rivalry.

This is manifested by the imposition of trade tariffs on the imported goods from China, as well as the restrictions on the operation of China's high-tech companies like Huawei in the US. Surely, strategic competition is inevitable, but unguided competition is counterproductive because it inflames unnecessary tensions. Indeed, history has shown that empires rise and fall, which is a natural process that cannot be hindered nor prevented.

The second reason is that in the recent past, amid the consequences of Trumpism, the US has behaved hypocritically on a number of international issues. Some ex-

amples can illustrate this phenomenon.

Firstly, whereas formerly it was the champion of globalization, today the main discourse in the US is unilateralism (Amer-

ica First).

Secondly, as a former staunch supporter of freetrade, today the focus of the US is on erecting trade barriers. Thirdly, while it was an eloquent preacher of democracy, peace and cooperation, now the US has transformed itself into an instigator of tensions, conflicts and wars.

The aforementioned behaviors of the US has not only eroded her credibility amongst its allies, but also across the globe. This being the case, the US would have very few allies if a full-fledged war emerges across the Taiwan Strait. But God forbid.

Given the current state of affairs, what's the way forward? The US should,

first and foremost, stop any further acts of provocation to avoid the risk of escalating the existing tensions into a military conflict. Secondly, the US should abandon its Come-What-May attitude and embrace that of negotiations and diplomacy, which are necessary vehicles for maintaining peace and security in this highly interconnected world. The adoption of these strategies would help the US regain its lost credibility and trust. More importantly, the whole world will benefit from that change.

(The writer is Professor of Economics and Director of the Centre for Chinese Studies, University of Dar es Salaam.)



Prof. Humphrey Moshi

Smuggling threatens entire tilapia species of Kenya's Lake Turkana

By Willis Okumu

LAKE Turkana in Northern Kenya loses hundreds of tons of immature tilapia fish monthly through smuggling. Harvesting the fish threatens the existence of the entire species and the unique ecology of the world's only permanent desert lake.

It also diminishes the food security of local communities who depend on tilapia for sustenance and income, and leads to a loss of revenue for both Turkana county and Kenya's government.

In November 2021, the Ugandan Fisheries Protection Unit confiscated 300 tonnes of immature dry fish worth \$1,712,329 at the Mpondwe border in Kasese District. The fish originated from Kalokol, a town on Lake Turkana's shore, and were destined for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Recent investigations reveal a regional fish smuggling network comprising Kenyans, Ugandans, Tanzanians and Congolese nationals. The network facilitates the illegal harvesting, transportation and supply of immature fish from Lake Turkana through either Tanzania or Uganda into the DRC. Demand for juvenile fish – mainly tilapia – is high in the DRC as they are cheaper than mature fish, a fisheries officer in Kalokol town told the Enact organised crime project.

Young fish from Lake Turkana are caught or trapped by locals for a living. Foreign smugglers often provide them with loans to purchase boats, nets and fuel, making them complicit in the criminal enterprise. The locals



Turkana men prepare their fishing boats on the shores of Lake Turkana, northeast of Kenya's capital Nairobi. File photo

then sell to Kenyan traders, who in turn peddle the fish to foreign nationals who move the product into regional markets.

Tobias Okeyo, a clearing and forwarding agent at the Sirare border between Kenya and Tanzania, told Enact that immature fish were often smuggled from Kalokol to Sirare on Kenyan trucks. The haul is then loaded onto

Tanzanian trucks that ferry the fish to Nakonde town on the Tanzania-Zambia border. From there, Zambian vehicles drive the illegal cargo to the DRC over the Kasumbalesa border.

To preserve the young fish for the long journey from northern Kenya to the DRC, the traders use Sevin dudu dust, an insecticide that kills maggots – and can harm consumers. Turkana's

public health department recently secured court permission to destroy five tonnes of dry fish, which was preserved using the insecticide – a practice that contravenes Kenyan public health regulations.

Investigations by the Daily Nation show that the trade in immature fish is facilitated and protected by authorities in Kenya and government officials along the illicit value chain from its source and into the DRC.

The Kenyan Fisheries Act outlaws the harvesting and trade of undersized fish. But enforcement and compliance

are poor, mainly as a result of corruption among fisheries officers. One officer told Enact that the law required fish traders to obtain a licence and movement permit, but that foreign nationals often get these through irregular channels using Kenyan intermediaries. Fish exporters are also meant to have fish export and health permits.

Kenya's county governments are mandated to issue fish movement permits, and according to the officer, smugglers often obtain permits from non-fish-producing counties. The officer cited cases where smugglers moving fish from Turkana county to Sirare at the Kenya-Tanzania border were found in possession of licenses from Trans-Nzoia County, which does not produce fish.

While showing these permits makes the movement of the immature fish appear legal, obtaining them from non-fish-producing areas is only possible through corruption. Smugglers work closely with compliance officers to obtain these licences.

The first line of protection is largely absent. There appears to be little political will to enforce the Fisheries Act that protects fish and undersized tilapia in Lake Turkana from irregular harvesting. Operational law enforcement is also limited. The removal of the Kenya Coast Guard and Marine Police from patrolling the lake's 256 km shoreline due to mandate conflicts with the Fisheries Department emboldens smugglers. These government failures only increase ecological and economic harm in this sensitive ecosystem.

Preventing and controlling the illegal trade also requires an intervention from the East African Community (EAC) to inspect trucks carrying fish from Kenya. The fish handling, processing and distribution code of practice, which is in place but not enforced in the EAC, must be used.

Regional efforts to stem the smuggling of immature fish from Lake Turkana to the DRC will improve food security for local households. And regenerating the tilapia species would also help conserve the world's only desert lake.

DM

By Jon Schubert and Gilson Lázaro

Official Angolan election result gives ruling MPLA thin win - on the streets the outcome isn't believed

ANGOLA'S elections were, for the first time, a tight race between the governing People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and a coalition led by its historic rival, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita). The coalition, Unita-FPU (United Patriotic Front) included independent candidates from other opposition parties and formations.

Preliminary results from civil society parallel counting, led by the Civic Movement Mudei, have given a landslide victory to the Unita coalition, at least in urban centres. For its part, the government-controlled National Electoral Commission announced provisional results that gave a thin majority (51%) to the ruling party.

Members of civil society, as well as some analysts, believe the electoral commission is a partisan body. This means that it will not give the MPLA under 50%. But the mood in the streets of Luanda, Lobito, and other major cities is that Unita won.

Citizens and analysts alike knew this poll was going to be highly contested. President João Lourenço's popularity has been at an all-time low while the opposition had been galvanised by a charismatic leader, Adalberto Costa Júnior. And, for the first time in Angola's history, there's an almost united opposition front.

Moreover, with 60% of the electorate younger than 25 years old, new voters had come of age for whom neither the MPLA old slogans, nor the spectre of the civil war (1975-2002) held much sway. Moreover, for the first time, Angolans living abroad could participate.

At the same time, given its historic trajectory as the party that ruled Angola since independence, it was clear that the MPLA would not accept any result lower than 50% of the votes for itself. Nor would João Lourenço want to go down in history as the president who lost power for the ruling party.

Yet, even with a thin majority, the loss of the absolute (two-thirds) majority in parliament - and of the capital, Luanda - has to be seen as a significant defeat for the MPLA.

A ruling party holding on tight

During the electoral campaign, not once did the sitting president raise the possibility of a defeat and transition. Instead he chose to treat the op-



Photo shows Yueliangdi village in Mori Kazakh autonomous county, Changji Hui autonomous prefecture, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region.

position and his civil society critics as paid stooges of mysterious outside forces and enemies of the Angolan people.

Unita, on the other hand, grew increasingly confident in its victory in the past months, making it also more difficult for the opposition and its supporters to simply accept the official results, as the party did in 2017, much to the dismay of its adherents.

Given how tightly the MPLA controlled the electoral process - from the partisan composition of the electoral commission to control of the judiciary (including the crucial Constitutional Court and the media - to the organisation of vote-counting, a fabri-

cated result giving the MPLA above 50% of the vote was to be expected.

Voting day was nevertheless calm and ordered across the country, with a fast and easy voting process overall. This, despite complaints that some polling stations opened late, and that opposition delegates to the stations did not get access to the voter rolls. Moreover, in some stations, the police stood closer than the 100m required by law.

Civil society mobilisation

Civil society - led by the Civic Movement Mudei - organised parallel counting of results across the

country, as did Unita.

Scores of chiefly young voters stayed outside polling stations until the evening. They insisted that, as decreed by law, results of the station be posted outside the station.

Results were photographed by phone, and sent on to Mudei at provincial levels to collate. However, there were reports of polling stations refusing to post the results. Some staff spoke to reporters, saying the electoral commission had barred them from doing so. At the Lisbon consulate, captured on video, the consular staff fled among insults of incensed voters.

Nonetheless, first results from Mudei's parallel count on election day gave Unita a significant lead of 53% across the country, with 43% for the MPLA. The same evening, the electoral commission hastily called a press conference (with no attendees) and declared a 60.6% lead for the MPLA, with Unita trailing at 33.8%.

It, however, did not explain where these results came from. This was similar to the results announcement in the 2017 elections. Yet even in the hastily presented official results, Unita carried the capital Luanda - where one third of the population live - by a wide margin (63%).

In the meantime, provisional official results published on 25 August evening - a day after the vote - gave 51.07% to the MPLA and 44.5% to Unita. However, on the evening of 26 August, Unita called a press conference, where Adalberto Costa Júnior announced the party would not accept the results published by the electoral commission.

Unita presented the results from its own, slower, but more complete parallel count. These showed substantial discrepancies to the official tally, with Costa Júnior calling for an independent, international commission to check and reconcile the results of the two counts.

Tense times ahead

Angola's young voters are awaiting developments with hope and fear. For the first time in history, an opposition win seems possible, but it is highly doubtful whether the regime will accept it. Much will depend on the rural vote, where the MPLA is strong - or more in control - and where a parallel count will be more difficult.

Yet, excited by the projections of the parallel counts, the urban youth are demanding transparency, and are unlikely to accept any official result that is not verifiable by publicly posted polling station results. At the same time, it is also doubtful whether security forces, hitherto loyal to the ruling party, would remember their "republican duty" and support a transition, if confirmed.

The coming days will be tense and decisive, and the result is yet unclear - yet regardless of the ultimate outcome it is clear that Angola has irrevocably changed.

DM

Will the diplomat, accused of rape, be prosecuted at home?

UNITED NATIONS

WHEN UN diplomats are charged with civil or criminal offenses - from traffic violations to sexual abuse - they avoid prosecution and civil law suits under cover of diplomatic immunity.

It's a privilege exercised by diplomats worldwide—including US diplomats in overseas postings.

In the 1970s and 80s, there were diplomats from several financially-ailing member states, who were cut-off from their cash-starved home countries, and unable to pay their rents and phone and electricity bills—plus their UN membership dues.

The landlords who had bitter experiences fighting tenants over unpaid rents and damages to their apartments avoided diplomats as tenants because they were protected by diplomatic immunity and couldn't be dragged into Small Claims Court.

So, at least in one New York City apartment

building, the landlord had a sign which read: "Dogs and Diplomats Not Welcome."

But last week it was a more serious offense—by an envoy from South Sudan, accredited to the UN, who was accused of rape, an allegation made by a neighbor in a Manhattan apartment building.

But he claimed diplomatic immunity to avoid prosecution by New York City police.

The immunity can be waived only by the country which accredited the diplomat to the UN—or in the alternative, the US could declare the diplomat persona non grata (PNG).

In international diplomacy, PNG is a status applied by a host country to foreign diplomats to remove their protection of diplomatic immunity from arrest and prosecution.

But South Sudan went one better: it recalled its ambassador.

A letter, dated August 25, from South Sudan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, a copy of which was obtained by IPS, says "It is with regret that our diplomat was involved in an alleged rape incident with one of New

York City residents".

"The leadership of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation took the decision to immediately recall the diplomat in question, pending a full investigation from a specialised committee. The diplomat in question is now back in South Sudan and has been suspended from his duties, awaiting the outcome of this investigation."

The letter also says the Ministry of Foreign Affairs "would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the government of South Sudan's, and indeed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' position that sexual misconduct in any shape or form is heinous end wholly unacceptable."

"As a government, we have worked tirelessly since our inception to ensure that the rights of women and girls are protected. The Ministry of Public Service has worked with civil servants across the country to carry out sensitivity trainings".

Beyond ratifying regional and international instruments for the protection of women and

girls, the letter says, "we have also worked to receive direction from our gender and youth cluster to practically implement these instruments across the country, because it is our belief that living a life devoid of gender-based violence and indeed the threat of it, is a right for all."

"The mandate of our foreign missions is twofold. To both protect the interests of South Sudanese citizens abroad and to promote strong bilateral relations with our host countries. It is regretful that in this alleged instance, the latter has been jeopardized. We are committed to working closely with the relevant US authorities to take appropriate action, following the outcome of all investigations," says the letter, in an attempt at damage control.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and indeed the extended government of South Sudan stands with victims of pf sexual assault everywhere and is committed to continuing to safeguard all those at risk of sexual violence", the letter adds.

Antonia Kirkland, Global Lead, Legal Equality and Access to Justice at Equality Now, told IPS: "We welcome South Sudan's acknowledgment of the seriousness of these rape allegations against one of its UN diplomats".

The status of an individual - regardless of whether they are a diplomat, a head of state, royalty, or a UN employee - should not be an excuse for impunity or misused to shield someone from facing justice if they have committed an act of sexual violence or other serious crime, she pointed out.

"In cases involving sexual violence, diplomatic immunity should not be invoked and allegations must be effectively investigated and prosecuted, and convicted perpetrators punished. It is also vital that victims are fully supported and receive the justice they deserve and to which they are entitled".

RADIO

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

TRA explores farmers' exhibition to educate taxpayers on ETS utilisation

By Francis Kajubi

TANZANIA Revenue Authority (TRA) has met its targets in extending awareness about the electronic tax stamp (ETS) to taxpayers through the recent farmers' exhibitions week held at John Mwakangale grounds in Mbeya Region.

According to TRA, the authority has succeeded in extending awareness on ETS importance in ensuring that it collects the right taxes.

Innocent Minja, TRA's ETS Project Manager told The Guardian yesterday that the authority's participation in the farmers' exhibition week has succeeded by over 60 percent in raising taxpayer's awareness of what ETS is and how one can verify the ETS affixed on the product.

"I must say that most of the taxpayers who visited TRA's pavilion at the exhibition had downloaded and used the HAKIKI STEMPU App to verify the ETS.

By doing so, consumers assist TRA to collect taxes by consuming products from legitimate manufacturers and importers," said Minja.

According to him, during the 2021/22 fiscal year as of May, 2022, the authority had managed to collect 19.96trn/- from the targeted 20.41trn/- as the ETS) system played a key contribution in the revenue collection process.

Minja said that the revenue collections are equivalent to 98 percent of the anticipated target.

During the exhibition, farmers and other groups of taxpayers were curious to know about ETS verifications since the products affixed with tax stamps have direct relation to their health.

So, he clarified, it is paramount for them to consume products which came from legitimate sources and protect their health while also helping the collection of taxes to the government.

He asserted that the aim of the ETS to take part during Nanenane Exhibition was to educate the public on how to authenticate the genuineness of the stamp affixed on the products, firstly with the aim of assisting tax collection.



Tanzania Revenue Authority's electronic tax stamps project officer Ruekaza Rwegoshora (L) gives explanations to journalists on how the ETS verification system works. This was the just-ended Farmers' Exhibition in Mbeya region, last week. Photo courtesy of TRA

"It is the duty and responsibility of TRA to ensure that the public consumes products which came from the right channels and which have paid taxes," he said, adding:

"Our target is to make people consume only products which have paid taxes, but also consume products which came from the right sources such as legitimate manufacturers and importers."

According to him, the most frequently asked questions at the

exhibition were what a tax stamp (ETS) is, the kind of products currently being affixed with ETS and how one can verify the ETS affixed on the product.

Other questions were how one can download the HAKIKI STEMPU App used to verify the ETS and how one can report a product with no tax stamp or with a fake ETS.

ETS is a stamp or a code affixed/printed on the package of

a product to evidence that the tax affairs of the product are well known by the Tax Authority or the product has paid associated taxes.

According to the official, TRA affixes tax stamps on mostly Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) such as cigarettes, wines, spirits, beers, soft drinks (soda, energy drinks, malt drinks), bottles water and juices.

Tax stamps are as well as affixed on products which came from known genuine manufacturers/importers that have been licensed or registered by respective authorities concerned with quality and standards.

TRA, according to him, is confident that the ETS system has helped in safeguarding the government's revenue by ensuring that there is full utilization of modern technologies in obtaining real time production data from the manufacturers.

He noted that the authority is determined to effectively use ETS to increase the revenue collections during the 2022/23 financial year.

In Mainland Tanzania, suppliers of goods and services whose annual turnover is 14m/- or more are required to issue receipts (or invoices) through EFDs, known as fiscalised receipts (or fiscalised invoices).

The Value Added Tax Act 2014 also requires VAT registered persons wishing to claim input value added tax (VAT) on their local purchases to be in possession of fiscalised invoices/receipts at the time of recording these claims in the VAT returns.

Next census will be more streamlined due to technology advances, says TCRA

By Guardian Reporter

THERE are all signs the next Population and Housing Census (PHC) will be much simpler than this year's due to advances in the Information Communications Technology (ICT), Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) official has revealed.

TCRA managing director, Dr Jabir Bakari said that the pace of ICT growth and its application is high and that there will be more technology opportunities than now.

"Even if you compare to the last census in August 2012, this year will be more successful due to technology, beginning from data collection up to submission and analysis.

"We have seen how paper questionnaires have been converted to digital by using tablets. The census clerk uploads data from the person being enumer-

ated directly to the digital system wherever he might be," he said in an interview.

Current world technologies that have found their way to Tanzania and those coming in future will be more improved. For example the current technologies include those that enable huge sets of data to be analyzed to indicate the direction, particularly in regard to human activities and are known as big data.

"This type of technology can be used to classify issues whereby statistics will be collected during the coming censuses. There technologies that enable things to be collected and communicate online—Internet of things (IoT), Dr Bakari stated.

According to him, IoT technology is used in many sectors, including agriculture, transport and health. In the period leading to the Covid-19 fever, this

technology was applied to follow patients and distribution of drugs and other medical equipment.

He said: "The device fitted to the patient to see changes of his health status can communicate directly to the doctor or other health workers through his mobile phone and take appropriate steps."

"There are also the technologies that enable the manufacture of a thing and its three dimensional structure or 3D printing and the benefits from this type of technology in regard to health whereby doctors can see the body parts to be operated on.

The speed of 5G will be more than 20 times that of 4G technology which is used by many Tanzanians with high-capacity phones (smartphones) for internet services. It will have a speed of 20 GB (twenty) per second, compared to one (1) GB of 4G

LTE.

"The plans implemented by the government in the IT sector lay the foundations for the use of these technologies. Through the digital Tanzania project, the government of Tanzania will improve and promote local and international connections to deliver communication services as well as the provision of various government services to the citizens," he said.

This project has strategies to make Tanzania a digital economy within the next 10 years. It is expected that all economic activities, public sector operations, and administration will be conducted digitally.

Some of the areas that the digital Tanzania project will bring changes are rural communication, strengthening internet networks in district hospitals in rural areas and strengthening primary health services.

There is also a plan to improve

secondary education, the use of IT in schools, and an educational project to increase IT skills for innovators and entrepreneurs. The goal is to make it easier for them to produce, manufacture and sell products digitally.

Others are the use of IT to implement water projects, increase security in payment systems and enable citizens to submit their concerns and complaints to the government. There is already a section on the main government website for this issue, called e-return.

The project recognizes the importance of increasing the awareness of Tanzanians in general about IT issues. That understanding is in the use of equipment and communication tools and in the services provided.

Tanzania will attract international institutions involved in the production of products and the provision of services in the IT sector in order to implement

its goals of transforming the country into a digital one.

As part of measures to attract investors and enable Tanzanian companies to invest abroad, the government intends to enact a law for the protection of personal information of people and institutions. This is an important requirement according to the European Union Data Protection Regulations in attracting investment in the digital economy.

A discussion document issued by the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology recently emphasizes that the presence of the Personal Information Protection law will create an enabling environment for the country towards a digital economy.

The economic trend in the world shows that investment in various areas depends on IT as an important resource in economic activities. Along with other factors considered in invest-

ment, serious investors prefer to invest in countries that have a legal and institutional system for the protection of personal information, reads part of the document.

For example, when European and American IT companies want to invest, they go to countries that already have laws for the protection of personal information.

When the social network company Twitter in the United States opened a branch in Ghana in April 2021, it set the condition for the existence of a law on the protection of personal information in that country as a basic criterion for making an investment assessment there.

This also happened in Kenya, where the companies Cisco, Facebook, Microsoft, and Amazon opened branches in the country after there was a law on the protection of personal information in 2019.

Dar NGO celebrates 'Niongoze Fellowship' class of year 2021

By Guardian Reporter

DOYENNE Organisation has celebrated graduation for the first cohort of the Niongoze Fellowship Class of 2021 whose major objective is to promote gender equality.

The nine fellows from eight universities in Tanzania have graduated and completed a one-year fellowship programme that is designed in Leadership training, mentorship, and coaching conducted both physically and virtually.

Speaking during the event in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, Vodacom Tanzania director of corporate affairs, Rosalynn Mworira commended the fellows for the completion of the cohort while expressing her contentment with the program that contributes to the efforts in upholding gender mainstreaming in the country.

"I applaud all the nine fellows who graduated today and completed the Niongoze Fellowship Program course of the year 2021. You are all blessed to have this opportunity as this is an incredible experience that symbolizes affirm beginning to our future female leaders of our country and the globe at large."

She commended Doyenne Organization for the job well done in helping to address the existing leadership gap in the country Tanzania and the World.

"It is so sad to see women strive to

reach certain positions, but they lack either professional ability or assertiveness. Therefore, I urge government and private sectors to support institutions like Doyenne in reaching more girls so that they can take their position in our community and be able to build a better nation," Mworira said.

The event was also graced with the representative from the embassy of the kingdom of Netherlands Jay Pirew who was at the event to support the Second cohort for the Niongoze Fellowship class of 2022 as the main Donor.

He said: "The embassy was astonished by what this fellowship does, and I can now reveal that the Kingdom of the Netherlands offered support to this fellowship simply because it echoes our policies and beliefs on a proper roadmap for the world to attain gender equality."

He added; " Fortunately, through the Netherlands' international policy on women's rights and gender equality, the country contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 5, that is, gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. One of the goals is to increase women's leadership and participation in political decision-making."

Fatma Kauga, executive director for the Doyenne Organization explained that the Niongoze Fellowship program incubates Tanzania university female



Vodacom Tanzania's director of corporate affairs Rosalynn Mworira speaks to the gussets during the graduation ceremony for Niongoze Fellowship class of 2021 in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

leaders who are considered role models and influential to their fellow students in their respective Universities. It is the first-ever leadership program for the Tanzania university and high school female leaders.

"Our main aim is to create a unique opportunity for girls to develop leadership

skills while pursuing academic courses through various programs that expose them to better leadership practices hence the program caters for the needs of culture, and environment by equipping girls in key pillars of empowerment: Leadership, Confidence, Resilience, and Well-being to

enhance their understanding of leadership at the individual, group, and community levels." Kauga said.

The Niongoze Fellowship graduates expressed their gratitude for the awarded programme that will develop their succeeding generation of the leadership journey through mak-

ing use of the attained skills for both educational institutions and organizations within and outside the country.

Barbara Mlata, one of the graduates said: "We are so excited and proud for this accomplishment; this is a life changing experience for us. The whole year program not only exposed us to new experiences, sharpened the needed leadership skills to achieve global development but it also helped us to navigate the challenges we encounter in our leadership journey while testing our potential in becoming the next generation of leaders. We are so grateful for this opportunity."

Currently, Tanzania has its first female President, Samia Suluhu Hassan and as of recently, the government and private sector have shown increased interest in promoting and supporting gender equality in leadership positions, particularly women engaging in leadership.

Doyenne Organization wants to see both private and government sector support and complement the government's desire by providing leadership training programmes that prepare the next generation (female students) to become leadership readily.

Doyenne Organization is a local non-government organization established to develop female leaders through programmes that train, coach, mentor, and inspire high school and university girls in Tanzania while pursuing their academic courses.

The organization aspires to empower, inspire, develop, and equip young girls with the right leadership skills needed to achieve global development, advance their communities, and begin their leadership journey.

BUENOS AIRES

Argentina seeks elusive investments to exhaustively exploit shale gas

ARGENTINA, which has one of the largest unconventional hydrocarbon deposits in the world, has been forced to import gas for 6.6 billion dollars so far this year.

The main reason for this paradox - which aggravated the instability of the economy of this South American country - is the lack of transportation infrastructure.

In a public ceremony on Aug. 10, President Alberto Fernández signed the delayed contracts for the construction, for more than two billion dollars to be financed by the State, of a modern gas pipeline aimed at bridging that gap.

The objective is to bring a large part of the natural gas produced in Vaca Muerta to the capital, Buenos Aires, home to nearly a third of the 47 million inhabitants of this Southern Cone country.

Vaca Muerta is a geological formation with an abundance of shale gas and oil, located in the southern region of Patagonia, more than 1,000 kilometers from Buenos Aires.

The name Vaca Muerta has been on the lips of recent Argentine presidents as a symbol of the better future that awaits a country whose economy suffers from a chronic lack of foreign exchange and a weakened local currency, resulting in a poverty rate of around 40 percent of the population.

This has been the case since 2011, when the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported that Vaca Muerta makes Argentina the country with the second largest shale gas reserves, behind China, and the fourth largest oil reserves.

Vaca Muerta has reserves of 308 tril-



Argentine President Alberto Fernández, flanked by Economy Minister Sergio Massa (left), and the governor of the province of Buenos Aires, Axel Kicillof, signed a contract for the construction of the gas pipeline that will expand the capacity to transport natural gas produced in the Vaca Muerta field to the capital. It is considered a key project for the Argentine economy. File photo

over the decade while diesel imports grew by 46 percent and gasoline expanded 996 percent."

The document, published by the General Mosconi Energy Institute, points out that Argentina, which until the end of the 20th century enjoyed self-sufficiency in gas and oil, began to experience a considerable decrease in production in 2004.

Two years later, gas began to be imported by pipeline from Bolivia and in 2008 liquefied natural gas (LNG), brought by ship mainly from the United States and Qatar, started to be imported.

"Since then, the proportion of imported gas out of the total consumed in the country has grown. In 2009 it represented only six percent, rising to 22 percent in 2014. In 2021 it represented 17 percent of the total," the report states.

Still far below its real potential, Vaca Muerta's production has been growing. In June it contributed 56 percent of the 139 million cubic meters per day of natural gas produced in Argentina, according to official data.

Gas is the main fuel in the country's energy mix, accounting for about 55 percent of the total.

With regard to oil, Vaca Muerta contributed 239,000 of the 583,000 barrels per day of national production in June.

Today, gas from Patagonia in the south is transported to Buenos Aires and other large towns and cities through three gas pipelines built in the 1980s, which do not live up to demand.

For this reason, the gas pipeline whose contract was signed this month has been described by both the political leadership and the academic world as the most urgently needed piece of infrastructure in Argentina at the moment.

Its cost was set at 1.49 billion dollars at the end of 2021, but it will probably exceed two billion dollars, due to the devaluation and inflation that are crippling the Argentine economy.

According to the government, the pipeline will be operational by June next year, at the beginning of the next southern hemisphere winter.

In search of investment
"Of course the pipeline is important, but it will not solve all of Argentina's energy problems," said Daniel Bouille, a researcher with a PhD in energy economics.

The expert reminded IPS that an important factor is that shale oil and gas is extracted using the hydraulic fracturing technique or fracking, which "is more costly than conventional techniques." "To develop Vaca Muerta's great potential, investments of between 60 and 70 billion dollars are needed," he explained.

Bouille said that today the conditions do not exist for these investments to take place, in a country whose economy has not been growing since 2010 and where there are exchange controls and limits on the export of foreign exchange, none of which foments confidence among international capital.

In order to combat this situation, Economy Minister Sergio Massa announced that on Sept. 9 he will visit oil giants such as Chevron, Exxon, Shell and Total at their headquarters in the U.S. city of Houston, Texas to interest them in the possibility of investing in Vaca Muerta.

lion cubic feet of gas and 16.2 billion barrels of oil, according to EIA data, confirmed by Argentina's state-owned oil company YPF.

"With Vaca Muerta, Argentina has the potential not only to achieve energy self-sufficiency but also to export. We are missing a huge opportunity," said Salvador Gil, director of the Energy Engineering program at the public National University of San Martín, on the outskirts of Buenos Aires.

Gil told IPS that Argentina could play an important role, given the crisis of rising energy prices driven up by the war in Ukraine, which threatens to drag on.

But to do so, it must solve not only its transportation problems, but also the imbalances in the economy, which for years have hindered the influx of large investments in the country.

"Today, what the world needs is energy security and Argentina has gas, which has been identified as the main fuel needed for the transition period towards clean energies, in the context of the fight against climate change," the expert said.

More foreign dependence

However, since 2011, when the EIA made public its first data on Vaca Muerta's potential, which led politicians and experts to start dreaming that Argentina would in a few years become a kind of Saudi Arabia of South America, the country is in fact more and more dependent from the energy point of view.

A study of the period 2011-2021 released this year by a private think tank states that "the decade was characterized by an increase in Argentina's external dependence on hydrocarbons: gas imports increased by 33.6 percent

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 348 00--

3 letters RAT, ERG, RAT, DUE
4 letters SITE, METE, EATS, IDEA, EIRE, NOTE,
5 letters TATTY, KENYA, HERTS, AASIA, TREAT
6 letters EMESIS, ALASKA, SIGNED, YIELDS, REASON
ADNATE,
7 letters ALGERIA,
8 letters ADAM'S ALE, REASSESS

CLUES: Across
1. the first month of the year
8. the final part of something
9. the pearl of Africa 12.rabbit
13. a goat-like mammal found in Oman
14. a toxic used as an insecticide
17. a cleared space on a golf course
18. help or support 19. a fen
20. joined by having grown together
22. superior people in the society
24. flat and smooth 27. the first letter of a name 30. occurring very infrequently 31. 2nd 32. a silvery white metal 33. strange 34. a small wingless parasitic insect which infests human skin and hair 35. I am
36. machine that casts
37. an exact copy of a document made by electronic scanning and transmitted as data by telecommunications links

Down:
2. in good order
3. not having been read
4. a compound which is one of the four constituent bases of DNA and RNA 5. Monetary unit of China
6. matt 7. stick fast to 10. North Atlantic Treaty Organization
11. hectare 12. symbol of the chemical element holmium 15. a female slave or concubine in a harem, especially one in the seraglio of the Sultan of Turkey 16. substance causing vomiting 20. United States 21. a prong or sharp 23. Ivorian Footballer 25. predicting what will happen in the future
26. goose native to Hawaii 28. New Delhi is her mother city
29. large antelope

WORD-FIT CROSSWORD

SOLUTIONS

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

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
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 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIYO MO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 18:00 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:15 HRS AMKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA MICHESHO 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIYO MO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN / MUZIKI 21:03 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHESHO 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIYO MO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN / MUZIKI 21:03 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIYO MO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN / MUZIKI 21:03 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHI 10:00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10:03 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:30 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:35 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MIAJA WA MAGOMA 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTO MOTO 18:00 HRS BONGO TEN 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:15 HRS CHEM SHA BONGO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS RAFIKI I 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS RAFIKI II 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHI 10:00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10:03 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:30 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:35 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MIAJA WA MAGOMA 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTO MOTO 18:00 HRS BONGO TEN 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:15 HRS CHEM SHA BONGO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS RAFIKI I 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS RAFIKI II 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	



Digital marketing; GWI digital snapshot report 2022 Part 2

Page14



5 smart money moves during high interest rates, inflation

Page14



Int'l financial institutions bullish on Chinese market

Page15

Hotel groups upbeat amid cooling demand concerns

NEW YORK

THE post-pandemic boom in travel pushed hotel rates to record highs in recent months. Yet rising interest rates and energy costs could endanger the recovery.

So far, the CEOs of major hotel groups have been forecasting a sustained boom for their businesses for the rest of this year.

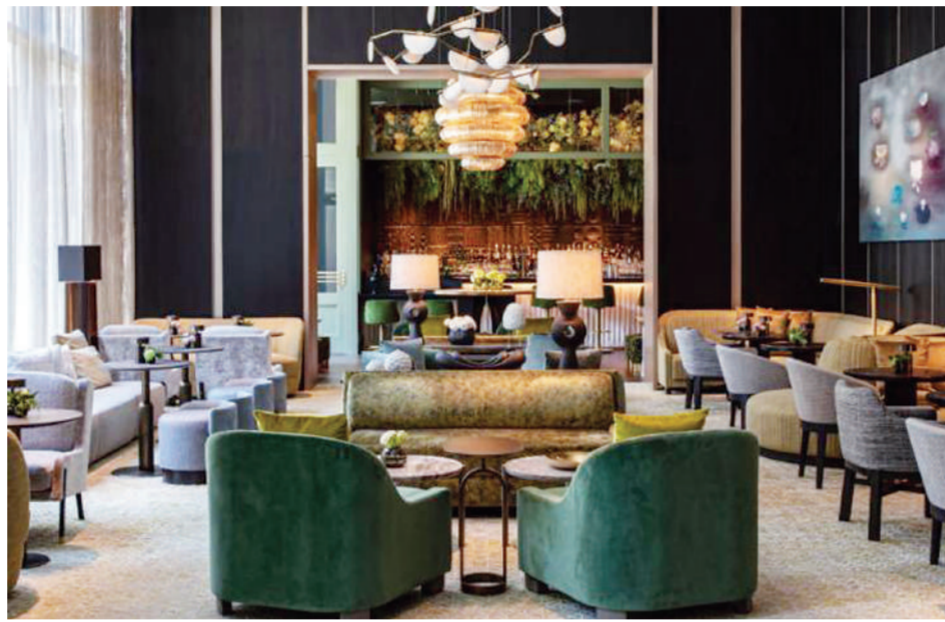
But their comments come as warning lights flash on economic dashboards in the US, Europe, and elsewhere. At Hyatt, executives said they had seen no slowdown in bookings at the all-inclusive resorts at the recently acquired Apple Leisure Group.

Resorts tend to be reserved in advance, and Hyatt said about a quarter of its all-inclusive business for the early months of 2023, is already on the books.

This upbeat news fits with a broader industry pattern. The U.S. hotel industry reported record-high monthly room rates in July on a nominal basis, according to market intelligence firm STR.

The rest of the Hyatt portfolio depends more on business demand, which remains depressed compared with pre-pandemic levels. Yet executives are upbeat. While demand remains below pre-pandemic levels, Hyatt and other hotel companies are finding ways to extract profit.

"The core Hyatt brands are seeing a nice inflection in group demand, with an acute pickup in in-the-year-for-the-year at significantly higher than 2019 rooms and banquet pricing, as well as a nice pickup in the business transient segment," noted JP Morgan's research ana-



The Ritz-Carlton New York, NoMad, opened in July 2022 PHOTO/FILE

lysts in a report this month.

Hyatt's group bookings for August through December are only 7 percent below 2019 levels. The company is also driving more profit from group business.

In the second quarter, banquet costs, which represented 46 percent of the group revenue base, had margins of 51 percent, JP Morgan noted. The drivers

were strong pricing power and Hyatt-specific cost improvements, such as improved analytics and software helping to capture more business more efficiently.

Yet hotel company gains come against a backdrop of economic concerns piling up, such as a growing energy crisis in Europe. There's an inclination by some to assume the travel sector will be nega-

tively affected.

Analysts debate the question. The average traveler tends to have more disposable income and more stable finances than the average citizen, and they may prove more resilient in travel spending than some expect in a garden variety recession.

"We still do think there is going to be shrinking demand for travel," said Katie Briscoe, incoming CEO of MMGY, an integrated marketing group with a division that does recurring traveler sentiment research. "We just don't expect the impact to be as great on travel as on some other sectors."

Another part of the equation is the cost of operations. Assuming they can continue to charge higher-than-historical rates from lower-than-usual guest numbers, hotel companies also need to keep their costs in line. Inflation, especially for energy costs, makes that harder.

"I don't know the level of inflation on the running business going forward," said Jean-Jacques Morin, deputy CEO and chief financial officer of Accor, during a recent earnings call. "Nobody really knows."

Morin emphasized that several demand drivers may enable Accor to pass along price hikes to travelers. In Western Europe, for example, several events, such as Germany's Oktoberfest and the

Paris Auto Show, look set to draw strong demand from travelers who haven't attended them for years because of the pandemic.

Resilience may be the watchword of many hotel executives, but many leisure travelers may have hit their limit on how much they'll pay for hotel rooms. A consumer sentiment survey by Morning Consult, a New York-based intelligence company, saw a weakening in intention to travel among U.S. travelers, but not European ones, in July.

At Choice Hotels, roughly two-thirds of its revenue is drawn from leisure travel, mostly for U.S. domestic trips. The company has seen its average daily rates stay at roughly 9 percent above 2019 levels since September 2021.

"We see as a difficult environment to grow room rates on top of near double-digit percentage increases compared to 2019 that Choice has been capturing," wrote Robin Margaret Farley, an analyst at UBS, in a report this month.

Hotel groups as a whole haven't lowered their forecasts for signing new hotels. But several industry practitioners have told us anecdotally that hotel dealmaking has begun to stutter as capital lenders become more cautious while waiting to see the trajectory of interest rates.

Mbeya Cement given one month to observe occupational health, safety

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA Cement Company has been given one month to improve workers' environment at the factory to reduce occupational health risks.

Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, (Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities) Patrobas Katambi issued the ultimatum at the weekend during his impromptu visit at the factory to inspect the implementation of laws and regulations on occupational health and safety at work places including workers' contracts.

The Deputy Minister was accompanied by various government officials including those from Workers Compensation Fund (WCF), social security funds and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

During his visit, the Deputy Minister found out that the health of some workers especially in the production section were at risk for lack of reliable protective gear against cement dust.

He said the situation was dangerous as it causes diseases and people with disabilities and called for prompt rectification within one month.

He instructed factory officials to procure more modern plants and equipment for production that do not create dust to minimize health risks.

"As you look for modern technologies, try to protect these workers, provide them even face masks to minimize risk from cement dust," he said.

He also called on factory officials not to pay companies they hire if they do not implement the laws of the country and advised their contracts should stress the implementation of these laws.

He also directed OSHA officials to work together with



Mbeya Cement factory officials and labour unions to improve the working environment. For his part, Mbeya Region's WCF representative, Ayoub Bendera said they receive a lot of complaints in regard people who fall ill due to poor working environment at the factory.

He said workers after only a short time after being engaged, they start becoming ill, the situation that force the Fund to spend a lot of money in compensation.

OSHA manager for the Southern High-

lands Zone, UswegeFaston said so far they have not issued a clean certificate in regard the factory's health safety due to its failure to meet conditions.

Responding on the concerns, Mbeya Cement Company Managing Director, Khaled Ghareib said they have been making efforts to abide by the laws of the country, but to a large extent they are let down by firms they hired to work with and pledged to implement the instructions given by the Deputy Minister.

Floods, disasters could cost economy \$5.6trn by 2050 -report

LONDON

WORSENING droughts, storms and torrential rain in some of the world's largest economies could cause \$5.6 trillion in losses to GDP by 2050, according to a report by aquanomics released Monday.

This year heavy rains have triggered floods that inundated cities in China and South Korea and disrupted water and electricity supply in India, while drought has put farmers' harvests at risk across Europe.

Such disasters are costing the global economy hundreds of billions of dollars. Last year's extreme droughts, floods and storms led to global losses of more than \$224 billion, according to the Emergency events database maintained by the Brussels-based Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters.

But as climate change fuels more intense rainfall, flooding and drought in coming decades, these costs are set to soar, warns the report by engineering and environmental consultancy firm GHD.

Water - when there's too much or too little - can "be the most destructive force that a community can experience," said Don Holland, who leads GHD's Canadian water market programme.

GHD assessed the water risks in seven countries representing varied economic and climatic conditions: the United States, China, Canada, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, the United Arab Emirates and Australia. Using global

insurance data and scientific studies on how extreme events can affect different sectors, the team estimated the amount of losses countries face in terms of immediate costs as well as to the overall economy.

In the United States, the world's biggest economy, losses could total \$3.7 trillion by 2050, with U.S. gross domestic product shrinking by about 0.5% each year until then. China, the world's No. 2 economy, faces cumulative losses of around \$1.1 trillion by mid-century.

Of the five business sectors most vital to the global economy, manufacturing and distribution would be hit hardest by disasters costing \$4.2 trillion as water scarcity disrupts production while storms and floods destroy infrastructure and inventory.

The agricultural sector, vulnerable to both drought and extreme rainfall, could see \$332 billion in losses by 2050. Other sectors facing major challenges are retail, banking and energy.

At this year's World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, a global group of experts launched a new commission to research the economics of water that aims to advise policymakers on water management.

We must "transform how we govern water and the climate together," said commission co-chair Tharman Shanmugaratnam. "The costs of doing so are not trivial, but they are dwarfed by the costs of letting extreme weather wreak havoc." (Reporting by Gloria Dickie; Editing by Katy Daigle and Susan Fenton)

Kenya says first avocado cargo hits China market

NAIROBI

THE first consignment of fresh avocados from Kenya has hit the Chinese market, the east African nation's export agency said over the weekend.

The Kenya Export Promotion and Branding Agency (KEPROBA) CEO Wilfred Marube said the exports to China are a big win for Kenya because it has the potential to pull Kenya's economic growth through the international trade of avocados.

"The factor endowment for production favors Kenya. With the high population, exports to China will additionally enable increased foreign exchange earnings as well as youth and

women employment," Marube said in a statement issued in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya.

He said that Kenya's journey to export avocados to China kick-started in 2018 with the signing of several bilateral memoranda of understanding (MoUs) granting market access to Kenya's agricultural products.

Kenya began exporting fresh avocados to China on Aug. 2 following the implementation of a signed protocol on phytosanitary requirements for the export of fresh produce. This followed the official visit to Kenya in January by the Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi.



Marube observed that about ten companies have complied with the set standards and have been approved to export fresh avocados to China.

Kenya's Ambassador to China Muthoni Gichohi who recently graced the official handover ceremony in Beijing, the capital of China, of the first batch of Kenya's fresh avocado exports, lauded the efforts made by Kenya and Chinese governments toward the achievement.

Gichohi affirmed Kenya's commitment to supporting the business communities in both countries as they look forward to enhancing trade facilitation as well as market access of their products and services.

Government data indicate that the east African nation exports an average of 80,000 metric tons of avocados annually, with main markets over the years being countries in the European Union as well as the Middle East.

Marube said that Kenya is currently the world's sixth largest producer of avocados and the largest African producer of avocados, which are mainly grown by small-scale farmers.

"The export of avocados to the China market has huge potential and experts have estimated that the exports to China could account for up to 40 percent of Kenya's total avocado output," he revealed.

UK food shoppers trade down as standard of living crisis intensifies

LONDON

A loaf of branded, white sliced bread costs about £1.20 at Tesco. The retailer's own-label equivalent costs 70p, or 42 per cent less.

It is not surprising that Tesco's chief executive, Ken Murphy, recently flagged bread as one of the categories where customers are starting to trade down to cheaper alternatives.

That trend is already being felt by the companies that make own-label products – and they expect it to accelerate. “We are seeing an increase in our own-label volumes, especially in bread where the value for money gap is very clear,” said the managing director of one bakery products group.

“The increase in the energy price cap is likely to focus minds even more,” he added, noting that the soaring cost of energy in the UK meant this downturn was “moving at a far quicker pace” than previous ones and that “a lot of households will have to batten the hatches down”.

During the pandemic and before inflation took off, people sought the reassurance of branded goods. But Mike Watkins, head of retailer and business insight at consultancy NielsenIQ, said that habits were shifting again, with own-label sales outgrowing branded in recent months amid the biggest squeeze on UK wages in two decades.

Last month Unilever, one of the world's largest producers of branded goods, warned that sales had been hit by consumers choosing cheaper versions as prices of its products rose.

Fraser McKeivitt, head of retail and consumer insight at another consultancy, Kantar, said own-label goods now made up 51.6 per cent of grocery sales by value, the highest level it had ever recorded.

Its figures show own-label sales rising 7 per cent in the 12 weeks to August 7, while a recent survey by consultancy Retail Economics suggested that half of all shoppers were planning to buy more own-label products.

Much of the growth in own label over the past decade has been driven by the expansion of discounters Aldi and Lidl, which between them have an 18 per cent market share, compared with 8 per cent in 2011. Both sell almost entirely own-label products under names such as Village Bakery for bread and Baresa



Figures show own-label sales rising 7 per cent in the 12 weeks to August 7 PHOTO/AGECIES

pasta. Some own-label products are made by big companies that also make branded goods. Hovis and Kingsmill, for example, both make own-label bread. But the sector is dominated by relatively small and usually privately owned companies. Some are significant producers in particular categories, such as Veetee in rice and Lovers Foods in canned fish.

The growth of Tesco's Finest, J Sainsbury's Taste the Difference and other ready-meal offers as a cheaper alternative to restaurants and takeaways has been a big factor in the higher than average sales of own-label food in the UK compared with Europe and the US.

“This is where own label comes into its own,” said Lydia Gerratt, a consultant and former buyer at a big supermarket chain. “These products are not developed to be the cheapest, but to offer your core customers something they want that they are not getting elsewhere.”

However, higher demand for own-label products is unlikely to translate into bigger profits for manufacturers, because they are already working on thin margins and face rampant inflation.

The bakery products manufacturer said that rising sales were “in no way offsetting the rises

in prices of almost everything we touch”.

James Logan, UK commercial director at Refresco, which supplies water, fruit juice and fizzy drinks to supermarkets across Europe, agreed the cost increases were across the board. “In the past you might have got a spike in one particular commodity because of something like El Niño affecting harvests,” he said.

“This time there is no respite, costs are rising everywhere in the supply chain.”

The question of how the extra costs are shared has led to high-profile stand-offs between retailers and suppliers of branded goods, such as a recent dispute between Tesco and Heinz that temporarily took some products off shelves. Disagreements with own-label suppliers are less likely on the whole.

“A good own-label supplier will have close contact with the retailer and keep them informed about any developments that might require a difficult conversation,” said Logan.

Clive Black, head of research at Shore Capital, said asking suppliers to take the hit on price was no longer an easy option. Previous pressure from retailers had led to consolidation, he added, meaning there were fewer alternatives, while switching supplier is also not as easy as it was.

5 smart money moves during high interest rates, inflation

By Melissa Browne



THERE is so much talk at the moment about financial doom and gloom. Rising interest rates, the surging cost of living and high inflation combined with low financial literacy mean that while we know we should be doing something to protect our money, we're not sure what.

Too often this means that people financially flee, freeze or ‘stick their head in the sand’ and pretend it's not happening.

The good news is there are five smart things you can do right now to both protect your finances and give them a nudge forward.

1. Create an emergency fund

Prior to COVID-19, emergency funds or buffer accounts weren't really talked about. Then, when COVID hit, they were suddenly super sexy.

That's because having a pot of money in case of an emergency means that when things happen (such as unexpected repairs or illness) you don't have to dip into the credit card.

And no, jetting off to Europe for summer isn't an emergency.

2. Live within your means

This one seems so obvious but it's the secret sauce to having great finances.

Too many people are trying to keep up both with their peers and with influencers on the internet - who aren't even buying the products they're spruiking.

Unsubscribe, unfollow, unfriend and start to think about what's important to you. It also means swapping, pausing and cancelling expenses and subscriptions so that you're plugging up that leaky bucket of unnecessary expenses.

3. Find additional income

Too often we head straight to tightening the belt on our expenses (which is important) but we don't think about finding more income. Whether that's a second job, a side hustle, becoming a delivery driver, doing surveys online, renting out your stuff or even just completing your tax return - finding more income can be a great way to supplement the rising cost of living and means you're not solely reliant on your wage.

If you have a mortgage, one of the easiest ways to find more income is to ask your bank for a rate reduction. Inside my course, the My Financial Adulting Plan, the average rate reduction received is 0.50 per cent and the biggest saving was \$15,000. Every single year.

4. Invest for the long term

Over the last few months, we've seen so much uncertainty and conflicting advice when it comes to whether the share market will continue to fall, whether property will fall, whether it's safe to take on debt, and more.

Here's the thing, no-one has a crystal ball. Yes, experts can make an educated guess, but let's remember that most experts predicted a property market crash of 20-40 per cent when COVID arrived but the reverse has been true.

Instead, it's about investing for the long term, letting the power of compound interest work its magic and not being reactive about short term market rises and falls.

5. Diversify your investments

Many Australians have a wage, a home, some superannuation and that's it.

This means that suddenly the balance of your superannuation is critical because that's the only income source you'll have when you stop working. That is, unless you're prepared to sell your home and downsize, but not everyone wants to do that.

It also means if your job is at risk because you may not have liquid savings or other income sources to fall back on.

That's why I'm a fan of multiple income streams and diversification. Diversification might be across property, shares and business so that if one falls the other is stable or rising. You also want to ensure you have diversification in each of these classes. For example, avoid buying your investment property in the same suburb as your home.

If you're already doing all five of these things, great job. Now, think about what your next financial step is.

And if you're not doing any of these things or maybe one or two, that's ok. Pick one that you're going to start with and then add another each week or month so that within 12 months you're not simply hoping you'll be ok, you know you will be.

Melissa Browne is an ex-financial advisor & now financial educator

Digital marketing; GWI digital snapshot report 2022: Part 2

By Alley Mtatya

Continued...

The report also covers a section on news consumption in general but on the social element of that, what we see is that social media is a very strong source of news for a lot of people. Most of us do not even need to buy newspapers just because of a simple ideology that we will get whatever is happening in the world through digital news. That data shows that 57% of adults use social media to discover and consume news and more and more of the younger audience are turning to social media for their news. 64% of those aged between 18 through to 24 use social media as a primary source for their news content as Facebook and YouTube are their top channels for consumption while 34% say their even just there for the news vs going to publish on their social media sites. Social media sites are becoming such a dominant source for news.

This has a very strong implication for brands as we are all worried about brand safety when you're having your ad appear along a lot of news articles then suddenly it becomes very different for a brand's territory. This is very interesting if you go back to say 2010, you wouldn't expect one to say let me go to Facebook and get my news but back then we were more focused on wanting to connect with the people we hadn't seen in a very long time say family, friends, school and workmates etc. and that was what mattered the most to us. Sharing a new story on social media is a really easy way to start those conversations and to engage with the people that you really care about, the more that happened the more that it appears in feeds because it is an organic behavior.



It was then discovered that for those people that don't necessarily live or breathe the news cycle like for some of us, we easily go to the trends page/section to see what is going on, on a daily basis. So having it appear in your news feeds is actually a convenient way of keeping upto date with what is going on but also doing it in a slightly more varied setting. So where we came from to where we are today, where by 57% of the people around the world can agree that social media is a source of news for them, so that's 2 and half times more than those who say physical print media (newspapers, magazines etc.), go to social media sites to get their news compared to getting it via physical print.

You've got consideration now for - What does this mean for brands? What does this mean for society? More broadly if we are getting our news delivered in a very different context. Does this mean that there is a different way that we interpret news, is

there a scope for manipulation? All sorts of considerations, but I think the thing that really highlights the most and more than anything else is the fact that social media is “the pulse” of our lives. Apart from staying in touch with our close friends and family a good third of us resort to seeking news on what is happening around us.

One quarter of us are actually seeking information about brands as a reason for going to social media so seeing social media apart from the way marketers think about it, it is our life feed and not just our social media feed it is much more than that. Therefore taking a broader context of where does my content fit within people's lives (not just the news cycle) but everything else and how do I deliver it in a way that is engaging, appropriate and topical. These are big challenging questions that marketers need to get their heads around but that is the reality that you are dealing with, within a social feed, so it is everything in general.

The Rise of Tik-Tok
What was also interesting to see was Tik-Tok emerged as a source for games the figures are still low, so to say 7% up from 4% from last year but one wouldn't have thought Tik-Tok as a source of news? Just those capturing those small moments that is how people are digesting content. They might not want the hourly long nightly news on TV anymore but in 15 seconds what do I need to know about

this and how do I stay upto date.

But it could also mean that while I'm watching the news on TV I could also have my phone in my hand and engaging or posting the same content (TV news) via my social media sites, so it goes both ways. We also give thanks to those doing the binary or those social sites fitted with artificial intelligence that can track, monitor and give us the content based on what the machines study of us in order to know what content we want or like to see.

A perfect example; someone once told me of this, you will understand when one says, “Ukraine is the first Tik-Tok War”, well not entirely accurate but at a global scale it is one of the many instances where we've got really, a really serious world event “a war” unfolding live in front of us but thanks to the people on the ground who share live streams through their devices on both sides and on all angles. You get different perspectives from different people with different views and different desires and different objectives sharing their content. That is difficult from many perspectives because the news is unfiltered and maybe biased and may perceive a skewed version of what's really happening, but none the less we now have access to that.

To be continued... Alley Mtatya is the (Marketing Coordinator - Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania)

Int'l financial institutions bullish on Chinese market

BEIJING

IN early 1990s, Principal Financial Group (PFG), an American global financial investment management and insurance company, set up its representative office in Beijing, together with many other international financial institutions drawn to China in search of business opportunities.

Since then, PFG has maintained a strategic cooperative relationship with China Construction Bank (CCB). In 2005, they jointly established CCB Principal Asset Management Co., Ltd., which has become an important player in China's asset management industry.

PFG's footprint in China gives a glimpse into the thriving development of international financial institutions in the country.

To attract foreign investors, China scrapped foreign ownership caps for securities, fund management, futures and life insurance firms. It also allowed eligible overseas institutional investors to invest directly or through connectivity in the exchange bond market from June 30 this year.

The policies were welcomed by international financial institutions and further enhanced the appeal of China's financial industry and market.

"It took only about 13 months, between May 2020 and June 2021, for us to obtain approval for business. This was quite fast for a money broking business," said Ono Tomoyuki, vice president of Ueda Yagi Money Broking (China) Co., Ltd.

Despite the pandemic, the company had formed partnerships with over 1,100 institutions by the end of July this year.

Many other foreign-funded institutions also saw their businesses grow, buoyed by China's financial opening up.



Principal Financial Group (PFG) headquarters in US

"Over the past year, we have accelerated businesses in initial public offerings, refinancing, cross-border mergers and acquisitions, and green bonds. We have also become the first batch of members of the Beijing Stock Exchange," said Geng Xin, CEO of Daiwa Securities (China).

Geng noted that the company is focusing on consumer sector, health care sector, and advanced manufacturing sector, and is committed to building a bridge between China and Japan in business and capital exchanges.

As the world's second-largest economy, China is one of the most popular destinations for foreign investment, and its appeal has become even stronger over the past decade due to the steady financial opening-up.

In 2021, the capital and assets of foreign banks in China both increased by more than 50 percent compared with 10 years ago, and for foreign insurance companies, the figures surged by 1.3 times and six times, respectively.

Overseas investments in Chinese securities came in at 2.16 trillion U.S. dollars at the end of last year, marking a three-times increase from

that of 2012.

Major global benchmarks like MSCI, FTSE Russell and the S&P Dow Jones have included the A-shares and strengthened their weightings. China's government bonds also made their way into three major global bond market indices.

"As more foreign investors enter China's onshore capital markets, Fitch Bohua will gain recognition from more market participants," said Chen Dongming, president of Fitch Bohua, the rating agency's China unit.

"We will seize the new opportunities created by regulatory reforms and rapidly changing market demands," Chen added.

The global economy is on track to grow by 2.9 percent in 2022, down 1.2 percentage points from the January projection, the World Bank Group said in its Global Economic Prospects in June.

As per projections, China's economic growth momentum is expected to rebound in the second half of 2022.

A number of executives from international financial institutions have expressed confidence in China's economy despite global inflationary pressure and a sluggish economic recovery.

"As a foreigner working in China, I think China's economic development is full of resilience, strong momentum and optimistic prospects," Ono Tomoyuki said.

China will achieve steady and sustained economic development as it boasts large market entities, complete industrial systems, a diligent workforce and strong social governance ability, Ono Tomoyuki added.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and increased risks and challenges from the external environment, the international market demand remains overall stable, said Zhang Chi, Fitch Bohua's rating director.

Noting that in June, China's exports posted better-than-expected growth, Zhang said it is expected that the country's imports and exports will maintain steady growth in the second half of the year.

"We are optimistic about the performance of China's economy in the second half of the year, and more capital will flow into industries and markets which have huge growth potential," said Geng with Daiwa Securities (China).

Big oil's \$41billion buyback bonanza

NEW YORK

OIL and gas supermajors are on course to repurchase their shares at near-record levels this year thanks to soaring oil and gas prices helping them to deliver bumper profits and boost returns for investors.

According to data from Bernstein Research, the seven supermajors including ExxonMobil, Chevron, BP and Shell are poised to return \$38bn to shareholders through buyback programmes this year, with investment bank RBC Capital Markets putting the total figure even higher, at \$41bn.

In 2014, when oil was trading over \$100/barrel, we only saw \$21 billion in buybacks. This year's figure rivals that of 2008. But here's another interesting thing: Big Oil's capex and production have remained mostly flat despite reporting record second-quarter profits.

Data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) shows that Big Oil companies downshifted both capital spending and production for the second-quarter.

An EIA review of 53 public U.S. gas and oil companies, responsible for about 34pc of domestic production, showed a 5pc decline in capital expenditures in the second-quarter vs. Q1 this year.

Meanwhile crude oil production has increased 10% Q/Q, but remained flat compared to Q4 2021 despite an 86pc jump in cash flows to \$25.7 billion.

Some oil and gas majors are preferring to return excess cash to shareholders in the form of fat dividends. For instance, ConocoPhillips announced during its second quarter earnings call that it will pay shareholders \$1.40 per share in a special dividend on October 14. For perspective, that's nearly three times its regular quarterly dividend of \$0.46.

However, in many cases, Big Oil companies prefer buybacks to dividends for several reasons.

First off, buybacks effectively reduce a company's outstanding shares while propping demand for the stock. Consequently, the smaller number of shares automatically increases earnings per share (EPS) since the company's earnings are distributed among fewer shares. Additionally, there is a tax-efficiency element here. As a method



of returning capital to shareholders, buybacks are preferred because there are no additional taxes on the sale process, as opposed to dividends that get taxed up to 20%. For buybacks, the tax applies only to the actual sale of shares.

Another big consideration for the oil majors: buybacks deliver more voting leverage back into the hands of companies, something that Exxon shareholders understand only too well when activist investor Engine 1 was able to push for the company to diversify the oil company away from fossil fuel by having three of its members sitting on the board.

Exxon Mobil

Exxon Mobil Corp. has been using the strength of its balance sheet to return significant capital to its shareholders via dividends and share buybacks and has announced plans to continue such distributions going forward.

Exxon returned \$7.6 billion to shareholders during the second quarter through dividends and share buybacks, with \$3.9 billion for share repurchases and \$3.7 billion going into dividends. Year-to-date, Exxon has repurchases amounting to \$6 billion and eyes repurchasing up to \$30 billion shares through 2023.

"We're definitely focused on being efficient as we look to return capital to shareholders," ExxonMobil CFO Kathryn Mickells told investors.

Exxon Mobil reported cash flow from operations of \$20 billion for the April-June period while capex reached \$4.6 billion in Q2 2022. Exxon's capex is running at \$9.5 billion year-to-date, and the company expects capex to fall between \$21 billion-\$24 billion, reflecting increased investment in "chemical and short-cycle projects with strong returns."

Exxon produced 3.7 million oil equivalent barrels per day in the second quarter, a 4% increase from the first quarter. However, Exxon Mobil cautioned that expanding output any further is unlikely, with CEO Daren Woods saying the refining market is extremely tight and that "growing supply will not happen overnight."

Chevron

Chevron has spent nearly \$4 billion repurchasing its own shares in the first half of the year. The company, however, is targeting a lot more and has raised the upper limit of its buyback target for the full year to \$15 billion, up from \$10 billion previously. Wall Street was not expecting such a big expansion of the buyback program after Chevron raised its guidance in May to the top end of its \$5 billion-\$10 billion range.

"We think we can do it all. Grow the dividend to investors, grow traditional and new energy, pay down debt, and buy back shares. When we have cash in excess of those first three priorities, we buy back shares. We'll continue buybacks even when the commodity cycle turns down," Chevron's Chief Financial Officer Pierre Breber told Reuters.

Chevron posted its biggest quarterly earnings ever, built on strong fuel margins and high prices for natural gas and oil. The oil major posted second-quarter net profit of \$11.6 billion, or \$5.95 per diluted share, more than triple the \$3.1 billion, or \$1.60 per share for last year's corresponding period. Chevron's average U.S. sales price for a barrel of crude oil and natural gas liquids (NGLs) was \$89 in the quarter vs. \$54 a year earlier. The California-based energy giant produced 1.72 million oil-equivalent barrels per day in the second quarter, marking a decrease of 266,000 barrels per day vs. Q2 2021.

Stanbic's borderless banking transaction in EA hits \$40m

By Guardian Reporter

Stanbic Bank has reported that between January and March this year, its borderless banking solution platform in East Africa has so far transacted volumes valued \$40 million.

The bank's East Africa borderless banking solution delivers affordable, real-time transactions from anywhere within key markets including Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya and South Sudan.

The statement issued by Standard Bank Group East Africa said transactional volume grew from virtually zero in January 2021.

"From February to March 2022 alone, the volume of successful transactions grew 24 percent, with a total value \$3.5 million in transactions processed in March," said a statement.

"Clients in the region have long been struggling to access cross-border transactions platforms that offer consistent, speedy and affordable service," said Patrick Mweheire, Standard Bank Group's regional Chief Executive for East Africa.

"This system has been developed cost-effectively, demonstrating how and when we collaborate to achieve great things that drive East African growth and intra-regional trade."

Launched in 2021 borderless banking allows clients to access their accounts and transact in real time at any Stanbic/Standard bank branch across the bank's East Africa footprint.

On a single platform, customers have a holistic view of all bank solutions across the region, making it easier to transact, conduct business and get instant access to funds in any account they hold with Stanbic/standard bank across four countries.

According to the Mastercard 2022 borderless payments report, 47 percent of small businesses are doing more international business than they were before the Covid-19 pandemic.

Around 68 percent of small busi-

nesses agree that the functioning of the global payment network enabled them to survive, says the report.

Another important driver of growth, the report said, is 63percent of consumers sending cross-border payments to financially support family and friends abroad.

"Therefore, it was important for Stanbic to keep costs at a fair level; for instance, cash deposits are free and cash withdrawals are set at between \$2 and \$3 across the network," the group statement says. "Cash deposits, cash withdrawals, charges and even customer authentication are all done in real-time, facilitated on a growing and highly secure system."

This enables much reduced turnaround times, data mining, tracking of funds and growth of businesses now better able to seek and access trade across borders.

Over the past year, 80 percent of the transactions made have been cash deposits, while the remaining 20 percent has been cash withdrawals.

Top sectors set to benefit from the platform include oil and gas, energy, non-governmental organisations, industrial and manufacturing, agriculture and even governments.

"We are seeing continuous positive and tangible development of the solution," said Mweheire. "As part of Standard Bank's journey to being a true platform business, we believe this creates an integrated economy for us, and we continue to drive our own payment strategy and agenda."

He said truck drivers used to worry about carrying large volumes of cash across the borders, something they don't have to think about anymore.

They can now access any of the various Stanbic branches across the region, which has allowed us to be more efficient and improve the safety of our drivers, he added.



Patrick Mweheire, Standard Bank Group's Regional CEO for East Africa

Oil rises on prospect of OPEC supply cut

WASHINGTON

OIL prices rose 1% on Monday, as expectations that OPEC would cut output if needed to support prices, coupled with conflict in Libya and rising demand amid soaring natural gas prices in Europe, helped offset a dire outlook for U.S. growth.

U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures were up 45 cents, or 0.48%, to \$93.51 a barrel by 0632 GMT, adding to a gain of 2.5% last week.

Brent crude futures rose 16 cents, or 0.16%, to \$101.15 a barrel, extending last week's gain of 4.4%.

"Oil prices are inching higher on hopes of a production cut from OPEC and its allies to restore market balance in response to the revival of Iran's nuclear deal," said Sugandha Sachdeva, vice president of commodity research at Religare Broking.

Strong U.S. oil exports and a bigger-than-expected draw of oil inventory in the last couple of weeks have also eased some demand concerns amid slowdown fears, Sachdeva added.

Both benchmark contracts had traded lower earlier in the day as the dollar climbed after Friday's blunt comments from Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell that the United States faced a prolonged period

of slow growth amid further rate hikes.

"While a strong dollar restrains broad commodity prices, the undersupply issue in the oil markets will probably continue to support the upside bias," CMC Markets analyst Tina Teng said.

Oil prices have been buoyed by hints from Saudi Arabia and other members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies, together called OPEC+, that they could cut output in order to balance the market.

The United Arab Emirates is aligned with Saudi thinking on output policy, a source told Reuters on Friday, while the Omani oil ministry also said it supported OPEC+ efforts to maintain market stability.

Sources said last week OPEC would consider cutting output to offset any increase from Iran, should oil sanctions be lifted if Tehran agrees to revive a nuclear deal.

Heavy clashes in Libya's capital that killed 32 on the weekend sparked concern that the country could slide into a full-blown conflict, leading to a disruption in supply of crude from the OPEC nation.

"Besides, soaring gas prices are likely to result in gas-to-oil switching, which remains a positive trigger for prices," Sachdeva said.

WORLD

Judge: 9/11 victims not entitled to Afghan central bank assets

NEW YORK

A US judge on Friday recommended that victims of the Sept 11, 2001, attacks not be allowed to seize billions of dollars of assets belonging to Afghanistan's central bank to satisfy court judgments they obtained against the Taliban.

US Magistrate Sarah Netburn in Manhattan said Da Afghanistan Bank was immune from jurisdiction, and that allowing the seizures would effectively acknowledge the Taliban as the Afghan government, something only the US president can do.

"The Taliban's victims have fought for years for justice, accountability, and compensation. They are entitled to no less," Netburn wrote. "But the law limits what compensation the court may authorize and those limits put the DAB's assets beyond its authority."

Netburn's recommendation will be reviewed by US District Judge George Daniels in Manhattan, who also oversees the litigation and can decide whether to accept her recommendation.

The decision is a defeat for four groups of creditors that sued a variety of defendants, including al-Qaeda, who were held responsible for the Sept 11 attacks, and obtained default judgments after the defendants failed to show up in court.

At the time of the attacks, the ruling Taliban allowed al-Qaeda to operate inside Afghanistan.

The United States ousted the Taliban and al-Qaeda in late 2001, but the Taliban returned to power a year ago when US and other Western forces withdrew from the country.

Lawyers for the creditor groups did not immediately respond to requests for



Visitors watch over the reflecting pool at the 9/11 Museum and Memorial during the commemoration the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center, in New York, on Sept 11, 2021. File photo

comment. The groups have been trying to tap into some of the \$7 billion of Afghan central bank funds that are frozen at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York.

In an executive order in February, US President Joe Biden ordered \$3.5 billion of that sum set aside "for the benefit of the Afghan people," leaving victims to pursue the remainder in court.

The US government took no position at the time on whether the creditor groups were entitled to recover funds under the Terrorist Risk Insurance Act of 2002.

It urged Netburn and Daniels to view exceptions to sovereign immunity narrowly, citing the risks of interference with the president's power to conduct foreign relations, and pos-

sible challenges to American property located abroad. Other countries hold about \$2 billion of Afghan reserves.

Shawn Van Diver, the head of #AfghanEvac, which helps evacuate and resettle Afghans, said he hoped the frozen funds could be used to help the struggling Afghan economy without enriching the Taliban.

"The judge has done the right thing here," he said.

Nearly 3,000 people died on Sept 11, 2001, when planes were flown into New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon in northern Virginia, and a Pennsylvania field.

US sanctions ban doing financial business with the Taliban, but allow humanitarian support for the Afghan people.

IAEA mission heading to Zaporozhye nuclear plant, says Russian envoy

VIENNA

A mission of the International Atomic Energy Agency is currently on its way to the Zaporozhye nuclear power plant (NPP), Mikhail Ulyanov, Russian Permanent Representative to International Organizations in Vienna, said yesterday.

"The long-awaited IAEA mission led by Director General Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi is now on its way to the Zaporozhye NPP," he wrote on Twitter.

Grossi said earlier that the IAEA mission to the Zaporozhye plant had been formed and would arrive there this week.

The inspectors would assess the physical damage to the plant and check the facility's security and safety systems. The experts led by Grossi will also have to evaluate staff conditions at the plant and take urgent measures to ensure safety there.

The Zaporozhye NPP, located in Enerгодar, is under the control of Russian troops. According to the Russian Ministry of Defense, Ukrainian forces have recently carried out several strikes on the territory of the plant, using, among others, drones, heavy artillery and multiple rocket launchers.

In most cases, the attacks were repelled by air defense systems, but shells have been recorded hitting infrastructure and the area within the vicinity of the nuclear waste storage facility, thereby posing a threat of radiation leakage.

The IAEA earlier stated the necessity to send an urgent mission to the ZNPP due to the safety risks at the nuclear facility.



Climate change impacts wheat yield, widening inequalities

SYDNEY

THE impact of climate change is now being felt daily and is exacting a heavy toll on food production globally.

New research modelling shows that climate change will significantly alter the yield and price of wheat in the coming years, even if climate mitigation targets are kept under two degrees Celsius.

Wheat is the world's major grain crop, providing an estimated 20 percent of the protein and calories for more than 3.5 billion people around the world.

Its production, availability, and accessibility are vital for global food security. Climate change, however, is putting substantial stress in many wheat producing regions of the world.

In research published in the journal *One Earth* on Aug 19, scientists predicted that wheat yields are likely to increase at high latitudes and decrease in low latitudes.

At the same time prices for the grain are likely to change unevenly and increase in much of the Global South, exacerbating existing inequalities, according to the research modelling carried out by scientists from six countries.



Laborers unload wheat grain from a trailer at a wholesale grain market on the outskirts of Amritsar, India, on April 16, 2022. File photo

What makes this latest research different from previous studies is that it allowed scientists to look at the impacts of both climate mean conditions and extreme events on wheat yields, prices and global supply-demand chains.

Karin van der Wiel, a climate scientist with the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute and a co-author of the report, said in a statement: "We know from previous research that extreme events do not necessarily respond in the same way as the mean conditions, and because these extreme events are the most impactful on societies, this (the new modelling) is an important step forward."

The study found that yields will increase in high latitude regions – countries like the United States, Russia, and much of northern Europe.

In countries like Egypt, India and Venezuela, however, wheat yields are likely to drop – in some areas by more than 15 percent.

"With this change in yields, the traditional trade position of the wheat market could be deepened, and this may cause the wheat-importing regions located in low latitudes, such as Southern Asia and Northern Africa, to see more frequent and steeper wheat price spikes than wheat exporting countries," said lead author Tianyi

Zhang, an agro-meteorologist with the Institute of Atmospheric Physics at the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

"Not only could these changes mean that countries already facing food security issues pay even more for a pivotal food crop, but wheat prices on the global market could become more volatile and exacerbate existing inequalities," Zhang said in a statement.

Frank Selten, a climate researcher with the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute who was involved in the study, said wheat grown at high latitudes "exhibit an increase in yield due to the fact that in general growing conditions improve due to the warming with a lengthening of the growing season as a result and enough precipitation to sustain the crops."

"In low latitudes, often growth is limited by lack of precipitation or excessive temperatures in a warmer climate," he told *China Daily*.

He said mean prices globally increase by about two percent as yields rise in the net wheat exporting extra-tropical regions but decrease in net wheat importing countries in lower latitudes.

"These regional contrasts are enhanced in years of low global yield. Trade then leads to higher

prices, both in the net wheat importing countries due to the high demand and in the net, wheat exporting countries since the export drives domestic prices upward," he said.

Selten said years of low global yields will occur more often since the variability in global yields increase in a two-degree warmer world.

The study warned that grain prices are likely to change unevenly in the world, with much of the Global South expected to endure higher costs.

"India is a net wheat import country and in years of low global yields, domestic yields tend to be low, and, in those years, India depends on import for its food security at a high price point," Selten said.

He said trade liberalization enhances this effect with higher incomes for producers of net exporting countries, and lower incomes for producers in the net importing countries.

"To lessen the impact on poorer countries, protective measures should be strengthened such as high import taxes and lower taxes for domestic products and lower income taxes for domestic producers," Selten said.

British rocket firm Skyrora gets ready for debut rocket launch from Scotland in 2023

LONDON

BRITISH rocket startup Skyrora is gearing up for a potential launch of a single-stage suborbital vehicle from Iceland in the next few months, paving the way for its first rocket launch from Scotland in 2023.

The launch of the vehicle, called "Skylark L," will enable Skyrora to demonstrate the key capabilities of its mobile launch complex and "give the team valuable hands-on experience in the lead up to the launch of Skyrora XL next year," Nickie Finnegan, lead communications officer at Skyrora, told *Xinhua* via e-mail.

According to Skyrora's website, the Skyrora XL is a three-stage, light-class launch vehicle intended to place payloads into Sun-Synchronous Orbit between a range of 500-1,000 km in altitude, and into Polar Orbit between a range of 200-1,000 km in altitude. Earlier in August, the company successfully completed the static fire test of the second stage of its flagship Skyrora XL orbital rocket at the Machrihanish Airbase in Scotland.

According to Skyrora, it was the biggest integrated stage test to be held in Britain since those of Black Arrow and Blue Streak in the 1970s. The company said that it was now moving one step closer to entering

commercial operations, with an inaugural orbital launch scheduled for 2023 from the SaxaVord Space Center in northern Scotland.

It comes as competition between launch companies is heating up in the commercial space sector, with several players developing plans to launch small satellites from British soil.

"Establishing a sovereign launch capability in the UK will enable the UK government to achieve its goal of capturing 10 percent of the global space market by 2030," Finnegan said of the significance of the rocket launch for the global space industry.

It will "unlock a key component of the space value chain and close the significant market gap that these satellite manufacturers currently face in their endeavour to reach orbit," she noted.

Headquartered in Edinburgh, Skyrora designs, manufactures, and deploys rockets to clear the way for small satellite manufacturers looking to access space. Finnegan also stressed that bolstering the capabilities of the British space industry through a British rocket launch would lead to "a myriad social, economic, and environmental benefits for the larger society."

Xinhua

Chinese logistics network expands markets of agricultural products

THE hottest days of the summer mark a time when peaches mature and hit the market.

At 9:30 am, a box of peaches was sent to a Beijing consumer after a long air journey. The delivery took only less than 16 hours from a village in southwest China to the capital in the north.

It's hard to imagine that at 5:00 pm the day before, these peaches were still hanging on the trees in an orchard in Baoshi village, Longquanyi district, Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan province.

Longquanyi district is a major producer of peaches in China. It boasts fertile purple soil that's rich in nutrients that are good for growing peaches, such as phosphorus and potas-

sium.

In 2016, a cooperative was established by 51 farmers in the district under the support of the local bureau of agriculture and rural affairs. They contributed their land as equity, started large-scale planting and implemented unified production, operation and sales. Today, the cooperative has 147 farmers and an orchard area covering over 1,400 mu (93.3 hectares), 400 mu of which has already produced fruit.

Both the varieties and management of peaches matter. Xiao Jiajie, a 47-year-old agricultural technician of the cooperative told *People's Daily*

that the cooperative has planted many varieties bred by experts from the Sichuan Academy of Agricultural Sciences, who often visit the orchards to guide farmers in scientific planting techniques.

With the new facilities, techniques and varieties brought by the experts, peaches produced in Baoshi village are improving in quality and quantity. "We can produce over 1,000 kg per mu," Xiao said while picking a peach, "This variety tastes more crisp and sweet."

At 5:45 pm, Xiao arrived at a parcel collection center in the village with the peaches she had just picked from the trees. Covered with shockproof and

air-permeable packages, the peaches were loaded onto a truck for shipment.

Chen Qingfeng, a supervisor of the cooperative, said that the cooperative enjoys discounts on shipment charges with the agreements signed with express delivery companies. At least four trucks would go to the village for collecting peaches.

The cooperative is expected to see a sales volume of 2 million yuan (\$292,817) this year, half of which will be achieved through e-commerce, Chen said.

About an hour later, Xiao's peaches arrived at a transfer station of Chinese logistics giant SF Express at

Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport, where they were disinfected and sorted in a special fast track. A freight plane was already waiting there on a runway.

Since this year, SF Express has designated nearly 1,000 vehicles and five planes for the shipment of Longquanyi peaches. As of Aug. 9, the company had transported over 1,000 tons of peaches from the district.

The "peach expresses" are spread all over China's major production areas. The company has also deployed 400 flights, each with a capacity of over 10,000 tons, as well as nine high-speed freight trains to expand the market of

peaches produced in Yangshan, east China's Jiangsu province. Between June 1 and Aug. 8, SF Express shipped over 4 million parcels containing Yangshan peaches, up around 30 percent year on year.

At 1:20 am the next day, Xiao's peaches took off with the plane, and they were soon sorted and delivered to the Beijing buyer. The seasonal fruits, still fresh and juicy, have completed their 16-hour journey.

The journey mirrored the efforts of Chinese express delivery companies to increase their infrastructure investment and expand their shipment capacity by air, high-speed railway and road. It indicated a huge improvement in China's shipping capacity.

People's Daily

Xinhua

BRICS Plus hailed as key to prosperity

JOHANNESBURG

Rebalancing seen as helping to give developing countries a louder voice

The BRICS Plus framework would help contribute in reinforcing multilateralism, respect for international law and peaceful settlement of disputes, the Argentine embassy in South Africa says.

BRICS and BRICS Plus would help address common challenges and facilitate "dialogue based on shared interests", the embassy told China Daily.

"BRICS Plus offers a flexible international cooperation scheme between the BRICS and other emerging developing countries and allows a country like Argentina to move freely based on the principles that guide its foreign policy, namely: inclusive multilateralism, attachment to international law, peaceful settlement of disputes, special and differential treatment for developing countries, the search for a global balance with development and a greater participation of our countries."

The embassy said what BRICS stands for resonates with Argentina's foreign policy. BRICS Plus would help promote and balance redistribution of forces in the multilateral system in favor of developing countries, it said.

Argentina would be a useful member of BRICS Plus with its active membership of "different regional and interregional integration and coordination spaces".

Argentina is a member of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, G20, Organization of American States, the Southern Common Market, the G77 and the Alliance for Multilateralism. Argentina would be better placed to bring consensus to the world characterized by geopolitical tensions, the embassy said.

"Participation in BRICS Plus will make it possible to reinforce the role of our country as an actor that dialogues and cooperates with all the main powers, both from the developed and emerging worlds, and which has the possibility of contributing in all cases to promoting visions closer to the realities and needs of Latin America and the Caribbean," the Argentine embassy in South Africa said.

"We are fully convinced that only actions agreed upon by all the actors of the international community will allow us to return to a time of peaceful co-existence and will give greater stability to the economic cycle and will help us."

The embassy said Argentina would help to tackle energy and food challenges as a global food producer with one of the largest shale gas reserves. Advocating for greater liberalization of agricultural trade within the framework of BRICS and BRICS Plus would promote efficient use of natural resources.

Fulufhelo Netswera, a professor in management sciences at Durban University of Technology in South Africa, said BRICS Plus would add a voice to the growing call for the reformation of global multilateral institutions.

All countries "deemed developing or third world" and that do not have veto powers or any influence in the UN Security Council are potential members of the BRICS family, Netswera said.

"The continuous expansion of BRICS membership balances global multilateral hegemonic powers, at both economic and political levels. BRICS Plus should continue lobbying for a just and stable world where all nations have a voice."

The Bretton Woods system was meant to guarantee world peace and stability but had withered, Netswera said, and "there is much stronger and dictatorial Western hegemony which is led by the US".

BRICS Plus should join in lobbying for the UN Security Council, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to be reformed, he said.

"In the absence of much-needed reforms, BRICS Plus should find an alternative mechanism that guarantees the economic and political security and stability of the developing world."

West's actions may slow down forming of multipolarity but will not stop it – Lavrov

MOSCOW

THE West is seeking to disregard objective historic processes, which may slow down the forming of a multipolar world but will never stop it, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said in an interview with the Zvezda television channel, which was posted on the foreign ministry's website on Sunday.

"Regrettably, our Western partners, who have ceded the reins of power to the United States, <...> are seeking to disregard objective historic processes, which may slow down the formation of a multipolar world but will never be able to stop it," he said.

He was asked how many multipolarity belts he thinks have already been formed. "It is not an agreed procedure, which is to be implemented. It is not a fire-year plan or a three-year budget, like the one we have. It is not like yearly budgets passed in other countries. It is living process."

This is about politicians' talents. They must see what is going on in real life and build their policy in line with the demands of history," he said.

"Let us look at an example from British life, for a change. They have a saying that before laying a garden path, it is necessary to let people make desire paths. In simple words, this is how it is necessary to act on the international arena: i.e. to build one's proactive policy so that it doesn't run counter to objective tendencies, including the tendency to multipolarity. This is how we are acting," Lavrov stressed.



US chips act to destabilize global supply chains - expert

BEIJING

THE Chips and Science Act recently passed by the U.S. Congress will lead to destabilization of global supply chains in the chip industry, Li Yong, a senior fellow at the China Association of International Trade, has said.

In a recent interview with Xinhua, Li said the global chips industry has formed balanced supply chains through decades of international cooperation, and the U.S. chips act will disrupt such a cooperation model and impede global chip production efficiency.

The U.S. chip act is largely guided by the "America First" doctrine, said Li, noting that "this kind of chip hegemony pursued by the United States is at the expense of other participants in the industry."

The Chips and Science Act recently signed into law in the United States is purportedly aimed at promoting "re-shoring" of semiconductor manufacturing to the country by providing subsidies and tax credits to chipmakers.

The U.S. government, under the act, will provide over 52 billion U.S. dollars for American semiconductor research, development and manufacturing, and also offer a 25 percent investment tax credit for capital expenses.

If the manufacturing industry were transferred to the United States, Li said, the chip production costs would be raised and possible monopoly would emerge in the semiconductor field. "The consequence is that the balance in the industry will no longer exist due to hegemonic intervention," he said.

Considering the high input in the semiconductor industry, Li said that the 52 billion dollars pledged by the U.S. government is actually "a drop in the bucket," as even a manufacturing device can cost millions.



Photo taken on Sept. 17, 2021 shows the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C., the United States. (Xinhua/Liu Jie)

Besides, comparative advantage of different participants in the production process will disappear, and the industry will lose the benefits from global division of labor, he added.

What the U.S. chip act aims for runs counter to a fair and free trade order, said Li. "It also runs counter to the economic and market laws, and therefore it can hardly succeed."

The expert also said that the U.S. attempt to politicize the chip production has threatened the safety of the chip industry, and the benefits brought by global technological and scientific cooperation will also be undermined.

In the semiconductor field, the United States has an absolute advantage in chip design, said Li. By implementing

the chip act, "the United States is trying to weaponize such an advantage to maintain its hegemony in this area," he said.

To be more specific, he explained, "in its overall strategic layout, the United States will take chip technology as its core competency, and through controlling the chip production, it aims to control technological and scientific

development of the whole world."

"What the United States is trying to do not only aims to contain China, but also limits the benefits of the U.S. allies," Li said. "So the Act can hardly gain any support around the world."

Xinhua

Former far-right activist Meloni heads for Italian PM's office

ROME

IN her teens, Giorgia Meloni used to sneak out at the dead of night and help plaster her Rome neighborhood with far-right posters, playing a game of cat and mouse with leftist foes that could easily turn violent.

Fast forward 30 years and Meloni no longer needs clandestine sorties to get her message out. Instead, her image adorns billboards across the country ahead of elections on Sept 25 that could crown her as Italy's first female prime minister.

"It has been an incredible journey, but if I win the election, then that is not the end, it is really only the beginning," Meloni told Reuters last week from her parliamentary office that overlooks Rome's historic city center.

The rapid rise in Meloni's fortunes is intricately tied to the transformation of her own party, the Brothers of Italy, which has moved out of the shadows and into the mainstream, without ever fully repudiating its post-fascist roots.

Pollsters predict the group will emerge as Italy's largest party, taking up to 25 percent of the vote against just 4.3 percent in the 2018 election and leapfrogging once dominant allies - Matteo Salvini's League and Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia.

Friends and critics alike say the surge in support is largely due to the steady determination of 45-year-old Meloni, who won her first local election at 21 and became Italy's youngest ever minister when, at the age of 31, she was given the youth portfolio in Berlusconi's 2008 government.

Her ascent is especially notable considering her humble background in a country where family ties often trump merit.

She was brought up by a single mother in a working class district of the Italian capital after her father abandoned them following her birth, and has made no attempt to lose her strong Roman accent.

In her 2021 autobiography, 'I am Giorgia', Meloni says she found a new family aged 15, when she joined a local youth section of the Italian Social Movement (MSI), created in 1946 by supporters of



Ethiopian government soldiers ride in the back of a truck on a road near Agula, north of Mekele, in the Tigray region of northern Ethiopia on May 8, 2021. File photo

fascist dictator Benito Mussolini. Hard-working and feisty, she soon caught the eye of party activist Fabio Rampelli, who organized courses to train what he hoped would be a new generation of conservative politicians.

Flames and angels

The MSI was folded into a new body called National Alliance (AN) in the mid-1990s before merging with a mainstream conservative group created by former PM Berlusconi.

In her biggest political gamble, Meloni and a contingent of AN veterans left Berlusconi in 2012 and co-founded Brothers of Italy, named after the opening lines of the national anthem.

The party maintained the old flame symbol of the original MSI group and Italian media occasionally publish photographs showing fascist memorabilia in the offices of some Brothers of Italy regional politicians.

No such relics adorn Meloni's office. Instead there are numerous angel figurines, snaps of her 5-year-old daughter, chess sets, a photograph of Pope John Paul with Mother Teresa, and pots of colored pens she uses to take meticulous notes.

She herself dismisses any suggestion her party is nostalgic for the fascist era. She distances herself from a video that emerged this month of her as a teenager

speaking in French and praising Mussolini, an ally of Nazi leader Adolf Hitler in World War Two, as a "good politician". "Obviously I have a different opinion now," she said, without elaborating.

Meloni compares her party to the US Republican Party and Britain's Conservative Party. Patriotism and traditional family values are exulted, while political correctness and global elites are excoriated.

"Yes to natural families, no to the LGBT lobby, yes to sexual identity, no to gender ideology, yes to the culture of life, no to the abyss of death," she said in a speech in June to supporters of the Spanish rightist party Vox.

"No to the violence of Islam, yes to safer borders, no to mass immigration, yes to work for our people, no to major international finance," she continued, speaking in Spanish, her voice raising to a crescendo of anger.

'Underestimated'

Pollsters say the secret to her success is her apparent refusal to compromise and the steadfastness of her messaging.

Whereas her allies Salvini and Berlusconi joined forces with the center-left last year to form a unity government under Mario Draghi, Meloni refused, saying appointing an unelected former central banker was undemocratic.

Has US really 'exercised great restraint'?

AFTER the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi visited China's Taiwan region, the U.S., on the one hand, claimed that it "does not seek and will not provoke a crisis," and has "exercised great restraint," and on the other hand, accused China of launching justifiable and reasonable countermeasures, describing them as "very aggressive."

Such hypocrisy cannot hide the U.S. intention to escalate tensions in the Taiwan Strait through political provocation.

The U.S. has constantly obscured, hollowed out and distorted the one-China principle over years, slipping its own agenda in its one-China "policy."

It adopted the so-called "Taiwan Relations Act" and "Six Assurances," connived in Pelosi's visit and claimed she had the right to do so; issued a so-called joint statement with its allies to smear China's justifiable and reasonable countermeasures. Besides, Washington also spread fake information and made irresponsible remarks at the Series of Foreign Ministers' Meetings on East Asia Cooperation.

Has the U.S. really "exercised great restraint" given all these wrongful and arrogant practices? As a matter of fact, it is just saying so and doing the opposite.

Pelosi's visit was an awkward political farce. The U.S., keeping fanning the flame to escalate tensions and planning to make a bigger crisis, will only find itself on a collision course with an iron wall of steel forged by the resolution of the Chinese government and people to safeguard their core national interests, and find itself devastated in front of the strong willpower of the international society to safeguard international law, the basic norms governing international relations, and international justice.

The provocation by the outdated hegemonism and power politics will never succeed in today's world.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the issuance of the Shanghai Communiqué and the 40th anniversary of the issuance of the Au-

gust 17 communique. The two communiqués, together with the Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations, constitute the political foundation of China-U.S. relations, and their core essence is the one-China principle.

There is but one China in the world. Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal government representing the whole of China.

The U.S. has made a clear commitment of maintaining cultural, commercial, and other unofficial relations with Taiwan, and promised that it does not seek to carry out a long-term policy of arms sales to Taiwan, that its arms sales to Taiwan will not exceed, either in qualitative or in quantitative terms, the level of those supplied in recent years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and China, and that it intends gradually to reduce its sale of arms to Taiwan, leading, over a period of time, to a final resolution.

It is the three China-U.S. joint communiqués that have made it possible for the two countries with different social systems and ideologies and at different development stages, to have dialogue and cooperation, and achieve important outcomes that have benefited both sides and the world at large.

However, the U.S. has broken its commitment and backpedaled on the one-China principle, insisting on containing China's development with the Taiwan question, which severely impacted its bilateral relations with China. This will not only push Taiwan into a dangerous situation, but also cause grave consequences to the U.S.

Taiwan has been and will always be an inalienable part of China's territory. The Taiwan question is purely China's internal affair that brooks no foreign interference. The U.S. scheme to contain China's development with the Taiwan question, and to disturb and delay the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation is purely a daydream.

People's Daily

SPORT



Tanzanian actor Mahsein Awadh, popularly known as 'Dr. Cheni'.

Dar actor calls for investment in movie industry

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

VETERAN Tanzanian actor, Mahsein Awadh, has said that many of the country's actors and actresses fail to make progress due to a lack of investment in the field.

Awadh, popularly known as 'Dr. Cheni', points out that there is a need for members of the domestic movie industry, nicknamed 'Bongo Movie', to emulate efforts done by the late Steven Kanumba, a famous domestic actor during his life, claiming that he had invested in the field.

"Dr. Cheni" stated in an interview with one of the radio stations in Dar es Salaam, his statement proving the actor is eager to ensure the local movie industry enjoys success.

"Our colleague Kanumba seemed to be at the top because he found an investor in his

works, he was able to invest up to 20m/-," 'Dr. Cheni' noted.

The actor revealed the investor told Kanumba to write any kind of story and take actors and actresses from any place, and he will pay for the production.

He said in that context, Kanumba was the top branch of the brain, adding other domestic actors and actresses should emulate Kanumba's example.

"Our videos were worth 2m/-, they were hardly worth more than 5m/-, so the situation contributed to the loss of talent after Kanumba died," he said.

The veteran actor's comments moreover are a sure sign that the performer is determined to have the local movie industry bounce back and make progress the same way it did during Kanumba's life.

Mkwakwani Stadium ready to host 2022/23 NBC Premier League ties

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

COASTAL Union might get a chance to entertain Kilimanjaro's Polisi Tanzania in an NBC Premier League encounter at Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga, the venue's management confirmed.

According to the Premier League fixture issued by Tanzania Football Federation (TFF), the showdown's third round will have Coastal Union play host to Polisi Tanzania on September 10 in one of several other ties.

Mkwakwani Stadium (pictured) is one of five stadia stopped by the Tanzania soccer governing body to host any football match until necessary renovations are carried out.

On August 10, with five days left before the beginning of this season's NBC Premier League, TFF had through the federation's Information Officer Clifford Ndimbo announced to stop five stadia to host any of the top flight's clashes due to failure to meet standards.

Such stadia include Mkwakwani Stadium (Tanga), Nyankumbu Girls Secondary School Stadium (Geita), Jamhuri Stadium (Dodoma), Ushirika Stadium (Moshi), and Mabatini venue (Coast Region).

Due to that decision, Coastal Union and Polisi Tanzania were forced to temporarily use Arusha's Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium as the clubs' home stadium.

Coastal Union used the venue to host two matches against Dar es Salaam's Kinondoni Municipal Council FC and Yanga.

In an interview with The Guardian, Mkwakwani Stadium's Manager, Nassoro Makau

noted all directives issued by TFF in making sure the venue meets all standards for hosting Premier League duels have been fulfilled.

"Mkwakwani Stadium has been banned to host any Premier League fixture until some necessary renovations are carried out, I want to assure you that everything went smoothly and correctly. All we are waiting for is approval from TFF," he said.

He added: "If TFF will give us a permit to host Premier League encounters, the next match of the third round of NBC Premier League between Coastal Union and Polisi Tanzania would be played here."

Coastal Union's spokesperson, Miraji Wandu, conceded to have got information about his team being allowed to use Mkwakwani Stadium immediately after completion of renovation but no TFF official has confirmed.

The leader revealed: "Our squad is continuing with training ahead of NBC Premier League third round match against Polisi Tanzania but we are waiting for information on using Mkwakwani Stadium from the stadium's owners."

Recently, Minister for Health, Ummu Mwalimu, who doubles as Tanga Constituency's Member of Parliament, pledged to support Mkwakwani Stadium renovation aimed at seeing to it Coastal Union plays its home matches at the venue.

Such rehabilitation is conducted alongside other work of installing and fixing floodlights that will enable the venue to host night matches.

The work is implemented after Azam Media Limited sealed the contract with Mkwakwani Stadium's management, and, according to Makau, the work has reached 50 percent.



SPORTS

Dar poetess wins Human Value Award in academics

By Beatrice Philemon

WORLD record holder, poetess, educationalist, and information technology professional Mamta Saini has received the Human Value Award in academics for her world record achievements.

Mamta told The Guardian in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the award was presented to her in Tanzania by the founder of India-based Art of Living Foundation, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Ji, at the just-ended one-day Tanzania-India cultural event that took place last week.

The event was held at Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) in the city and was attended by more than 1200 people.

National anthems of Tanzania and India were played at the start of the occasion and the ceremony was done in the presence of Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Mohamed Mchengerwa, the ministry's Permanent Secretary, Hassan Abbas, Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC)'s Director Santhosh Raja, and all Art of Living Foundation's teachers.

African dances and Indian dances were moreover performed in the program.

"It was a wonderfully joyous ceremony and there were extremely joyous moments, four people from Tanzania got the privilege of receiving the Human Value Award by Gurudev Ji," he said.

Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Ji is a humanitarian, spiritual leader, and ambassador of peace and human values.

Through his life and work, he has inspired millions around the world to embrace a stress-free and violence-free world.

Mamta, daughter of late Shri Lalaram Saini and Smt. Rammurti Saini was born in a middle-class family in Bahadurgarh, Haryana-India.

The basic purpose of the life of the parents was simple living and high thinking, the result of which was seen in Mamta.

According to Mamta, being the youngest daughter of her family, she was the darling of her father and she



Indian poetess, Mamta Saini (3rd L), is presented with Human Value Award in academics by Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, the founder of Art of Living Foundation based in India (2nd L), in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Mamta that is moreover an educationalist, and information technology professional, is a world record holder in spirit, passion, and thinking. Others are Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports, Mohamed Mchengerwa (L), the ministry's Permanent Secretary, Hassan Abbas (partly hidden), and Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC)'s Director, Santhosh Raja (R). PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

had the privilege of being a talented student since childhood.

After receiving education up to class 10, she moved to India's capital, Delhi for studies, completing class 12 in science in 1992.

After that, she completed a Bachelor of Science degree in education. She passed the Master of Computer Application (MCA) from Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) in 2000.

After getting higher education, she got an opportunity to participate in nation-building by educating the coming generation of India. Mamta started working as a teacher in 2000 and, on April 26, 2002, entered married life.

She stated it was fortunate that her life partner, Rakesh Saini, a resident of Delhi that was always close to her, got the support and the love of the entire family and it was always with him in blessings.

From 2000 to 2012, Mamta worked as a computer teacher at JLDVA School, Paschim Vihar. Along with this journey, married life was run smoothly and by the grace of the Supreme Father, two sons Kanishk Saini and Nishant Saini were born to the couple.

According to Mamta, when Rakesh was employed in Tanzania, she left for the country with the rest of the couple's family and after two months, the teacher joined the Indian School of Dar es Salaam as a computer science teacher.

Mamta said that during this period, she got an MBA education but the journey of thought did not end here, a passion in her mind, the enthusiasm to do something else, and the courage to move forward. The courage and new flight inspired her to do something new and due to this inspiration, she was determined to do a doctorate in computer science, she got the distinction of obtaining a doctorate in 2018.

The Indian culture and the proud moment of being an Indian living abroad were going to thrill Rome.

While living here, she realized that the distance of miles could not come in the way of India's love and the feeling of being connected to roots kept motivating her to achieve something new for civilization and culture from time to time.

May the name of my Bharatvarsh remain high in the world, this passion, devotion to duty, and the culmination of doing something for India touched a peak that was not even imagined, Mamta stated. Mamta is serving Hindi while living abroad.

Mamta noted that she created the Antarrashtriya Kavya Premi Manch, to provide an online global platform for litterateurs to showcase their talents.

The platform seeks to organize dedicated programs in honour of India, its personalities gathering residents, as well as overseas Indian litterateurs on a single platform.

Mamta disclosed the words said by Prime Minister during the COVID-19 outbreak, 'turn even adversity into opportunity' awakened her conscience and inspired her to convert the time of epidemics like COVID-19 into opportunity.

By getting inspiration, Mamta has set five world records on the strength of her spirit, passion, and her different thinking.

Due to the respect being given to women by the government, she also got the motivation to contribute to women's efforts to build their nation and improve its pride.

Kiunsi delighted by selection for FINA Championships' officiating panel

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadonga

TANZANIA's sports tutor, Noel Kiunsi, the country's only referee selected to officiate the eighth edition of the FINA World Junior Swimming Championships to be hosted by Peru from August 30-September 4, said he has been delighted by the opportunity.

The Junior Swimming Championships get underway today, with participating countries' leaders meeting ahead of the showdown.

Kiunsi, the Principal Sports Tutor at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), is among three African referees selected to officiate in the global showpiece.

"I'm feeling good for my university, Tanzania Swimming Association (TSA), my country, continent, and the world at large, I'm excited with this opportunity," Kiunsi, the former TSA Secretary-General, noted.

Kiunsi that studied international coaching in swimming at Semmelweis University in Hungary, said he is one of the latest FINA officials with the capacity to officiate in any level of swimming championships including the Olympics.

Other local swimming officials that are on FINA's latest list with capabilities and eligibility like Kiunsi are Frank Lussawa and Jeremiah Keema.

FINA through the federation's Executive Director Brent Nowick disclosed in an invitation letter to Kiunsi and UDSM that the coming World Junior Swimming Championships officials and other delegates were expected to depart for Peru yesterday.

Part of the invitation said FINA will provide everything to all officials that will as well covered with travel and accident insurance which will be effective from the time of check-in and end the moment of return to the countries of residence.



Noel Kiunsi

This is the second time for Kiunsi to officiate at FINA championships, he first officiated the 12th edition of the FINA World Championships which were held in 2010 in the United Arab Emirates.

Another former TSA Secretary-General Ramadhan Namkoveka has since hailed Kiunsi for making a grade.

He said he expects Kiunsi to share the knowledge he will gain from Peru with local swimming referees and coaches.

"Kiunsi's appointment shows that he is highly rated for his performance both on and off the swimming pool, it is important for his career as well as for the country's recognition," Namkoveka disclosed.

The TSA official that is as well one of the qualified local swimming coaches, pointed

out: "He has an enviable record, having officiated in many international and local events."

He urged local swimming officials to emulate Kiunsi's achievements so that Tanzania can have more than five referees in the Paris Olympics and other international events.

He moreover asked TSA to come up with development plans which will see local officials secure a chance to officiate in international events.

Such tournaments include the Developmental Swimming Gala and regional championships like African Swimming Confederation (CANA) Zone 4 and 3.

Serena Williams prepares to retire as US Open ends Slam year

NEW YORK

THANKS to Serena Williams, this U.S. Open will be like none other.

Whether or not it actually does turn out to be the final event of her lengthy, storied and influential playing career – and in professional tennis, perhaps more than in any other sport, goodbyes sometimes end up being see-you-agains – the two-week hard-court tournament that begins Monday at Flushing Meadows and wraps up the 2022 Grand Slam calendar will be, first and foremost, about Williams.

As long as she remains in the field, at least. Williams faces Danka Kovinic, a 27-year-old from Montenegro, in Arthur Ashe Stadium in the first round of singles Monday night and also is entered in doubles with her sister, Venus.

The focus on Williams is fitting, because so much of the past two decades, and then some, of tennis, in general, and at the U.S. Open, in particular, have been about Williams, who turns 41 next month. There is that unmistakable skill with a racket in hand and indiminishable drive to be the best that led to 23 major singles championships, the No. 1 ranking and Olympic gold medals, and that transcendent, attention-demanding quality that made her a celebrity as much as a superstar athlete.

"In my view, she revolutionized tennis," said Chris Evert, who won 18 majors in the 1970s and 1980s. "She revolutionized the power in the game. And I feel like she really inspired women of color, because we've seen a lot more women of color playing the game. And I think that she's changed the way women compete, as far as it's OK to be ferocious and passionate and vocal out there, emotional out there on the court, and still be a woman."

The ways in which Williams – and, to be sure, 42-year-old Venus, the owner of seven Slam singles titles herself and Serena's partner for 14 major doubles trophies – changed the game are varied and numerous, and extend beyond the way their speedy serves and booming groundstrokes prompted, or even forced, other players to try to either match that style or figure out how to try to counter it.

"There was something inside both of them," said Rick Macci, a tennis coach who worked with both Williams siblings in the early 1990s, starting before they were teenagers. "When we competed or did competitive drills, I just saw something I never saw. They tried so hard to get to a ball, they almost fell over. Now you can try hard; that doesn't mean you're going to be world champion. But it was just another level."

Williams has said she doesn't know how to define her legacy, but it is all around, whether embodied by players who credit her with being an inspiration, such as four-time major champion Naomi Osaka or French Open runner-up Coco Gauff, or in rules changes that clearly, or at least likely, are a product of episodes involving her.

"Her legacy is really wide, to the point where you can't even describe it in words. She changed the sport so much. She's introduced people that have never heard of tennis into the sport. I think I'm a product of what she's done. I wouldn't be here without Serena, Venus, her whole family. I'm very thankful to her," Osaka said. "I also was trying to figure out how to sum it into words. I honestly think that she's the biggest force in the sport."

A line can be drawn to the decision this year by the U.S. Tennis Association to allow in-match coaching for women and men at a Grand Slam tournament for the first time from the chaotic 2018 U.S. Open final in which Williams ended up being docked a game after being warned about receiving instructions from her then-coach, Patrick Mouratoglou, during a loss to Osaka.

The proliferation of electronic line-calling, to the point that there are no line judges at U.S. Open matches anymore, can be traced back to a 2004 quarterfinal match at Flushing Meadows in which multiple erroneous rulings went against Williams during a loss to Jennifer Capriati.

At the U.S. Open alone, there were other run-ins with officials (who can forget the foot-fault brouhaha in her 2009 semifinal against Kim Clijsters), groundbreaking fashion choices (a catsuit in 2002; knee-high boots two years later) and plenty of triumphs, dating all the way back to 1999, when a 17-year-old Williams beat Martina Hingis for her initial Grand Slam trophy.

So the Ashe court provides a fitting backdrop for a farewell, although Williams did not quite explicitly say that she would never compete again after the U.S. Open while telling the world via an essay in Vogue magazine that she was prepared to begin "evolving away from tennis" to focus on having a second child and pursuing her business interests.

Every time she steps on court in New York will be treated as if it might be the last time. Even her practice sessions have been attended by throngs of fans in the days prior to the tournament's start.

"Who knows if there's going to be another Serena again? I doubt it," said Kovinic, who is ranked 80th this week and never has been past the third round at a major tournament. "I'm honored to have this chance to play her."

It will be only the fifth singles match for Williams over the past 12 months, because the American was off the tour from a first-round injury at Wimbledon last year until a first-round loss there this year. Since returning from that hiatus, Williams is 1-3, including straight-set defeats against Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Belinda Bencic and 2021 U.S. Open champion Emma Raducanu in her two most recent outings.

There was a time – not all that long ago, in the scheme of things – that Williams was considered the favorite in every match and at every tournament, especially at the four events that matter the most in the sport.

"I say: Don't underestimate her," said Evert, an ESPN analyst. "But the problem is the field. The problem is everybody else is getting better, too. ... There's a lot of good players out there now who, No. 1, aren't intimidated by her; and No. 2, know that she's not at her best at the moment; and No. 3, want to beat her."

Two days before her loss to Bencic in Toronto, and a day before revealing her thoughts about retirement (a word she said she dislikes), Williams said at a news conference: "I can't do this forever."

That's true, of course. No one, though, expects this to be the last the world hears of her, even if there really aren't any matches left to play.

"At the end of the day, her biggest stage was tennis," said Macci, the Williams' coach from years ago, "but I think her greatest act is yet to come."

AP

Max Allegri's honesty about Juventus' prospects will only hurt him in the long run

By Gab Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

MAX Allegri is his own man – you've got to give him that. And yet, he may be paying a price for it. After Monday night's unimpressive scoreless draw with Sampdoria, the Juventus coach got right to the point in his own somewhat counterintuitive way.

"We've started better than last season [when they had one point from the opening two games, as opposed to this season's four] and we've kept two clean sheets [true, though the opposition xG over those two matches was 1.98]," he said, as if speaking solely to the all-about-results brigade.

So far, so Max. Where he went off-script was when asked about the club's many absentees (Paul Pogba, Angel Di Maria, Federico Chiesa and Leo Bonucci are all injured, among others) and whether some of Juve's gifted youngsters (19-year-old Fabio Miretti, 20-year-old Nicolo Rovella or even 22-year-old Moise Kean) could pick up the slack.

Visibly annoyed, he pointed out errors that Miretti and Kean made during Monday's match, possibly due to inexperience, and then went on about how football has "tiers" and that footballers all belong to different "tiers" as if they were levels of membership in your frequent flyer program. Translated from "Allegri-speak," the conclusion was that Pogba, Di Maria, Chiesa, Bonucci and others are top players while these other guys are not ... at least for now. And as Captain Obvious reminds us, it's easier to win with your platinum level guys than your bronze level guys.

It's not the first time Allegri has said things along these lines. He has stated that tactics don't mean much because players win games and a coach's main job is simply putting the right guys in the right positions and letting them do their thing. He also made a famous NBA analogy about how when you're chasing a win at the end of games, football works no different than basketball: Give the ball to your best player and get out of the way.

It's tough sometimes to tell to what



Allegri needs to be careful when it comes to how he works with this Juventus team, because at the end of the day, he'll be judged on the results rather than his players. (Agencies)

degree he believes these things and to what degree he's playing a character. If it's the latter, you get the impression it's not doing him any favors.

After leaving Juventus in 2019, he spent two years on the market hoping to land a job at a big club outside Italy since, having won with both Milan and Juve, the only way up was outside Serie A. Yet despite talks with virtually every big club who changed managers between 2019 and 2021, he stayed put, which is kind of surprising when you consider that this is a guy who won six Serie A titles and twice reached the Champions League final.

I suspect it has to do with the fact that he doesn't quite fit the mold of what big clubs want or, at least, what they think they want. He's not Mr. Intensity or an uber-motivator like, say, a Jose Mourinho or an Antonio Conte. He doesn't project himself as some kind of tactical savant, like Pep Guardiola or Julian Nagelsmann. The closest comp you get, perhaps, is Carlo Ancelotti, the pragmatic man-manager type, except Allegri isn't a jolly polyglot and hasn't

won four Champions League titles. It's also hard to imagine Ancelotti speaking postgame the way Allegri often does, putting his players into tiers – I'll bet Miretti and Kean felt great about that – or making it all about the guys who were not available.

Allegri's personality won't change at this stage of his life. Nor should it, necessarily; he can point to his track record as evidence that it hasn't stood in the way of success. And besides, there are some who love his folksy, unpretentious, "do not over-complicate the game" and "beware of coaches who use words like footballing philosophy" schtick. But this is a season in which he really needs to deliver.

Juventus finished fourth last year in his first season back. They had four significant departures in the summer – Alvaro Morata, Matthijs De Ligt, Paulo Dybala and Giorgio Chiellini – but they added big free agents like Di Maria and Pogba, as well as Filip Kostic and Gleison Bremer, and they'll likely add another forward before the window closes (possibly Memphis De-

pay possibly or, more likely, Arkadiusz Milik from Marseille). It's been a "budget" transfer campaign partly because of hefty losses in previous years (most, not all, pandemic-related), and largely because they made their big splash back in January, when they added Denis Zakaria and Dusan Vlahovic.

On paper, pound-for-pound, they may be a notch behind the Milan clubs in terms of overall talent. But when you factor in the buzz and excitement surrounding Napoli and Roma, a top-four finish and a decent Champions League showing – the minimum requisites in terms of results, since that's how Allegri likes to be judged – are not to be taken for granted. And the injuries to Pogba and Chiesa don't help matters much.

If a different type of coach fell short, they could point to other factors to keep their job: performances, tactical growth, youngsters getting better and better. With Allegri, however, that's tough to do. After all, when you argue that tactical vision and philosophy are just pretentious bunk, and you imply that superstars are born and not made, or that youngsters need to move up the "tiers" before they can be trusted, the only thing that will save you is results.

Morata, Ansu and Moreno can lead Spain to big things at the World Cup

By Graham Hunter, ESPN Spain writer

ANSU Fati, Gerard Moreno and Alvaro Morata are three strikers playing in LaLiga who, if they have a special run of games, are sufficiently talented to inspire Spain to winning the World Cup this winter.

It's just over 90 days until La Roja kick off against Costa Rica in Doha, a month until Spain play Switzerland in their penultimate pre-World Cup warm-up, which means Luis Enrique's already hawkish attention to detail will be at DEFCON 1 right now regarding his potential squad members' form, behaviour and fitness. When these three men, who could feasibly line up together in a 4-3-3 formation – Ansu left, Morata in the middle and Moreno on the right – had distinctly different experiences for their club this weekend, Spain's boss will have been drawing important conclusions.

Ansu began the game on the subs' bench, but scored and assisted in a startlingly good cameo role during Barcelona's 4-1 win over Real Sociedad. Moreno worked like a Trojan at Atletico Madrid and scored in the 97th minute to seal a 2-0 win on a night when, previously, everything he touched turned to mould. The Villarreal forward was creaky, cranky and out of tune... until he scored.

Morata is the one who, on the face of it, got nothing from his Sunday night exploits against Moreno & Co. No win, no goal, no assist: no palpable return for the decent shift he put in trying to dent Villarreal's tremendously disciplined and frustrating defensive structure. But Spain's hard-nosed, deeply idiosyncratic coach absolutely does not judge on "results only." Morata was in a direct head-to-head battle with Moreno, and I'm willing to bet that the 29-year-old actually did enough to advance his claim to remain Spain's starting centre-forward – so long as he's fit, anyway.

Admittedly, the stats are on my side –

Morata has started 17 of the past 21 Spain matches for which he's been available – and played in 20 of them. The man who has 26 goals in 56 internationals managed to put efforts on target, linked well with Joao Felix and pressed his yellow-shirted opponents.

Meanwhile, long before Villarreal opened the scoring and before Moreno added that late second goal, Villarreal's saturnine, talented, tough-minded attack leader was having a bad day at the office. He lashed out at mis-hit volleys, badly mistimed a diving header, and even headed up and onto the bar when he should have scored, before inexplicably choosing to punch the rebound into the net rather than just stopping down properly and heading the ball beyond Jan Oblak.

Typically, however, Moreno was still on the pitch with seconds left in order to profit from a terrific Alfonso Pedraza counterattack and bury Villarreal's winner. Some might say that's the difference between the two men. Morata is sparky, diligent, aerially good and a regular scorer, but he's too easygoing and lighthearted to be the kind of hard-nosed, win-at-any-cost goal-grabber that Moreno most certainly is.

The junior partner in this equation, Ansu, is literally a phenomenon. There will be plenty of time before the World Cup to analyse his play and appreciate

that, after some of the most brutal luck with injuries, operations and recuperation, he genuinely looks as if he's back. Big time. Nor should anyone ignore Ferran Torres (Barcelona), Dani Olmo (RB Leipzig), Mikel Oyarzabal (Real Sociedad), Yeremi Pino (Villarreal) or Pablo Sarabia (Paris Saint-Germain) either, but Morata is clearly in pole position to occupy that centre-forward spot. His career record sparkles – spells at Real Madrid, Chelsea, Atletico Madrid and Juventus, collecting 19 winners' medals – yet some will argue that all that glitters isn't gold.

Morata's consistently had to bounce around from club to club, seeking approval and in search of a place to call "home," but in the process, he's changed radically. We're looking at someone who's won the title in Italy and Spain, who's played in three Champions League finals – scoring in one of them, winning the other two – has been European champion with Spain at two different age categories (and tournament top scorer each time) yet there will be many doubting he can propel Luis Enrique's team to the big one in Qatar.

Morata's happy-go-lucky nature and "big kid made it good" personality have might have hindered him being the best version of himself as a footballer. Now, though, he's come through a brutal back injury and some serious mental anguish; he's happily married and a dad

to three kids plus, crucially, he's spent years training every day against Giorgio Chiellini, Leonardo Bonucci and Gigi Buffon. No quarter asked or given there.

No longer is Morata the guy who was happy just to be "along for the ride." Maturity might have come late, but he's there now. It's partly thanks to a few successful experiments with psychologists – notably Joaquin Valdes, who has been Luis Enrique's right-hand man wherever he's coached.

Last summer, at the height of the abuse he was taking from stupid, intemperate Spain "fans," Morata explained about Valdes: "He's been a great help and we don't just talk about football. Players are simply human beings with our own fears and insecurities, many of which have nothing to do with our profession.

"It's good to have people around you you can talk to and who can help. We take our bodies to the gym, we use specialist physios to be in peak condition, we are scientific about our diet: why shouldn't we attempt to 'train the brain'?"



SPORT

Allegri's honesty about Juventus' prospects will only hurt him in the long run

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

2022 FIFA World Cup set to rake in \$6bn in revenue

By Guardian Correspondent

THE CEO of the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qatar, Nasser Al-Khater, has confirmed that the revenues of the World Cup will reach approximately six billion US dollars, according to FIFA's estimates.

He issued the exclusive statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), stating that the World Cup ticket sales have witnessed a great demand, which surprised FIFA officials in light of the high numbers of turnout.

The CEO revealed that tickets for the match between Mexico and Argentina were the highest in terms of sales, followed by the match pitting Saudi Arabia against Argentina in second place, and tickets for both matches were sold out.

The official noted: "We finished the second phase of sales on August 16, and the third phase will be open next September."

He stressed that the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy took into account the high demand for World Cup tickets due to Qatar's geographical location near large Asian countries in terms of the population like China and India, as well as European countries.

Al-Khater said that 3.2 million tickets are the total number of tickets for the tournament, one-third of which will be allocated to sponsors and broadcasters, wishing the tournament success and stadiums full of fans.

"Sales of hospitality suites in the World Cup Qatar have had a great achievement after exceeding the percentage achieved in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, which was one of the largest and most successful sales in the world championships," he noted.

Al-Khater welcomed the people of the Gulf region to Qatar to contribute to the success of the first World Cup in the Arab world and the Middle East, considering that Qatar represents the Arab world, wished all the brothers to attend and enjoy the World Cup.

The Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy issued a guide, known as 'Your Matches, Events, Celebrations, and All Your Stay in Qatar'.

The guide contains details of the venues and times of the events that will accompany the 2022 World Cup Qatar, which will be held from November 20-December 18.

The guide will accompany the activities of the tournament, enthusiastic atmosphere, dazzling experiences, with the participation of the brightest stars, international shows, and amazing destinations, in addition to 12 archaeological sites and castles that will be available for visitors to Qatar in the tournament to visit, along with 23 museums.

The guide stated that the fans will experience the World Cup with an Arab character and a Qatari touch.



Tanzania's senior national soccer squad 'Taifa Stars' head coach, Kim Poulsen. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Kim Poulsen replaced as Taifa Stars' head coach

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA Football Federation (TFF) has confirmed the removal of senior national team's head coach Kim Poulsen from his role.

The Danish tactician was appointed to replace Burundian Etienne Ndayiragije who was let go after failing to make it past the group stage in the 2020 African Nations Championship (CHAN) in Cameroon with the team.

The side, nicknamed 'Taifa Stars', lost one, drew one, and won one game to finish third behind Guinea and Zambia in the continental showpiece.

Poulsen was sacked one day after Tanzania lost 1-0 at home to Uganda Cranes in a 2023 CHAN Qualifiers' duel last Sunday.

In a match played at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, substitute Travis Mutyaba netted a late goal to hand Uganda Cranes an advantage before the return leg slated for September 3 at the St. Mary's Stadium in Kitende, Uganda.

The federation's statement revealed: "Tanzania Football Federation has reached an agreement to remove Kim Poulsen and his staff from the technical bench."

"The two parties have reached that agreement after holding consultation talks together," read the press release.

Poulsen (aged 62) has also had two spells as Tanzania's national junior team's head coach, with the highlight of his career turning out to be leading the team, alias 'Serengeti Boys', to the 2017 U-17 Africa Cup of Nations in Gabon.

He also led Tanzania's national U-23 side to the CECAFA U-23 Challenge tournament's triumph in Ethiopia last year.

Upon his appointment last year, he was tasked with leading Tanzania back to the Total Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) Cameroon 2021 as well as giving a strong shot at the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qatar qualifiers where Taifa Stars failed to make an impression on both tournaments.

In the 2023 AFCON qualifiers, Poulsen led Tanzania to an opening round away draw against Niger before falling 2-0 at home to group favourites Algeria in March this year.

Tanzania has been pooled together with Uganda, Algeria, and Niger.

However, TFF added Poulsen will continue with his national junior team coaching roles until the end of his contract.

Former Zambia national team head coach Honour Janza has been appointed for Taifa Stars' coaching duty on an interim basis.

Janza who is currently coaching NBC Premier League club, Namungo FC, will be assisted by former Mtibwa Sugar and Kagera Sugar head coach Mecky Mexime, and goalkeeping coach Juma Kaseja.

The two parties have reached that agreement after holding consultation talks together

Azam FC announces head coach Abdihamid departure

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

ABDIHAMID Moallin has become the first 2022/23 NBC Premier League head coach of the season to be sacked as Azam FC announced his departure on Monday afternoon.

Azam FC has made the decision just two league games into the new season, and just over a week after settling for a 1-1 draw with Geita Gold FC in a clash held at the Azam Complex Stadium at Chamazi on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam.

The two sides drew 1-1, with Geita Gold FC scoring a second-half equalizer thanks to a free kick by fullback Adeyoun Saleh despite Azam FC's dominance throughout.

The club confirmed goalkeeping coach Daniel Cadena will take interim charge with the process of appointing a new head coach underway.

Azam FC's statement noted: "We have reached a bilateral agreement with our coach, Abdihamid Moallin, and his assistant, Omary Nasser, to step down as head coach and assistant respectively."

"For now, goalkeeping coach Daniel Cadena will take the reins until we announce a new coach," it revealed.

Moallin was only appointed in December 2021 as a replacement for Zambian George Lwandamina on a three-year contract and became Azam FC's fifth coach in only three-and-a-half years.

Before working with the Azam FC first team, the Somali-born coach was appointed as the side's academy director - the position he held for two weeks.

In addition, he was designated as the club's performance analyst for the senior team.

He has previously worked in the American Major League Soccer (MLS) with Columbus Crew FC (2014-2016), as the team's assistant coach and also with youth teams of U-18 and U-23.

He has also served on D.C. United FC as an assistant coach in 2019.

Last season was a disaster at Azam FC, but the side did ultimately secure the CAF Confederation Cup qualification on the fi-



Abdihamid Moallin. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

nal day of the campaign under Moallin. Ahead of his first full campaign in charge, head coach Moallin called for decisive action in the transfer market.

Azam FC responded with a flurry of transfer activity which built up a lot of expectations.

Ahead of the new campaign, the Azam FC squad looked very different, as there were nine arrivals coupled with a series of departures.

Given the number of players they have recruited and the upgraded technical bench, which included coaches from Spain and Portugal, the onus is on the team to mount a credible title challenge and perhaps more important to qualify for the elusive CAF Confederation Cup group stage.

Unbeaten and with four points out of a possible six is not a bad start to the

season but there is an air of massive expectation at the club after the last four years of frustrations.

Speaking after the frustrating draw with Geita Gold FC, Moallin hinted at the burden of expectation on his side.

The coach said: "We have a good team, we have expectations. We have to improve, we have to continue to learn."

"Some of the guys we have are playing teams like Geita Gold FC for the first time, it is difficult," Moallin revealed.

"Now they understand the league is not going to be easy as I always say to them every opponent is difficult, every game is a challenge."

While Simba SC and Yanga have won various trophies, Azam FC has fumbled and flailed around, with numerous coaches failing to find a winning formula.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 EATV TUESDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

MJADALA

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 Mperampera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 5SPORTS (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mperampera
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:00 Zote kuntu
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hits
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

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06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM