



Guardian BUSINESS
Banga navigates geopolitics and tight capital for WB job

PM: Let women, youths go for opportunities available through programme led by CRDB Bank



Saudi Aramco posts blowout annual profit, raises dividend




JNHPP power generation tests now set for January

By Francis Kajubi, Rufiji

THE first test run for electricity generation at the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project (JNHPP) is expected in January next year, site supervisors maintain.

Lutengano Mwandambo, the resident engineer at the site, told journalists on a media tour along the Rufiji water basin that along with this projection, strenuous efforts were being undertaken to ensure sustainability of water flow to the dam feeding the power station.

Prof Japhet Kashaigili, coordinator for research and publications at the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) said that to sustain water resources in the Rufiji basin there should be proper water allocation for different purposes.

The agro-specialised institution was running a 30 month project from March 2021 on 'sustainable management of river flows' in collaboration with the National Environment Management Council (NEMC), he stated, explaining the project being executed on Mbarali River seeks to identify the effects of human activities along rivers that feed the Rufiji basin.

"Natural vegetation has been badly affected by haphazard irrigation farming and livestock feeding even within 60 metres from the rivers," he elaborated.

“The council has for two years campaigned for tree planting in schools along with public and private institutions. Everyone is responsible for protecting the natural environment from climate change effects and sustaining water resources”

The project funded at \$190,000 by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will be sustained in Mbarali District, to look closely at suggested measures of sustaining water sources.

Research findings on hand so far, suggest the need for strong enforcement of environmental laws to curb economic activities close to river banks, the don said.

TURN TO Page2



Amon Mugeta (with microphone), a representative of the Tanzania Higher Learning Institutions Students Organisation (TAHLISO), briefs Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after the opening of a seminar on the empowerment of youth and women start-ups through the IMBEJU programme. The programme is jointly run by CRDB Bank Plc, the Information and Communication Technologies Commission (ICTC), and the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (Costech). Its thrust is on empowering women and youth economically by affording them capital and other support to develop their businesses. The event was organised in marking CRDB Bank Uwekezaji Day. To the PM's right is Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Nape Nnauye while to his left is CRDB Bank group CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela. Story on Page 13. Photo: . Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Minister expects UHC bill tabling next month

By Guardian Reporter

HEALTH minister Umy Mwalimu expects that the Universal Health Insurance (UHI) Bill will be formally tabled in the April sitting in the legislature.

The minister aired these expectations in an assessment report on the ministry for the two years of the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, devoted largely to the rapid expansion of health sector facilities in the past half-decade.

She said that despite being tabled earlier, the bill could not be read in the February 9 sitting, noting that the

“The current health insurance law does not cover all groups of people, omitting upwards of 85 percent of Tanzanians,”

government took the first steps for the preparations of UHI Bill in 2012.

After 10 years of discussions by various groups, the government completed the draft Bill and tabled it in

Parliament, received its first reading, she said.

In the September 2022 session of the House, the minister said the government was moving to enact a universal health insurance law to make the insurance system take up the larger part of the population, who would contribute to improve access to treatment at affordable costs.

"The current health insurance law does not cover all groups of people, omitting upwards of 85 percent of Tanzanians," she had stated, where by

TURN TO Page2

NBS: Tanzania now one of the countries resilient to inflation

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE national inflation rate has remained stable for the past ten years as Tanzania increasingly becomes one among economically resilient countries, a top statistician has observed.

Ruth Minja, the director of population census and social statistics at the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) made this affirmation when briefing journalists on the trend of the consumer price index (CPI) here at the weekend.

She said CPI growth remained at single digit from 2011 to 2015, rising to an average of 9.7 percent at that time. Then it declined to 4.1 percent on average from 2016 to 2020. Despite drawbacks of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021 and 2022, the rate of inflation was low, held back at an average of 4.0 percent, she said, noting that the government takes various initiatives to ensure that inflation remains low.

"The government is keen on implementing financial policies aimed at controlling the effects of imported inflation," she said, asserting that in comparison with other countries in Africa and Asia, the CPI for February 2023 makes Tanzania second to China with the lowest CPI growth of 2.1 percent. Tanzania stood at 4.8 percent average growth, she said.

The February CPI was a slight drop from 4.9 percent in January, with the director noting that inflation rates differ significantly among East African Community partner states. Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya, the traditional EAC members, had varying inflation rates as Kenya recorded a slight increase from 9.0 percent in January to 9.2 percent in February. Uganda experienced a decrease from 10.4 percent in January to 9.2 percent in February, she stated.

TURN TO Page2



'Enough of secondary schools, build technical ones'

“Many schools we build are not of certificate level, hence if you build technical schools your children will get technical education certificates. If you are a technician ...”

By Guardian Correspondent, Lushoto

EDUCATION stakeholders need to think of building technical schools for the youth to gain skills for self-employment to generate income, the ruling CCM has declared.

Abdulrahman Kinana, the party's vice chairman (Mainland), made this

affirmation when flagging off the building of the Lushoto main mosque in Tanga Region, before top national leader of the National Muslim Council (BAKWATA). He issued that advice after a report delivered at the gathering in regard to buildings to be added in the mosque area said they include a primary school

and a secondary school. "You have plans to build these schools, but my advice is to build technical schools as secondary schools are already too many. If you build them they will be demanding fees while the government provides free secondary education," he said. "Many schools we build are not of certificate level,

hence if you build technical schools your children will get technical education certificates. If you are a technician, even if you are not employed you can employ yourself and generate income," he stated. In the circumstances, the council needs to build

TURN TO Page2

Minister expects UHC bill tabling next month

FROM PAGE 1

the end of 2021 just 8.5million were insured out of an estimated 57.7m people or 17 per cent of the total population.

On a different note, she said health centres across the country have increased from 6,871 in 2015/2016 to 19,380 in 2021/22, with employees in the sector increasing from 86,152 in 2015/16 to 102,469 in 2021/22. Budget allocation for drugs and reagents increased from 30bn/- in 2016/16 to 230bn/- in 2021/23, with the government accomplished numerous projects in the two years of the sixth phase authorities, she stated.

To strengthen specialists' services at regional levels, the government was installing CT-Scan machines at the zonal and regional referral hospitals, altogether 28 hospitals, she said. The ministry has reviewed guidelines on treatment and issuance of essential drugs, while boosting

the availability, distribution and storage of drugs with big improvements in operations of the Medical Stores Department (MSD), she explained. A total of 10,462 employees in various health cadres were hired in 2021/2022 and stationed in local councils by weighing their needs, following PO-RALG ex-deputy minister Dr Festo Dugange announcing the vacancies last month. He said from the 7,612 vacancies in July last year, Tanganyika District was allocated with 62 workers in various health cadres including doctors for hospitals, health centres and dispensaries.

Efforts in health sector education would be boosted by the Samia Scholarships, where this year the government has granted 457 sponsorships, with 318 selected in the normal procedures and 139 picked in a special manner as part of the president's plan to increase specialists in the sector.



The Netherlands' Ambassador to Tanzania, Wiebe de Boer (seated-C), poses for a souvenir photo with stakeholders from government and various other institutions in Arusha city at the weekend during the launch of the Northern Highlands Education Programme. This is meant to create high-impact learning by addressing an existing knowledge gap in Tanzania's horticultural sector. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Enough of secondary schools, build technical ones'

FROM PAGE 1

technical schools for the youth to access technical training closer to home, he said, stressing the need for Muslims to increase efforts in religious and

science education to properly raise the younger generation.

He said good manners arise from religious instruction, citing remarks from President Samia Suluhu Hassan as

to building Tanzania on a solid foundation of ethics and solidarity among the people.

The Mufti, Sheikh Aboubakar Zubeir bin Ali used the occasion to seek out followers to contribute for the construction of the

mosque, castigating unending intrigues among them.

"There are intrigues, many people do not think about correct worship," he said, lamenting that the habit can destroy people. After a mosque leader

is appointed, after a few days he is told that he is not fit for that position, he said, asserting that the reason is intrigues. "If we continue like this we will not achieve our goals," he cautioned.

NBS: Tanzania now one of the countries resilient to inflation

FROM PAGE 1

The variation arises from ability of countries to maintain resilience in the face of international factors like oil price increase along with quantity of imports of price sensitive products.

The changes are also linked to changes in consumption patterns as many people tend to adopt substitution products, consuming fewer cereals and taking up potatoes, bananas, etc, she said.

In the February CPI, wheat flour, maize, rice and cooking oil showed a surge in prices, with maize rising 5.8 percent, rice (32.7per cent) and wheat (7.1 per cent). Mbayuni Saruni, an economist with the Treasury, government efforts to contain inflation included urgent steps to improve agricultural production, highlighting subsidies on farm inputs and improved seeds to increase production. The government was sensitive of grain importation problems in the wake of the war in Ukraine, cutting off access to giant wheat exporters of Ukraine and Russia. A stable supply of energy is also set out for industrial needs, while working closely with the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) to monitor global prices of petroleum products, he added.



Mahmoud Thabit Kombo (L), Tanzania's Ambassador to Italy, now also accredited to Malta, presents his letters of credence to Maltese President Dr George Vella at State House in the capital, Valletta, at the weekend. Photo: Foreign Affairs and EAC

JNHPP power generation tests now set for January

FROM PAGE 1

Rose Mtui, the NEMC environmental research manager, said that environment and water resources protection is a duty of every responsible citizen.

"The council has for two years campaigned for tree planting in schools along with public and private institutions. Everyone is responsible for protecting the natural environment from climate change effects and sustaining water resources," she emphasised.

Protection of water resources and the environment along the basin will guarantee the project sustainability, the engineer stated, noting that building three power houses for electricity generation is ongoing.

The first one is projected for completion by September, with testing projected for next January. It will involve yielding 235 megawatt for one power station, he stated.

The second and the third power stations will be completed in October and December, he said, indicating that the dam has been so far filled with water to 136 feet above sea level.

The required upper level is 163 feet above the sea level, with construction of the dam having reached 83.3 percent as at the start of this month, he said.

"The dam is most likely to be filled to the required level in the next month if there will be plenty of rain as expected from late March," he said.

It was expected the dam would take two years to be fully filled with water but the current water flows quickened the pace, he said.

The dam is billed to be filled with 30.67 billion cubic metres for the maximum 2,115 megawatt power generation yield, with experts monitoring the pace of its being filled up since the opening of the water filling tunnel by President Samia Suluhu Hassan last December. The dam has so far taken up 2.5 billion cubic metres, he

Heavy rains hit Mozambique as Cyclone Freddy lands again

MAPUTO

Heavy rains and winds lashed parts of Mozambique on Saturday as Tropical Cyclone Freddy hit the country for the second time in two weeks, authorities and aid agencies said.

Satellite images showed Freddy, which is on track to become the longest-lasting cyclone on record, made its second landfall near the eastern seaport of Quelimane at around 10:00 pm (2000 GMT).

"Freddy made landfall in Mozambique in Quelimane district, Zambezia province, as a tropical cyclone," the UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said in a statement.

A high risk of flooding was forecast for Zambezia and neighbouring Nampula province, it added.

Water levels at several river basins were already above alert level, OCHA said.

Heavy rains and strong winds started to batter the area in the morning, according to the Mozambique National Meteorology Institute (INAM).

"There is already quite substantial flooding," Guy Taylor, a spokesman for the UN children's agency UNICEF, told AFP from Quelimane earlier on Saturday.

"We saw people with water in their houses, wading through knee-deep water. And that's just with this initial bit of rain."

On Friday, authorities said more than half

a million people were at risk.

The storm was expected to drop up to 400 millimetres (16 inches) of rain over the next few days, more than twice the usual monthly rainfall.

According to the UN World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), Freddy, which formed off northwestern Australia in the first week in February, was set to become the longest-lasting tropical cyclone on record.

It crossed the entire southern Indian Ocean and battered Madagascar from February 21, crossing the island before reaching Mozambique on February 24.

Following what meteorologists describe as a "rare" loop trajectory, Freddy then

headed back towards Madagascar before moving once more towards Mozambique.

During the first deadly visit it destroyed, damaged or flooded more than 28,000 homes, affecting about 166,000 people.

In total, Freddy has so far killed at least 27 people – 10 in Mozambique and 17 in Madagascar.

Taylor noted concern that renewed flooding could exacerbate a cholera outbreak that has killed at least 38 people and infected almost 8,000 since September.

The disease, which causes diarrhoea and vomiting, is contracted from a bacterium that is generally transmitted through contaminated food or water.

AGENCIES



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend presenting a certificate to Kilombero Sugar Company's head of human resources, Diana Mwakitwange, in recognition of the firm's sponsorship to the just-ended 5th Annual Leadership Conference 2023 organised by the Association of Tanzania Employers. The conference ran under the theme: 'The role of digital transformation in enhancing gender equality in Tanzania's economy: Effectiveness, challenges and opportunities'. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TAOA agitates for fair investment policies in Z'bar

By Guardian Reporter

A KEY driver of the aviation industry has exhorted the Zanzibar government to accord foreign and local firms an equal treatment in investment opportunities.

Tanzania Aviation Operators Association (TAOA) pleaded with the Zanzibar government to refrain from enacting policies that favour foreign or local companies in investment prospects, as they would be deemed discriminatory, and thus illegal under the World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules.

"We explicitly appreciate and support the ongoing reforms by the Zanzibar government albeit with reservations on the way the Zanzibar Airports Authority had awarded exclusive rights to a foreign firm to render ground handling services at Terminal III," said the TAOA Chief Executive Officer, Lathiifa Sykes in a statement.

Truly, on September 14, 2022, the Zanzibar Airports Authority (ZAA) issued a directive granting the Dubai National Air Travel Agency (DNATA) exclusive access to the \$120 million worth state-of-the-art Abeid Amani Karume International Airport new terminal.

The ZAA also ordered all ground handling firms that used to operate at Zanzibar's Abeid Amani Karume International Airport until December 1, 2022 to vacate the newly constructed Terminal III, instructing airlines to make arrangements to work with DNATA.

DNATA is one of the world's largest air

service providers, offering ground handling, cargo, travel, and flight catering services across five continents.

"There was no transparency in the tendering process. We are not even sure if it was advertised, in the first place, for both local and foreign companies to bid in a fairground," Sykes argued.

The TAOA CEO added: "We are worried because the ground-handling firms that used to operate have since been locked out of Terminal III and just a fortnight ago, they have embarked on laying off 200 workers as a measure to cut overhead costs. The penalties for non-compliance with WTO rules are extensive."

Besides those being laid off, some whose contracts are about to expire, will also not be renewed, as the employers seek to cut off what they have termed as a huge 'wage bill'. This comes after the Regional Labour Officer Mohammed Ali Salum approved the retrenchment of the workers after ground handlers complied with the commission's demands.

"The Labour Commissioner has given you go ahead with the retrenchment exercise at your institution. Please, ensure all due payments are made as required by the law," reads the letter signed by Salum. One of the casualties, the Zanzibar Aviation Services & Travel Trade (ZAT), has been operating at the airport for the past 27 years with a concession agreement that runs until 2030, with a client base that features world class airlines and over 300 employees.

'Tanzania takes leap in economic diplomacy'

By Felister Peter

TANZANIA has reaped more benefits from economic diplomacy following new directives by the President Samia Suluhu Hassan to the Ministry of Foreign and East African Cooperation, according to diplomatic analysts.

President Samia in 2021 directed the ministry to strengthen international relations, saying Tanzania needs to keep good connection with other nations across the world.

Women in Diplomacy Forum has commended President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her continued efforts to open up the country in various economic and diplomatic sectors.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during a special conference organised by the forum, a veteran diplomat Ambassador Liberata Mulamula said President Samia is a champion of diplomacy.

The conference that was part of activities to mark the International Women's Day (IWD) brought together ambassadors and diplomats from various institutions, government and private companies.

"Diplomacy is used in many things, including conflict resolution where problems are solved through dialogue. I am encouraged that this gathering includes women from the public sector," she said.

Ambassador Mulamula added: "We also have wom-

en from the business community; this is important because diplomacy is also used in business. You can use diplomacy to attract customers."

She said Tanzania is an icon of diplomacy, the thing that contributes to prevailing peace and harmony. She said the great job done by the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere and now President Samia has seen Tanzania's diplomacy improved.

"The President has opened-up the country; the whole world is now looking at Tanzania. There are many things to celebrate in the area of diplomacy as President Samia clocks two years in office. She has brought us grace and comfort in almost every area," she remarked.

Mulamula added: "We are grateful to our President; we love and respect her, in her two years I was lucky enough to serve as Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Corporation. We will meet to congratulate her on March 19th as she completes two years as the President."

Honorary Ambassador of Sey-

chelles, Maryvonne Poll, who has been in Tanzania for 41 years, said that President Samia has been at the forefront in championing diplomacy as well as using it on various issues.

"All women are ambassadors because you don't need to be a diplomat to practice diplomacy. Women are ambassadors AT home, in business and so many other places. We are following the footprints of Mama Samia because she is the number one diplomat in Tanzania," said Ambassador Poll.

Founder of the Women in Diplomacy Forum, Kaneni Mushi said the conference has brought a number of women from various sectors including young girls pursuing diplomatic courses at the Centre for Foreign Relations (CFR) in Kurasini, Dar es Salaam.

Mushi said the main purpose of the conference was to celebrate women diplomats including President Samia as the number one diplomat.

She said the forum focuses on economic diplomacy that is why it has brought participants from various sectors.

Human rights activist calls upon women to wage war on GBV

By Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

A DAR ES SALAAM-based human rights activist Gema Akilimali has said that gender-based violence has greatly increased in society, calling upon women to fight against it.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend at an event to celebrate the International Women's Day, marked every March 8, Akilimali urged women to behave accordingly when at home to avoid being beaten by their husbands.

"Some women read messages on their husband's mobile phones; it is a waste of time, you should concentrate and focus on income generating activities," she said.

Akilimali called upon women to report violence acts against children that are sometimes committed by their husbands. She said there are women who hesitate to report such cases over fears of being denied daily family care.

"Incidences of sexual violence are on the rise; let us join hands in fighting such acts as we also fight for our rights to equality, freedom, access to resources and leadership," said Gema

She said women should strive to improve their welfare through establishment of small businesses depending on where they live. She said there are various opportunities that women can take advantage of to start businesses.

"We should not wait to be employed; there are many jobs and business opportunities in our living environment. The important thing is to make sure whatever we produce is packaged properly," she said.

The gender activist urged women to keep an eye on the national budget and other government development plans to know how it touches their lives. She said being aware of the government plans and budget will enable them to clearly identify their agenda and push for its implementation.

She said it is important for Tanzanians at all levels to participate in the preparation of national budgets because every citizen has his/her own issues she wants them included in development plans.

Member of the Women Fund Tanzania Trust, Mere Lusindi said the International Women's Day reminds women of their responsibilities when pushing for their

rights as well as those of children.

Mere said: "It is good to reflect on the strategies we are using when fighting against gender violence and sexual

corruption. Enhancing our efforts in this fight will protect the next generation from encountering similar challenges."

ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY, NORWEGIAN, BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION & EUROPEAN UNION DAR ES SALAAM

PUBLIC AUCTION:

UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE under instructions received from Royal Danish Embassy, Norwegian, British High Commission & European Union. We shall sell Household furniture's, Vehicles & Motorcycles by public auction on Saturday March 18, 2023 commencing at 10:00 am. The auction will take place at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street.

Furniture and Computers Bidding Start at 10:00am Sofa set, Zanzibar bed, Chest drawer, Dining table, Chairs, Book case, Office desk, File cabinet, Shelves, Beds, Mattress, Fridge double door, Commercial Upright Freezer, Washer, Dryer, A/c split units, Photocopy m/c, TV set, Computer set, Printers, 4 Sets Professional Music Systems, Safe, Solar water heater, Lawnmower Generator 3KVA etc.

Vehicles & Motorcycle Bidding Start at 12:00 hrs

Unit	Make	Model	Year	Duty
1	Toyota Land Cruiser GX Station Wagon	1H3 Diesel Engine	2012	Not paid
1	Toyota Land Cruiser Prado	2TR Petrol Engine	2010	Paid
1	Nissan Murano Station Wagon	Z250 Petrol Engine	2006	Paid
1	Ford Escosport Station Wagon	FY5 Petrol Engine	2015	Not paid
2	Honda Motorcycle	XR 125L & CT200 Petrol	2012	Not paid

All items may be inspected at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street from March 15 to 17, 2023 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

AUCTION CONDITIONS:

- The winning bidder for Furniture has to make full payment to cashier immediately. For Vehicle winning bidder must pay 25% to cashier immediately and the final payment in full within 5 working days by March 24, 2023 at 4:00pm. For payments not made within 5 working days, the Vehicle will be offered to the next highest bidder and the advance payment will be forfeited.
- Payments via CRDB and NBC Bank VISA & Master Cards will be accepted.
- All items are sold on "as is" basis with no guarantee.
- Duty and all taxes are the responsibility of the buyer.
- Bidder will remove the items after all payments and duties
- All persons entering the premises must obtain a Bid Number at the entrance.

For further information contact:
UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE,
(PLOT NO. 5 'E' LION STREET SINZA)
CELL NO: 0754 284 926

DAR ES SALAAM
E-mail: universalauction@hotmail.com



Tanzania Commercial Bank
Growing stronger together

Reap Big!

Invest from

TZS. 500,000

for 3 years

11%

Interest P.a



+255 787 66 99 77

www.tcbank.co.tz
@Tanzaniacommercialbank
@Tanzaniacommercialbank



Nandi Mwiombella (R), Bank of Africa's head of marketing and communications, makes remarks at Chamwino in Dodoma Region at the weekend after presenting five motorcycles the bank has extended as support to the Police gender desk network. She is with Police Gender Desk head Maria Nzuki (C) and Dodoma Regional Police Commander Martin Otieno. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Mining firm engineers' solutions to end tailings

By Guardian Correspondent, Katavi

A NEW technology to separate valuable minerals from rock and clay has left small scale miners in Katavi Region smiling, thanks to Katavi Mining Company Limited (KMCL) for turning abandoned mineral tailings into money.

The company has since 2021 spent more than 9bn/- purchasing mineral tailings from small scale miners in the region which were abandoned and turned into small hills in mining sites.

Flotation technology is used to concentrate minerals which commonly accompany one another in their ores to make them valuable.

Chairman for small scale miners in Katavi William Mbojo said the company has transformed lives of miners in the region through purchasing tailings which were abandoned in mining sites.

"This is a new technology in Tanzania at first artisanal miners were using mercury and other means to do such processes due to the kind of mineral deposits which are found in Katavi but its efficiency was minimal," he said.

He said adding "a miner would separate tailings using mercury and end up getting 900,000/- but now one can get up to more than 10m/-."

Resident Mining Officer for Katavi Andrew Mwalugaja since 2021 about 49.29bn/- minerals have been extracted by the company and that the government received 9.5bn/- in royalties while Katavi district and municipal councils received 147m/- in levies and charges.

He said the technology has helped to transform lives of artisanal miners who were getting little value from tailings.

He said the miners were piling up tailings which in the end had no value hence were left in mining sites within the region which has more than 200 adding that more than 600 artisanal miners are benefiting.

Speaking during a tour of the mining site, Regional

Commissioner for Katavi Mwamvua Mrindoko said the region was working on ensuring that every investor is facilitated with necessary support to participate in national development.

"KMCL is the leading taxpayer and has employed more than 500 people in the region which is a big step in contribution to national development, the region will do all it can to ensure that investors especially in the mining sector are facilitated," she said.

She added "Investors are development partners and never should they be seen as enemies, we should cooperate with by ensuring that they participate fully in national development."

KMCL human resource manager Twalib Self said the company is set to start the expansion of its 54 kilometers Square land to double production capacity of minerals from 1200 to 2400 per day.

The move will also reduce exportation of tailing for separation and purification of minerals. Unlike, currently where the company exports tons of mineral tailing containers to foreign countries for separation purification.

He said feasibility was currently ongoing adding that once they finish with study exploration will start next year.

"We might start exploration sooner than we expected, if everything goes as planned," he said.

KMCL general manager Mahmood Abdulrazaq Yass said that since they started exploration in 2010 they have so far invested \$267 million for the construction, installation of plant and machinery.

Yass said that since 2021, they have exported more than 200 containers of tailing to China for separation of ores.

"We have so far injected 9bn/- since we started buying tailings, our projection for this is to spend 24bn/-, a move that will boost the economic life of local miners," he said.

He said the company's annual production of Gold and Copper concentrate will reach 32,850 tons per year, "he said.

Academicians praise President Samia for creating better teaching, learning climate

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

ACADEMICIANS from various higher learning and research institutions in Kilimanjaro Region have hailed the role played by the government to improve the teaching and learning environment in schools, something which has attracted more girls to take science subjects.

Speaking recently when opening the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) zonal referral hospital's version of the 2023 International

Day for Women and Girls in Science, the stakeholders praised President Samia Suluhu Hassan for investing heavily in the education sector and ensuring a smooth learning and teaching environment.

Prof Irene Kiwelu from the Moshi based Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute (KCRI) said that, in recent years many female students have been motivated to study science which she said will contribute to a large increase in women joining activities related to science and tech-

nology. "One of the motivations was President Dr Samia's support through educational support, whereby 640 students who performed well in science subjects in their Form Six examinations (ACSE) through the Tanzania Examinations Council (NECTA) will be subject to Samia scholarship something which will motivate many girls' students to take science subjects.

Prof Kiwelu who represented the KCRI executive director Prof Blandina Mmbaga during the occasion, further

explained that KCRI which organized and coordinated this year's occasion was optimistic that through the motivations many women will continue to join KCRI after their education.

"KCRI provides a good environment for various types of training related to various researches which are basically based on scientific education; KCRI also contributes through funding for Masters Degrees (Msc) and Doctoral Degrees (PhDs) students, including female students, so the Government's contributions

gives us hope of getting more participants including female," she said.

Lecturer from the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College (KMUCo), Prof Rachel Manongi advised female students participants who are taking science subjects to make sure they realize the importance of taking science and concentrate more on them in order to succeed. "First, as a student you must identify yourself, know your goals and then make plans to achieve them; in this way, you will succeed

and attain your full potential," she said. The event was themed: Digital-Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality.

She said: "There is no need of anyone to fear science subjects, science can divert; you can do anything in science, you can become a doctor, a Biotech expert, a researcher, to mention but a few science related activities; through science subjects you can become an expert in one of the fields related to the subject or even all of them."



NOW RECRUITING FOR A PROGRAMME MANAGER TO DELIVER AN EXCITING MARKET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT APPROACH TO EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD) IN DAR

Children in Crossfire is a registered charity in Ireland that facilitates International Development and Global Citizen Engagement activities. Our vision is a compassionate world where every child can reach his or her potential. We work in partnership with local organisations in Tanzania and Ethiopia to improve the lives of the most disadvantaged young children, with a particular focus on Early Childhood Care and Education. By improving childhood care we are changing lives and empowering young children and their communities to build a better future. More information can be found at: www.childrenincrossfire.org

In Tanzania, our programme of work in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) is popularly known as Watoto Wetu Tunu Yetu. Children in Crossfire is setting-up a new programme to support improved quality and equitable access to Daycare Centres and ECCE provision in high-density low-income areas of Dar es Salaam City (Dar). The pilot intervention will engage a market systems development (M4P) approach to delivering quality improvements and optimizing business models for privately run [ECCE] daycare in low-income settings of Dar. Ultimately, by supporting micro entrepreneurs and private providers to make quality improvements in ECCE provision and run commercially viable daycare centres in high-density low-income settings of Dar, the aim is to improve the early learning and wider care experience for thousands of vulnerable young children aged below 5 Years. In so doing, the programme will contribute to children's school readiness and holistic development, and counter the cycle of underachievement, so as to unleash the development potential of a rapidly growing young urban population.

We are recruiting for a manager to lead successful implementation of this unique and exciting pilot:

- **DAR URBAN (ECCE) PROGRAMME MANAGER:** The Dar Urban ECCE Programme Manager will be based in the Children in Crossfire Dar es Salaam Country Office, and provide programming leadership to the set-up, quality delivery and continuous improvements of this unique ECD programme. This includes taking a market systems development approach to supporting commercial viability of the daycare centres and improving ECCE provision, while mitigating regulatory [compliance] and market [cost] barriers to access for young vulnerable children from the poorest households. Strategic partnerships will be formed with the Dar Daycare Union, national, regional and local government, and other multisectoral stakeholders to promote an enabling environment for the private sector to provide quality improved ECCE at scale for young children living in high-density low-income [predominantly informal] urban Dar settings.

A detailed **JOB DESCRIPTION** and **APPLICATION FORM** for this exciting position can be downloaded from: <https://www.childrenincrossfire.org/stayconnected/join-our-team>

All applicants are required to complete a Children in Crossfire Application Form and email to: jobstz@childrenincrossfire.org

Only those candidates selected for interview will be contacted.
Closing date for applications: **Wednesday 22nd March 2023 (by end of day)**



PUBLIC NOTICE CAUTION AGAINST FRAUDULENT EMPLOYMENT AND TENDER ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Ltd (EACOP Ltd) and Contractor's employment opportunities for both skilled and unskilled workers are clear and transparent. EACOP Ltd. and Contractors' companies delivering the EACOP Project do not recruit workers informally or solicit for payment.

EACOP RECRUITMENT PROCESS IS FREE

No legitimate EACOP Ltd. or Contractors' recruitment process will ever require payment for current or future employment opportunities.

BE AWARE OF THESE EACOP LTD AND CONTRACTORS RECRUITMENT PRINCIPLES:

- Employment opportunities for skilled workers are at minimum advertised in widely circulating national and regional newspapers and can be accessed via www.eacop.com under Jobs & Tenders and the Contractor's own website.
- Unskilled job advertisements are displayed in villages local to the construction activities and the priority is always given to applicants that are long term residents from communities most local to the work.
- Construction Contractors and EACOP representatives consistently communicate the recruitment processes and commitment to a fair and transparent recruitment process.
- Always, EACOP Ltd. and Contractors' recruitment complies with both national labour laws and International Employment and Labour Standards.

SIGNS OF FRAUDULENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Jobs advertised are not on the EACOP or Contractor's websites.
- Fees/payment are requested.

SERVICES AND SUPPLIER CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES

EACOP Ltd. and Contractors' companies do not request payments for future, fast-track or priority supplier or services arrangements.

Each time an expression of interest (EOI) for supplier or services opportunities is issued, EACOP shares the EOI with business communities at national, regional and district level.

IF YOU NOTICE ANY FRAUDULENT OR SUSPICIOUS OPEN JOB OR TENDER ANNOUNCEMENTS, QUICKLY REPORT TO:

- Any nearest EACOP or Contractor's offices, police station or
- Local government authorities for clarification or to be handled in accordance with the law

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

EACOP Tanzania / Toll free: 0800 780 068 / Email: info.tz@eacop.com

GCLA refutes social media 'lies' on Tanzanian drivers

By Correspondent James Kandoya

GOVERNMENT Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) has refuted claims on social media that nearly one driver from Tanzania dies every day as result of chemical effects.

GCLA together with the chemical hazardous transporters in the country made the clarification in Dar es Salaam yesterday when reacting to the online video clip posted by an unknown person from a neighbouring country citing that drivers in Tanzania die due to chemical effects.

Daniel Ndiyo, director of regulatory service at GCLA, said the online allegations were baseless and aimed at tainting the country's image.

He said GCLA offer training to the transporters and drivers before issuing them with permits and the authority staff escorting the cargo to its last destination.

Ndiyo said all hazardous chemical transporters comply with laws before authorised or given permits from GCLA to transport chemicals.

"GCLA cannot issue permits to any chemicals transporter if he or she could not comply with laws governing transporting of chemicals," he said.

Ndiyo said GCLA is working cautiously to protect drivers and ensure the safety of other road users and the general public.

According to him, not all hazardous chemicals are transported as loose cargo adding that it depends on the nature of the chemical such as sulphur and ammonium nitrate that doesn't need heat.

Musa Kiboze from Tanzania Port Authority (TPA) said that all operations in the country's ports and inland container depots (ICD) such as offloading, storing and transporting comply with international standards.

He said TPA as members operate under standard procedures as per law set to avoid harm to the people's lives.

Deogratias Chacha from PMM Estates (2001) Ltd an inland depot said that when clearing cargo, they comply with all safety cards.

He said the online clip circulated in the social media was an economic war and threat to country development.

Chacha said the in the past five months, they have cleared 20,000 tones that would have been offloaded at Beira port in Mozambique.

Sadick Yusuph from Freight Forwarders Tanzania Ltd said that transportation of hazardous chemicals from the port to the owner follows all procedures to avoid any harm to the people on the road.

He said all vehicles carrying hazardous chemicals have met all qualities set by the regulating authority to ensure safety.



Women workers with Barrick's Bulyanhulu gold mine in Kahama District pictured at the weekend sensitising Mwingilo Secondary School students on gender-related issues in marking International Women's Day. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Consulting firm to host women's executive breakfast meeting in Dar

By Getrude Mbago

THE Dar es Salaam-based advisory and consulting firm Accelerate Business Group is organising a special women executive breakfast that will bring together executives, entrepreneurs and thought leaders dedicated to improving the status of women in the society.

Themed: "Breaking the Glass Ceilings.", the meeting is aimed at exploring the challenges that

women face in their professional and personal lives together with discussing strategies to overcome them.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, a director with the firm, Bernice Fernandes said the event will provide a platform for participants to network, share their views on women empowerment, and learn from each other's experiences.

According to her, US ambassa-

dor to Tanzania, Michael Battle will officiate at the event.

She said the event will focus on ways to break down the barriers that prevent women from achieving their full potential and help them to reach greater heights.

"It is aimed to provide a forum for executives, entrepreneurs, and thought leaders to network and exchange ideas on women empowerment, learn from the experiences of successful women leaders, dis-

uss strategies for breaking down the barriers that hinder women's progress and identify opportunities to support women's empowerment initiatives," she explained.

Bernice said it was important for women to come together and share with one another the successes that have had so as to encourage others to make positive decisions that will impact their lives.

Teddy Chamshama, executive

member of Accelerate Business Group added: "We hope this event will provide valuable insights and inspiration to all participants and contribute to the cause of women's empowerment in our society. We also hope that the women will leave this event feeling empowered and inspired to reach the goals that they aspire to reach."

She said that the firm eagerly invites all women who are aspiring entrepreneurs and corporate

women who want to climb the ladder to register and attend the meeting. Emma Kamande from Premier Care Clinic said the women participants will also get an opportunity to check their health status from experts of the clinic including breast cancer, blood pressure and other diseases.

"We have recognised that the majority of women don't have time to check their health as they are so busy with their daily activities to



VACANCY- CHIEF OF PARTY

The USAID-funded Feed the Future Tanzania Private Sector Strengthening Activity project in Tanzania, implemented by Tetra Tech International Development is currently accepting expressions of interest for a Chief of Party. This position will be located in the main office in Dar es Salaam.

Position Description/Summary: The COP will be the principal point of contact in Tanzania for procedural and substantive matters and is ultimately responsible for all contract management and implementation. S/he will be the primary liaison with USAID/Tanzania on technical matters and must adjust activities and operations in response to USAID/Tanzania technical direction. The COP will also be responsible for ensuring quality control and the overall responsiveness of technical assistance provided under the award.

Responsibilities:

The COP's primary responsibilities include providing overall leadership, management, and general technical direction of the entire project, ensuring an integrated vision among different components and actors, and a focus on achieving the results defined in the award. The COP will be expected to identify issues and risks related to project implementation in a timely manner and suggest appropriate adjustments.

Qualifications:

- * Master's degree in international development, business, organizational development, or other relevant field preferred
- * Minimum ten (10) years of relevant, senior-level professional experience managing and implementing partnerships with the private sector to foster economic development with a minimum of five (5) years of experience in sub-Saharan Africa. Direct experience working in Tanzania highly preferred.
- * At least five (5) years of demonstrated experience managing and supervising staff.
- * Demonstrated ability to work effectively with the private sector, youth organizations/representatives, government officials, donors, and other stakeholders.
- * Demonstrated, credible experience successful managing an activity of similar size and complexity and relevant technical scope, preferably a USAID-funded activity
- * Demonstrated experience working with the private sector, preferably in Tanzania, to advance economic opportunities for youth by improving access to business services, finance, and market linkages and strengthening the business enabling environment is highly desired.
- * Professional proficiency in both spoken and written English, Swahili preferred
- * Tanzanian nationals strongly encouraged to apply.

Apply on-line for International Careers at: <https://bit.ly/TZPSSACOP>

Tetra Tech is a leading provider of consulting, engineering, and technical services worldwide. Our reputation rests on the technical expertise and dedication of our employees - 21,000 people working together across disciplines and time zones to provide smart, sustainable solutions for challenging projects. We are proud to be home to leading technical experts in water, environment, infrastructure, resource management, energy, and international development. Tetra Tech combines the resources of a global, multibillion dollar company with local, client-focused delivery in over 450 locations around the world. We offer competitive compensation and benefits and are searching for innovative people to join our teams.

We are an equal opportunity employer: EOE AA/M/F/Vets/Disability.

Finance Officer

Ref 32482

Our client, **Farm For the Future Tanzania Ltd**, is in a speedy build up phase, with heavy investments in irrigation and high value crops and with long term offtake agreements. New investors have just joined the company and others are to be found. They are now strengthening their management team, which is a very flat organisation with short lines of communication, and are now looking for a **Finance Officer** with minimum 2-3 years' experience in an Agro based industry, to work on the following prioritised areas.

KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Investors and Board Reporting

- Provide regular financial inputs to the investor's guide.
- Assess the value of shares on a periodic basis, based on the actual performance and projected future performance.
- Recommend on dividend pay-out decisions.
- Prepare and share monthly management accounts with the board.
- Maximize the wealth for company shareholders.
- Play a key role in company funding, advising the board on funding requirements analyse various debt and equity models.

Management Reporting

- Responsible for the quality and timely reporting of the Financial Statement, Statutory and Tax Reporting.
- Each month end closing - quality check and review the full Financial Statement for completeness and accuracy.
- Minimum quarterly review of the full Financial Statement together with CEO.
- Facilitate Business Plan process and ensure qualified input and timely reporting.
- Prepare and discuss monthly performance with management personnel.
- Involve in the development and implementation of the company's financial strategies.

Bank Relations

- Handle financial negotiations with banks and financial institutions.
- Manage company credit arrangements.
- Assess the proper mix between equity and debt financing.

Budgeting, Accounting & Controls

- Involved in the preparation of the monthly and annual budget in line with the company strategy.
- Establish systems to assess monthly performance against the budget.
- Establish and assess the financial KPI's of the company.
- Offer guidance on cost reduction, revenue enhancement, and profit maximization.
- Record financial transactions relating to business and maintain books of accounts.
- Summarizing, analyzing and reporting for all statutory payments.

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- University degree within finance, accounting and/or auditing or comparable education.
- Chartered Accountant (CPA, ACCA, or any similar institution).
- Working Knowledge of ERP systems (QuickBooks).

EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Board and shareholder's reporting experience.
- Budgeting experience.
- IFRS and local GAAP/tax competence.
- At least 2-3 years of demonstrated financial management experience in an Agro based industry.



How To Apply

Email your CV and application letter to nasra@radarrecruitment.com stating the Reference Number **32482** in the subject line.

To view the full job description go to www.radarrecruitment.co.tz and enter the Job Reference Number in the search field.

The closing date for applications is **Monday 20th March 2023**.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



Farm for the Future

www.radarrecruitment.co.tz

Government launches modern information, media centre in the Serengeti National Park

By Guardian Correspondent

THE government has launched the modern information and media centre in the Serengeti National Park that will offer crucial information on wildlife and tourist attractions through digital platforms.

Speaking at the launch of the multi-media facility over the weekend, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Mohamed Mchengerwa said the government is determined to promote the tourism industry with the purpose of surpassing the target of increasing the number of foreign visitors to 5 million by 2025.

The centre has been constructed with support from the government of South Korea through Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

"The launch of the information centre here at Serengeti National Park will boost our efforts in promoting the industry. We must invest in promoting the sector because we are endowed with some attractions that are only found in Tanzania," said Mchengerwa, adding that it is the responsibility of every Tanzanian to market the country's tourism attractions.

"It is time for stakeholders to come out, whether it's an investor in hotels or transportation companies, let's not be satisfied with the small number of tourists we are now getting. We must continue promoting the sector in every continent to ensure all the people around the globe are aware of what is available in Tanzania," he added.

He said decisions by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to market the country's tourism industry through the Royal Tour film has

boosted the sector, hence the need for every Tanzanian to promote the available attractions.

Mchengerwa directed the Ministry's Permanent Secretary, Dr Hassan Abbasi to come up with a programme that will recognize Tanzanians promoting the tourism sector so that they are awarded with certificates in recognition of their contribution.

Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA) Board of Trustees Chairman, retired General George Waitara commended KOICA for the support, assuring the minister that the centre would be fully utilized for its intended purpose.

He thanked the Korean government for continued support and cooperation with Tanzania in promoting various tourism attractions.

Waitara called upon KOICA to continue cooperating with TANAPA in preparing quality content as well as maintenance of the facility and equipment.

Korean Ambassador to Tanzania, Kim Sun Pyo said the government of Korea will continue to work closely with Tanzania to further strengthen existing relationships in various sectors including tourism.



The launch of the information centre here at Serengeti National Park will boost our efforts in promoting the industry



Ubungu Municipal mayor Jaffary Nyaigesha (3rd- L) cuts the tape in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, in his capacity as chief guest, as DCB Commercial Bank managing director Isdori Msaki (C) presents 30 desks for use at Kiluvya Primary School as part of an on-going education campaign named for President Samia Suluhu Hassan. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Insurance firm's women workers leave mark at Dar referral hospital

By Guardian Reporter

FEMALE employees from Strategis Insurance have put a smile on female patients at the Mwananyamala Regional Referral Hospital Maternity Ward as the world marked International Women's Day on March 8, 2023.

They donated the items at the maternity ward. They greeted and

talked to the patients while giving them hopes.

This is the second time consecutively that Strategis Insurance employees are extending this warm gesture having made a similar donation last year during International Women's Day.

"We're delighted to extend a helping hand to our fellow women today by donating various items that will

assist before, during, and after delivery," said the Strategis Insurance Marketing Manager, Lilian Malakauka.

She said the donation included, pampers, washing soap, and Macintosh mattresses.

"These are essential for women seeing that not all of them can afford these essential items. Seeing this, the women at Strategis decided

to donate these items as we believe they will be of great help to our fellow women," she said, noting: "This donation to hospitals will be continuous as part of the women's CSR every year."

"This is our second year consecutively and we intend to donate every year," she said, calling on well-wishers and women countrywide to remember the less fortunate espe-

cially women who play a big role in society.

"This is our day and we have to continue showing how important it is to all women. Let us continue supporting each other and believing in ourselves always.

The beneficiaries could not hide their joy as most of them were left singing and dancing in great joy as they commended Strategis women

for the warm gesture.

The hospital's secretary, Lilian Mwanga thanked Strategis for the consistency in remembering maternity patients. "These are very important people who are bringing new creatures to the world," she said.

She further called on Strategis to also look at supporting other areas in the hospital that will result in more quality service from the hospital staff.



PUBLIC NOTICE

UPDATING TAXPAYER'S IDENTIFICATION NUMBER(TIN) WITH NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (NIN) INFORMATION

Dar es salaam, 10th March, 2023

Following the, budgetary changes through the Finance Act 2022, Section 22 of the Tax Administration Act, (CAP 438) empowers the Commissioner General of TRA to register and issue Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) to every Tanzanian citizen aged 18 years and above, who has been registered and issued with National Identification Number (NIN) issued by National Identification Authority (NIDA). In addition to this, the provision of the Law requires every person who has been issued with TIN to ensure the information are updated accordingly with NIN information. The implementation of this legal requirement come into effect from 1st January 2023.

In view of that TRA would like to inform the General Public that, TIN registration will be done using NIDA information. Furthermore, for every Tanzania citizen who previously acquired TIN using identities other than NIDA Identity is required to update his or her TIN with NIDA information.

For convenient implementation of this requirement, it is advised that every eligible person who has not updated their TIN to visit nearby TRA office with his or her NIDA Identity/ NIN to update their TIN. For persons with NIN without TIN, can apply TIN online through TRA website.

It should be noted that all TIN services are provided free of charge and are accessible. For further information, please visit your nearest TRA office or through the following contacts.

Website : www.tra.go.tz
Toll Free : 0800 750 075 or 0800 780 078 or 0800 110016
WhatsApp : 0744 23 33 33
E-mail : huduma@tra.go.tz or services@tra.go.tz

"Together We Build Our Nation"

Issued by

**TAXPAYER SERVICE AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
 TRA HEADQUARTERS**

Kilimanjaro hails govt for conservation efforts

By Correspondent James Lanka, Rombo

KILIMANJARO regional authorities have hailed the role played by the government to make in conservation, preservation of the natural resources, as well as promoting the tourism sector in general.

Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner (RC), Nurdin Babu made the remarks recently, during the launching of the tree planting campaign in the areas surrounding Mount Kilimanjaro, which was held in Samanga village, in Rombo district, Kilimanjaro region.

The special occasion is a part of the series of activities organized by the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) to mark the 50th anniversary since the establishment of the Kilimanjaro National Park (KINAPA).

"The Father of the Nation Mwalimu Julius Nyerere had a great vision regarding the conservation of our resources and the idea to improve the tourism sector; his vision contributed to the establishment of the Kilimanjaro National Park (KINAPA) 50 years ago", he said.

He added that Mount Kilimanjaro is currently one of the biggest sources of income through the tourism sector and is also one of the attractions that brings many tourists here in the country and in Africa in general every year, as far as the tourism sector is concerned".

The RC continued to say that his (the father of the nation-Mwalimu Nyerere) successors, continued with the good work he started and that even when she became President two years ago,

Dr Samia went further by personally participating in the production of the Tanzania Royal Tour Tanzania film which has begun to contribute significantly to the increase of tourists entering the country.

Babu congratulated the management of KINAPA for the great contributions the institution has made since its inception whereby he said, the contributions which include in the health and education sectors contributed to the well-being of many residents.

The Kilimanjaro regional boss further commended residents living areas surrounding Mount Kilimanjaro for their cooperation they give to the management of KINAPA while carrying out their (KINAPA) daily duties, whereby he urged them to continue with the cooperation, including planting more trees, to protect the existing environment.

He also praised the management of KINAPA for coming up with the idea of planting trees as part of the celebration to mark half a century since the establishment of the institution, which he said should be emulated by other institutions whenever they have celebrations related to their institutions.

Speaking during the event, the KINAPA Acting Chief Park Warden (CPW), Imani Kikoti, said his institution had projected to plant 300,000 trees as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations since the establishment of KINAPA in March, 1973.

"In addition to the tree planting event, there will also be other activities which include a symposium which will be organized with the aim of



African Child Project director Catherine Kimambo (L) briefs Korogwe district commissioner Jokate Mwegelo (seated-R) and several other government officials as well as Vodacom Tanzania representatives shortly after the presentation of ICT equipment to the district's Joel Bendera Secondary School at the weekend. The items were meant as a joint goodwill gesture by the e-Fahamu school connectivity project and Vodacom Tanzania Foundation. The project's target is to reach a total of 300 schools in Tanzania, with 50 government schools in ten regions already having received 186 desktop computers and 246 tablets, complete with 50 GB monthly internet bundles for a year. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

providing education on the importance of planting trees, taking care of them and preserving the environment which will involve environmental stakeholders, conservationists and various tourism stakeholders", he said.

Commenting on the challenges that his in-

stitution faces when implementing its duties, the KINAPA Conservator explained that it includes unscrupulous people invading the areas around the park and causing damage which he said threatens the future of the crucial national park in the future generations.

"The destruction includes fires that have

been a major challenge for the Kilimanjaro National Park since its inception, due to the fact that fires destroy the environment of the park and the living creatures in the conserved areas; these living creatures are also part of the attractions for visitors who come to climb Mount Kilimanjaro", he said.

Dar to host first-ever meeting on liver disease and treatment

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

DAR ES SALAAM is on Friday set to host the international meeting on liver cancer where specialists on the matter within and outside the country will get a platform to extensively discuss ways to improve the treatment of the disease.

Organised by Liver Tumor Group, which consist surgeons, gastroenterologists, radiologists, oncologists and pathologists, the meeting is expected to take place on the 17th-18th this week and will be graced chief medical officer, Prof Tumaini Nagu.

Andrew Swallow, surgical gastroenterologists and hepatobiliary surgeon at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) said over the weekend: "This is the first meeting of this kind to be held in the country."

He said there will be local expert doctors and other experts from the countries of Egypt, United States, India, Malawi and Kenya and the topics will be how to deal with the disease with modern technology.

Dr Swalehe Pazi, another surgical gastroenterologist and Hepatobiliary Surgeon from MNH also said that the statistics of liver patients are difficult to obtain due to the fact that many patients die at home and others do not arrive to receive care in official centers.

"Liver cancer specialists are determined to create a good system to keep accurate and up-to-date data concerning liver cancer that will help the government," said Dr Pazi.

He said according to the World Health Organisation (WHO), it is estimated that 500,000,000 people globally die every year due to liver problems adding that according to the organisation, Tanzania also gets many patients although there is no official data.

"In Tanzania, we still don't have accurate statistics about people dying or suffering from liver cancer because we don't have a very good system to collect these statistics. That is why the specialty doctors Liver Tumor Group are preparing such a system," he said.

Dr Ally Mwangi, specialist in liver cancer treatment at MNH said the lack of statistics on liver cancer patients is what prompted doctors to establish the Liver Tumor Group.

"We experienced patients coming here Muhimbili in a very bad condition and we don't know the magnitude of the problem, and another thing that pushed the doctors to introduce this group is to know if this disease in this country is similar to the rest of the world and if the treatment that is used abroad can be used to treat here in the country," he said

He also said that the disease usually affects adults from the age of 60, 70 and onwards in many countries in the world, but in Tanzania they find people aged 15, 20 something made them question if the problem is different from those of abroad and if the treatment is different.

"So we saw that there is a need to unite to find out the magnitude of this problem in this country and to do research to find out if this problem that is being talked about in the world is the same that affects Tanzanians and that's why we need to cooperate with our colleagues in the world to deal with this problem," said Dr Mwangi.

He said they have introduced a procedure where every Friday liver cancer specialists will come together to monitor every liver patient who has received cancer treatment all over the country.

Concerning the collection of statistics of liver cancer patients, Dr Mwangi said they have introduced a system to register all cancer patients in the country called, Liver Cancer Registry where any patient treated for liver cancer will be registered.

"From there onwards we will be able to say that this year the number of cancer patients treated for liver cancer is at a certain level, so we will be able to know how big the problem is, so this meeting aims to educate the public about this disease and how we can avoid it," he said.

He said that through the group they will provide education so that every person will know the symptoms of the disease and knows where he should take the liver cancer patient in order to get the right treatment to save his life.

Ni Zaidi ya Pesa

Customer Tariffs. Dial *150*01#

Amount (TZS)		Send to Tigo Pesa			Send to Other Networks			Cash Out from Wakala		
Start	End	Tigo Pesa Fees	Government Levy	Total Charges	Tigo Pesa Fees	Government Levy	Total Charges	Tigo Pesa Fees	Government Levy	Total Charges
100	999	15	10	25	15	10	25	-	10	10
1,000	1,999	30	10	40	45	10	55	300	10	310
2,000	2,999	30	10	40	45	10	55	400	10	410
3,000	3,999	50	14	64	90	14	104	600	14	614
4,000	4,999	60	27	87	90	27	117	650	27	677
5,000	6,999	130	54	184	180	54	234	950	54	1,004
7,000	9,999	150	56	206	180	56	236	1,000	56	1,056
10,000	14,999	360	102	462	495	102	597	1,450	102	1,552
15,000	19,999	360	195	555	495	195	690	1,450	195	1,645
20,000	29,999	380	306	686	540	306	846	1,850	306	2,156
30,000	39,999	400	351	751	612	351	963	1,850	351	2,201
40,000	49,999	410	419	829	675	419	1,094	2,350	419	2,769
50,000	99,999	720	573	1,293	1,125	573	1,698	2,700	573	3,273
100,000	199,999	1,000	707	1,707	1,440	707	2,147	3,650	707	4,357
200,000	299,999	1,200	821	2,021	1,710	821	2,531	5,300	821	6,121
300,000	399,999	1,500	838	2,338	2,070	838	2,908	6,500	838	7,338
400,000	499,999	1,500	982	2,482	2,250	982	3,232	7,000	982	7,982
500,000	599,999	2,200	1,245	3,445	2,880	1,245	4,125	7,500	1,245	8,745
600,000	699,999	3,300	1,532	4,832	3,870	1,532	5,402	8,000	1,532	9,532
700,000	799,999	3,300	1,700	5,000	3,870	1,700	5,570	8,000	1,700	9,700
800,000	899,999	3,500	1,750	5,250	3,870	1,750	5,620	8,000	1,750	9,750
900,000	1,000,000	3,500	1,776	5,276	5,400	1,776	7,176	8,000	1,776	9,776
1,000,001	3,000,000	5,000	1,875	6,875	5,400	1,875	7,275	8,000	1,875	9,875
3,000,001	10,000,000	5,000	2,000	7,000	5,400	2,000	7,400	10,000	2,000	12,000

You can reverse your wrongfully sent transaction, luku token, to un-bar your Tigo Pesa account, or reset PIN

Dial *150*01#

select 6 (Selfcare)

then select a service you want

App that is friendly and easy to use!

Make government payments

Get it on

Enjoy Payments with Tigo Pesa:

NOTE:

1. You can deposit or receive up to TSh 10,000,000 per day and you can give or send up to TSh 5,000,000 per day, you can also store up to TSh 10,000,000 at the same time in your Tigo Pesa account, if your registration is complete.
2. Show your ID before depositing or withdrawing money to the Agent.
3. Make sure your registration information is correct by dialing *106# then 2 or call customer service for more information.
4. Count your money and make sure your Tigo Pesa balance matches the transaction you made before leaving the Agency.
5. Every time you send money, remember to check the recipient's number to avoid mistakes and inconvenience.
6. Make sure you save your PIN, your phone and your line safely. Do not give it (PIN, Phone, your line) or mention your password to anyone, be it a Tigo Money Agent, a Tigo employee or a Tigo Customer Service representative. Also remember to change your password regularly.
7. Tigo will call you for only 100.
8. To provide any information against fraud Call 100 or send a message to 15040 or email to customercare@tigo.co.tz
9. You can receive money from more than 200 countries in the world, and you can send money to all Eastern and Southern African countries.
10. To find the terms and conditions of using Tigo Pesa, visit the nearest Tigo store or www.tigo.co.tz

www.tigo.co.tz

Contact customer service, Call 100 for free or visit any Tigo store! These fees are from February 2023

MONDAY 13 MARCH 2023

**Taking A New Look
At The News**
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Food insecurity is worse enemy than often thought

THE majority of the severest food crises after the second half of the 20th century were caused by a combination of several factors. The most common causes of food insecurity in African and other Third World countries were drought and other extreme weather events. The comparison of the severest food crises in the later history reveals that all were preceded by drought or other extreme weather events. They resulted in poor or failed harvests which in turn resulted food scarcity and high prices of the available food.

In addition to extreme weather events, many failed harvests in African and other Third World countries were also caused by pests such as desert locusts. Cattle diseases and other agricultural problems such as erosion, soil infertility, also play a role in food insecurity.

Some experts suggest that drought and extreme weather in regions affected by food crises in the recent decades could be a result of climate change, especially in the West and East Africa which have problems with recurrent extreme droughts.

History of the severest food crises shows that many countries were completely unprepared for a crisis and unable to resolve the situation without international aid.

In spite of criticism lately, the international community has always sent help in the form of food supplies and other means which saved millions of lives in the affected regions. However, the international aid often did not reach the most vulnerable populations due to a high level of corruption and po-

litical instability in many Third World countries.

Many African and Third World governments encourage production of the so-called cash crops, the income from which is used to import food. As a result, countries which depend on cash crops are at high risk of food crisis because they do not produce enough food to feed the population.

The disease which is a serious public health concern in the sub-Saharan Africa worsens food insecurity in two ways. Firstly, it reduces the available workforce in agriculture and secondly, it puts an additional burden on poor households.

Poor African and Third World countries have the highest growth rate in the world which puts them at increased risk of food crises. According to some estimation, Africa will produce enough food for only about a quarter population by 2025 if the current growth rate will continue.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) last week signed a country programming framework (CPF) with Tanzania that will help in improving agriculture, food security, nutrition and natural resources management in the country for the next four years.

The framework guides FAO support and partnership with Tanzania from 2017 to 2020. We therefore commend FAO's support in improving agriculture and natural resources management in the country because agriculture plays a critical role in our economy and FAO is one of our key partners in improving the sector which remains to be the biggest employer in the country.

Needed: Greater action in fighting salt overuse risks

SALT is essential for life in general, and saltiness is one of the basic human tastes. Salt is one of the oldest and most ubiquitous food seasonings, and is known to uniformly improve the taste perception of food, including otherwise unpalatable food.

Eating too much salt makes it the top risk factor for diet and nutrition-related deaths. The World Health Organisation (WHO) global report on sodium intake reduction shows that the world is off-track to achieve its global target of reducing sodium intake by 30 per cent by 2025.

However, sodium as an essential nutrient, increases the risk of heart disease, stroke and premature death when eaten in excess.

Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, WHO director-general said: "Unhealthy diets are a leading cause of death and disease globally, and excessive sodium intake is one of the main culprits. This report shows that most countries are yet to adopt any mandatory sodium reduction policies, leaving their people at risk of heart attack, stroke, and other health problems."

This important report demonstrates that countries must work urgently to implement ambitious, mandatory, government-led sodium reduction policies to meet the global target of reducing salt consumption by 2025.

There are proven measures that governments can implement and important innovations, such as low sodium salts. The world needs action, and now, or many more people will experience disabling or deadly-but preventable-heart attacks and strokes.

The report shows that only 5

per cent of WHO member states are protected by mandatory and comprehensive sodium reduction policies and 73 per cent of WHO member states lack full range of implementation of such policies.

Implementing highly cost-effective sodium reduction policies could save an estimated 7 million lives globally by 2030.

It is an important component of action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal target of reducing deaths from non-communicable diseases.

So far only nine countries Brazil, Chile, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Spain and Uruguay have a comprehensive package of recommended policies to reduce sodium intake.

A comprehensive approach to sodium reduction includes adopting mandatory policies and WHO's four 'best buy' interventions related with sodium which greatly contribute to preventing non-communicable diseases includes reformulating foods to contain less salt, and setting targets for the amount of sodium in foods and meals.

Others are establishing public food procurement policies to limit salt or sodium rich foods in public institutions such as hospitals, schools, workplaces and nursing homes and behaviour change communication and mass media campaigns to reduce salt/sodium consumption.

Mandatory sodium reduction policies are more effective, as they achieve broader coverage and safeguard against commercial interests, while providing a level playing field for food manufacturers.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757 154767
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Cel: + 0677 020701 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: lppmedia.com, epaper.ippmedia.com



Gender equity in leadership makes all kinds of sense

By Helen Clark, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés and Gabriela Cuevas Barron

GENDER equality is off track - according to a recent report by the United Nations, 300 years off track.

In a world of multiple crises, we find it surprising that gender equality is not a priority for most political leaders.

Mounting evidence shows that the health and resilience of our communities and economies depends on women being at the decision-making table - and they should fill half the seats there.

Yet women occupy a minority of leadership roles across sectors and just 28 of 194 countries are led by women.

The consequences of this inequity were exemplified during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, since only a minority of countries were able to keep death rates relatively low and many of those that could, had governments led by women.

The COVID-19 pandemic also exacerbated gender inequality. It revealed immense vulnerabilities which can't be addressed unless governments acknowledge, invest in, and strengthen structures that support women and girls. It is a fair assumption that these acknowledgements, investments, and strengthening won't happen until we have more women in leadership roles.

Artistic freedom in Ethiopia shares a common goal

By Rebecca Tewodros

ALL forms of artistic creation—from music and visual art to writing and filmmaking—share a common goal: the exploration of personal expression. One of the numerous obstacles that prevents artists from expressing themselves fully in their work is pressure from society or government restrictions.

On February 22, Selam Talks hosted a discussion on the subject using the findings of a survey of Ethiopian artists titled "An appraisal of artistic freedom in Ethiopia." Trigma Development Research and Consultancy carried out the research that examined the state of artistic freedom in Ethiopia, with a particular emphasis on the many fields of the arts and individual artists' ability to freely think, create, and share their work without restrictions. According to the study's primary definition, artistic freedom is the "freedom to imagine, create, and distribute diverse cultural expressions free of governmental censure, political interference, or the pressure of non-state actors."

- Advertisement - Individual artists from the National Theatre, Hager Fikir Theatre, Ambassador Cinema, Addis Ababa University Culture Center, Children and Youth Theatre, and Oromo Cultural Center, as well as from the private sector's Alem Cinema, Vamdias Cinema, and Adot Cinema, were surveyed for the study.

The research found that, legally, the freedom of expression in the arts is protected under Ethiopian law. The copyright act's pro-

During the pandemic, women across all sectors left the workforce as they were impacted by traditional gender roles, caretaking responsibilities, gender-discriminatory pay structures, unsafe work conditions and lack of social protection. For girls, school closures and other pressures exacerbated risks such as mental health challenges, violence, child marriage, pregnancy, female genital mutilation,

and HIV infection. Millions of women and girls were left without access to sexual and reproductive health services. 11.2 million girls and young women were left at risk of not returning to education.

Job departures were particularly noticeable in the health workforce. Over 70 per cent of it is made up of women, many of whom are underpaid, unpaid, overworked, and/or in precarious jobs.

The many pressures created by conflicts and climate change are increasing poverty and gender inequality further, including through rising energy and living costs and inflation. Increased out-of-pocket payments for essential services also require many families to choose between accessing essential health services and clean water and food. In some countries, the most basic human rights of women and girls are being revoked, such as the right to education.

As leaders of networks and multi-stakeholder partnerships that work to make gender equality and health for all a reality, we call on Heads of State and Governments to prioritize and resource this agenda every time they meet. They have plenty of opportunities to do that this year, including at the G7 and G20, at the Bretton Woods meetings, at regional leadership dialogues, and with all member states of the United Nations including during the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Summit and the High-Level Meetings on health at this year's UN General Assembly.

First, ensure that more women are in public and private sector leadership and decision-making roles

and commit to gender parity by 2030. Women should be represented at all levels, from President to CEO to Director, on Boards and in managerial positions and as Ministers of important portfolios such as finance and foreign affairs. They must also be supported to stay in these demanding roles.

Second, ensure financial protection to minimize out-of-pocket health care payments so that all people can access the services they need.

Advance progress on universal health coverage, so that everyone, everywhere can access quality health services, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health ser-

vices, without the risk of financial hardship.

Third, with women making up most of the health and care workforce, ensure gender equity in leadership, address underpaid and unpaid work with adequate remuneration, close the gender pay gap, and invest in safe and decent work.

Deliver training opportunities and violence- and discrimination-free environments for all health workers. This is beneficial for the quality of care, and the resilience of health systems, making us all less vulnerable to emergencies.

Fourth, we need to collect and analyze sex- and gender-disaggregated data, and practice gender based budgeting, to ensure gender-responsive and gender-transformative policies that leave no one behind.

We need world leaders to focus on women and girls on International Women's Day and on the other 364 days of the year. Everyone will benefit.

Helen Clark is the PMNCH Board Chair and former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka is Board Chair, Women Deliver, Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés is Board Chair of Women in Global Health and Gabriela Cuevas Barron, Co-Chair of UHC2030 Steering Committee.

artists.

"Artistic freedom, I believe, is one of the main topics of our day-to-day stress, argument, and discussion. In my opinion, the biggest challenge that artists, including myself, face more than the topic of self-censorship in Ethiopia is the freedom to imagine," Dawit said. He says it is self-evident to any reasonable person that this aspect of the constitution is very well expressed, grants a wide variety of freedoms, and conforms to international norms.

The right law exists, and it has even been updated, but the major problem, in his opinion, is in applying the law in practice.

Mesenbet, for his part, spoke about how freedom of expression impacts people's actions, the economy, and politics. Article 34 of the Human Rights Commission's overall analysis, he argues, makes it quite clear that artistic freedom is a part of the right to free expression.

Bealu Girma and other literary figures, in Mesenbet's view, are the targets of some of the most significant political assassinations in Ethiopia's history of censorship. He bemoaned the lack of discussions surrounding how creative artists might shield themselves from the scrutiny of the state and the community at large.

"There is a very sophisticated history of political censorship, and although the political climate is better now, there are many things other than the government that bring censorship. Artists have to push for freedom not only against the government, but they also have to fight the censorship brought by religion, culture, and the norms of society," he said.

Samia's political accommodation style a test to opposition parties

By Mark Mapambano

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan last week astonished her supporters and skeptics alike when she attended International Women's Day celebration as chief guest at the event organized by the main opposition Chadema women's wing in Moshi municipality, Kilimanjaro Region.

In an unprecedented occasion since the reintroduction of multiparty politics in our country in the mid-1990s, the sitting president and chairperson of the ruling CCM party received a rapturous welcome in the opposition stronghold.

Those who did not watch the event missed a spectacular scene worth keeping in the national archive. For the road leading to the venue was decorated with Chadema flags and those who received her also wore clothes bearing the same colours and CCM leader was unbothered.

Welcome to a new style of political accommodation. For starters, this is all about engaging people with diverse interests taking account of others' perspectives without compromising their own core interests. This can lead to finding compatible interests and to reaching agreements on parameters for continued dialogue or on how people are willing to be governed.

In other words, political accommodation is about everyone having a fair chance at expressing their interests and reaching a fair outcome. The approach has been widely used in conflict-affected societies for peace-building.

The question is: did Samia apply this method by chance? Methinks the Head of State knew exactly what she was doing given the recent history of our country. Considering how her predecessor John Magufuli treated opposition politicians with hatred and vengeance, Samia knew that no approach could have been more effective than political accommodation.

And given the warm reception and constructive dialogue she had with her hosts, it is safe to say that the President succeeded because she won the trust of known critical opposition politicians who saw her as someone who listens.

It goes without saying, the event epitomised the current national mood of reconciliation and efforts to build a more unified, cohesive, peaceful, and prosperous Tanzania. For peace lovers, it was heartwarming to see CCM national chairperson sit next to Chadema national chairman Freeman Mbowe.

In her own words, Samia, who on March 19 will mark two years since she became president, described what happened on Wednesday last week as "unprecedented" stating categorically that she did not see opposition politicians as her enemies but allies in building a new culture of politics.

"This new culture (of politics) cannot be accepted immediately by everyone in your party and mine; there will be resistance in both parties," she said.

President Samia understands that there are radicals in both opposition camp and her own CCM who do not want to see this kind of rapprochement. In essence, she was urging liberals within the opposition to be vigilant and assuring them at the same time that she means business.

"When I presented the idea of lifting a ban on political rallies to my party CCM, a hot debate ensued, just like what Mbowe received when he invited me here," she revealed.

In what democracy lovers hailed as a milestone, Samia's gesture signifies her commitment to building a new nation from almost seven years of divisive and polarising politics overseen by her predecessor which led to widespread injustice which she now works so hard to undo.

"Just for your assurance, reforms are happening to allow us all to build a new



nation, a Tanzanian nation with political competition without violence. That's where we want to go," she said to a rapturous applause and a standing ovation from the audience, namely Chadema members.

Now that Samia has taken this first, bold step, the question is will they reciprocate? This is why I said this poses a challenge because in the opposition, there are those folks who believe that the work of opposition is to oppose from January to December.

Revelation by Samia that some radicals within Chadema opposed her being invited means that the party, and Mbowe in particu-

lar, has his work cut out for him going forward. He will be (if he has not already been) called names by members of his own party including a traitor or sale-out! I understand he knows what is good for the country.

At this juncture, our country needs leaders and not just politicians. As some analysts say, politicians are concerned with the next election while leaders are concerned with the next generation. By inviting Samia, and by Samia agreeing, this is a sign that both are leaders.

In a polarized and divided country like ours, I believe that Mbowe understands that

the country needed political reconciliation and that is why he reached out to Samia although this rubbed some Chadema members the wrong way.

Those of us who would like to see Tanzania of peace and vibrant democracy encourage President Samia and Mbowe to continue on this trajectory of peace-building and reconciliation without being distracted by shortsighted radicals within their parties.

The author is a political analyst based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached on 0655 522 922

Only gender-responsive approach to technology will ensure progress

By Naureen Hossain

PPROMOTING gender equality in technology and digital spaces is at the core of the UN's observance of International Women's Day (IWD) as UN senior officials call on the world to take concrete action against ingrained gender biases.

The United Nations and UN Women hosted their observance of IWD under the theme "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality," with a special celebration of women and girls in the STEM fields. This year's theme aligns with digital transformation and innovation for educating women and girls currently being discussed at the 67th Commission of the Status of Women (CSW).

The event was hosted by journalist and WABC-TV anchor Sabe Baderinwa, who remarked on the theme's significance by reminding attendees that "access to and control over technology is crucial for women's economic and social empowerment."

The event touched on the significance of promoting gender equality in the digital space through the meaningful ways technology and innovation can empower women and girls when given the opportunity. It also notably dissected the barriers preventing complete gender parity in this sector. Put simply, women and girls have historically been underrepresented in the STEM fields and are prevented from unlocking the full potential of technology.

At present, nearly 37 percent of women do not have access to the internet, meaning that they neither have access to resources nor are able to acquire useful digital skills. Those women and girls who do use technology and occupy digital spaces are at greater risk of being subject to online harassment and violence, and misogynistic attitudes.

The gender disparity in online spaces is also evident in the ways that online harassment has targeted women and girls in these spaces and has even pushed them off these platforms. Within the tech industry, women make up less than a third of the workforce, with even fewer of them in leadership positions.

This was pointed out by several of the speakers present at the event, including President of the General Assembly Csaba Kőrösi in his opening remarks.

"As it stands, far too many women and girls still cannot access the opportunities offered by technology... Women are twenty-seven times more likely than men to face online harassment and hate speech. Only one in four reports [these incidents], and nearly nine in ten limit their online activity because of it, reinforcing the digital divide."

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in a statement that technology can lift women and girls up in "a myriad of ways" through access to education and healthcare or entrepreneurship. But the full promise of technology can only be realized when the systematic barriers have been confronted. This starts with including more women in leadership roles in the tech sector.

"Without women's leadership, the Silicon Valleys of this world don't disrupt the patriarchy; they sim-



Delegates at the UN observance of International Women's Day, under the theme "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality." Credit: Naureen Hossain/IPS

ply digitize sexism and perpetuate inequalities. And without women's leadership, tomorrow's products will have gender equality built into their code."

In his own statement at the event, the Secretary-General's Chef de Cabinet Earle Courtney Rattray brought attention to how the disparity in technology access is more prominent in developing countries, including the Least Developed Countries.

"Nowhere is this more evident than in LDCs," he said. "According to the International Telecommunications Union, about two-thirds of the LDC population remains offline, and the gap between these countries and the rest of the world in the [sheer number] of people losing access to the internet has increased from 27% in 2011 to 30% last year."

"The inclusion of women and girls as prominent key players in digital evolution for current and future generations gives the opportunity to address the most critical development and humanitarian challenges," Chair of the 67th Commission on the Status of Women Mathu Joyini said in her statement.

UN-Women Executive Director Sima Bahous reminded those in attendance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), particularly SDG5, which calls for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. "It is no coincidence that today, as SDG5 is off-track, so are the SDGs as a whole. We live in a world of interconnected crises. At the heart of every crisis, we see inequality multiplied. We now have a new form of poverty. Digital poverty is growing and intensely gendered."

In her statement, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Doreen Bogdan-Martin shared stories of young women and girls who used technology to improve the quality of life in their communities through their own innovations, remarking on how their examples "reminds us that technology is not a luxury, but a necessity."

"We have the foundation because all countries agree on the need to achieve universal connectivity, and they agree on the need for sustainable digital transformation," she said. "We also have the momentum, the Partner 2 Connect Digital Coalition led by the ITU, together with many UN partners, has mobilized in one year over \$17 billion USD for digital gender equality. We also have the unique opportunity... all of us today together, to ensure that gender equality happens in our lifetime and not in 300 years."

During a panel discussion moderated by Baderinwa, the current state of technology and innovation was further explored, with particular attention paid to the involvement that would be needed from multiple stakeholders to achieve gender parity.

As journalist and UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Marion Reimers remarked, when it comes to the safety of women and girls, attention should be given to the systems that perpetuate harassment online, including in the case of women journalists.

"We are so far behind because it feels like there is no help because this is a new landscape, and it has created so many new necessities that we need to catch up real quick," she said. "When you take into account that 75%

of women journalists are victims of online harassment, this is directly intertwined with how we speak about problems in the public sphere... with how the voices of women are taken into account."

"If we want to succeed, we must have meaningful participation and involvement from civil society," said Marie Bjerre, Minister for Digital Government and Gender Equality in Denmark. She also added that governments' involvement should include introducing legislation that would place more protections online, citing Denmark's own examples in passing laws that target online grooming and the distribution of intimate images.

Director of Strategic Initiatives at Policy, Dr Irene Mwendwa, spoke from the perspective of policymakers and researchers in the field and the transformative power that technology can have for local government women leaders in Africa. "Once they understand the power of technology and data, when they go into the council, when they go into cabinet and parliament, they will be able to debate better. When they debate better over the legal frameworks, the policies coming out of our countries into our communities will be inclusive to both women's and men's needs, pertaining to ICT."

Finally, the perspective and contributions of young people as those most involved and present in online spaces must also be encouraged, especially young women. UNICEF Youth Advocate Gitanjali Rao remarked on the opportunity to "harness the ingenuity that youth bring to the plate."

"Now is the time to maximize creativ-

ity. We should be taking these opportunities to look at the ways in which we can support girls, especially by digitizing content online and honestly supporting them in every way possible, whether that's through the work they're doing or making sure that they're safe online as well," she said.

The speakers and panelists called for multiple measures to be taken that could address the systemic gaps and inequalities that women and girls face with technology. These measures include broadening access to technology to reach more people, investing in digital skills-based learning for women and girls to effectively make use of technology and learning, and breaking down the gender biases and binaries that make digital spaces unsafe for certain groups, especially through gender-based violence facilitated through technology.

This also means promoting more women into leadership and decision-making roles in the tech sector and beyond, where they are able to directly influence policy and legislation. As technology continues to be ubiquitous in our daily lives, a gender-responsive approach will be crucial to future innovations.

"Without decisive action, the digital gender divide will become the new face of widening social and economic inequalities," Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed said in a video statement at the end of the event.

IPS UN Bureau Report

Vanuatu twin cyclones underscore the Pacific's vulnerability to climate disaster risks

By Sanjay Srivastava and Sudip Ranjan Basu

TWO destructive Category 4 tropical cyclones, Judy and Kevin, and an earthquake of 6.5 magnitude impacted over 80 per cent of the Vanuatu population from 1 to 3 March 2023. To address this emergency situation, the UN, along with Pacific member States have deployed personnel on the ground to coordinate humanitarian assistance and prepare post-disaster damage assessment.

Sitting in the Pacific "Ring of Fire," Vanuatu experiences frequent volcanic and seismic activity. And along with the other Pacific small island developing States (SIDS), Vanuatu faces existential threats due to rising sea level, ocean acidification and the increased frequency and severity of natural disasters and is on the front line of climate crisis.

The twin cyclones and an earthquake in just 48 hours remind the world that seismic and climate risks are converging and intensifying - no community feels this stronger than those of the Blue Pacific Continent.

On macro-economic impact, in fact, Pacific SIDS face Average Annual Losses from multiple hazards totaling to US\$ 1.1 billion in the current scenario. This figure is set to increase to US\$ 1.3 billion under moderate and US\$1.4 billion under worst-case climate warming scenarios. As a percentage of GDP, Vanuatu, Tonga and

Palau are projected to face highest losses - Vanuatu is projected to lose a staggering 20 per cent GDP annually due to disasters.

Intensifying and expanding climate crisis
In ESCAP's recent report, the analysis shows that at 1.5 to 2.0 °C warming, there are likely intensifying annual wind speeds of tropical cyclones and that the risk of tropical cyclones is expected to expand and include newer areas beyond the historical tracks (Figure 2). Vanuatu in particular, will experience higher risk of tropical cyclone both in terms of the intensification as well as geographic expansion of the riskscape.

As cyclone hazards are intensifying and deviating from their traditional tracks, their greater complexity results in deeper uncertainties in the ability to predict. Our Blue Pacific Continent is not sufficiently prepared.

Formulating transformative actions
As the climate changes, the riskscape is transforming. These disaster risks compound and cascade to amplify the great hardship experienced by the Pacific SIDS in terms of population and critical infrastructure exposure. The argument for transformative action to mitigate and adapt to intensifying and expanding disaster risks in the Blue Pacific Continent has never been more compelling.

First, early warning for all is an imperative, needs to



capture compounding risks.

The UN Secretary-General highlighted that every person on the planet is to be covered by early warning systems by 2027. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction sets the increase in availability and access to multi-hazard early warning systems as a distinct target, Target G, to be achieved by 2030. As per the latest Sendai Framework reporting of Target G, large gaps remain for many countries in the Pacific SIDS (See Figure 3).

Relative to other countries in the subregion, Vanuatu's Target G scores are high, reporting substantial to comprehensive coverage of multi-hazard early warning systems across all indicators. WMO's Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre in Nadi, Fiji was providing early warnings in the face of power outages and surmounting uncertainties - as a result, there have been no reported fatalities.

Second, transformative adaptation solutions are needed.

To minimize and prevent systemic and cascading risk, we need to make new infrastructure and water resource management more resilient. Improving dryland crop production and using nature-based solutions such as increasing mangroves protection are also priority adaptation solutions.

Some 1.5 per cent of GDP for adaptation investment is estimated to be needed in Pacific SIDS - three times less than the average losses projected. These adaptation investments must be risk-informed and strategically directed towards policy actions that yield high cost-benefits. Where there are multi-hazard risk hotspots across the region, risk-informed policy and transformative actions should capitalize on inter-sectoral synergies and co-benefits.

Third, the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent provides a clear pathway.

With the adoption of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent in July 2022, Pacific SIDS have developed a clear pathway to synergize regional priorities with accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the SAMOA Pathway.

Next generation risk analytics, advances in climate science, geo-spatial modeling, Artificial Intelligence and machine learning must be at the heart of people-centered and evidence-based decision-making. And, the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific is an ideal platform to take forward some of the policy decisions.

Strengthening subregional and regional cooperation platform

Tropical cyclones, often transboundary in nature, require an architecture of regional co-operation mechanisms to effectively manage the shared risks. In this instance, local capacities and regional support mechanisms should be commended. To further strengthen this work, the lesson from Vanuatu's back-to-back cyclones and earthquake is to have effective, impact-based and risk informed early warning systems that can capture the complexity and dynamics of a compounding risk.

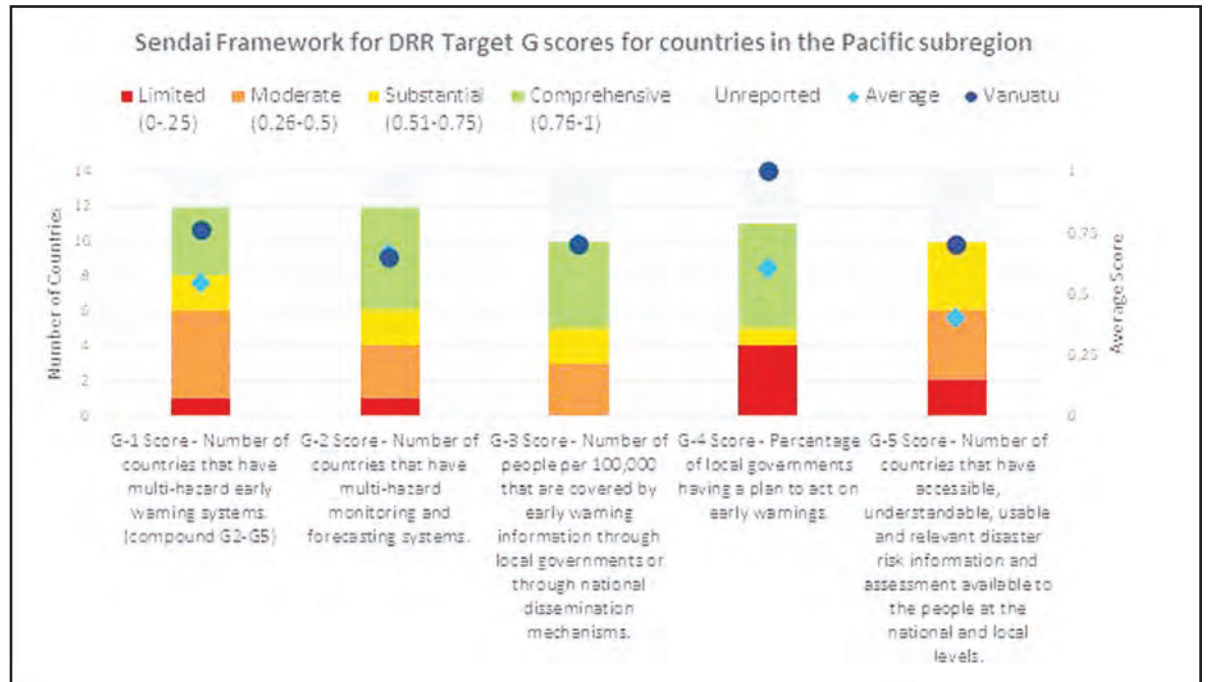
The Asia-Pacific Risk and Resilience Portal was developed by ESCAP with the goal of creating a user-friendly one stop platform for policymakers to access a vast array of scientific information and decision support tools to promote risk informed policy decisions.

Furthermore, the Vanuatu incidents underscores the need for conducting a rapid post-disaster needs assessment that can support formulation of a long-term recovery strategy and plan for its reconstruction by applying a standardized approach with innovative methodology and framework.

The overlapping and transboundary nature of risks experienced by countries of the Blue Pacific Continent cannot be addressed without solidarity and collective action towards strengthening regional cooperation platform.

Sanjay Srivastava is Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP);

Sudip Ranjan Basu is Deputy Head, ESCAP Sub-regional Office for the Pacific IPS UN Bureau



Trading in Tanzania as
Sayari Safi Limited

POWERUP
Clean Tech For Everyone

ANNOUNCEMENT

PowerUP and Sayari Safi Limited is organizing stakeholder consultation meeting to collect feedback on the project PowerUP Smart Electric Stoves for Clean Air

Agenda: Discuss and receive feedback on development of project on dissemination of Electric Pressure Cookers (EPC) that saves energy need.

Interested people are invited to join us for a meeting in the following address

Venue: Protea Hotel Courtyard Oysterbay
P.O.BOX 542 Dar es salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 (0)22 213 0 130/560
Mob: +255 684 452 123

Date: 13/04/2023
Time: 9:00 am

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO

CAPITAL RADIO

Premier urges mining companies to develop more women academically

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called on mining companies to come up with programmes that will develop more women employees academically and promote them to various levels, including leadership roles, after completing their training and education.

Majaliwa made the call recently in Dar es Salaam during the eighth graduation of the Female Future Tanzania Programme organised by the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE), where a total of 65 graduates were awarded certificates.

He cited Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) as one of the mining companies that have created chances for various trainings for female employees in order to boost their productivity, particularly in the digital world.

Majaliwa encouraged other mining firms to embrace the vice by giving more chances for women in managerial positions as GGML do.

He also stated: "I am pleased to learn that a number of women who graduated from this program have attained significant leadership positions, such as at GGML (Tatu Tibashengwa); this is the success we want."

The premier also urged women to show up in big numbers to participate in the programme because it has continued to provide beneficial outcomes for them, particularly in terms of their professional performance and their personal lives.

In his address, he also challenged women and



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa presents a certificate of recognition for the GGML's contribution to the funding of the training of Female Future Tanzania-FFT in 2023 to the mining firm's finance manager, Tatu Tibashengwa. Tatu is one of the graduates of the training that took place for nine months under the coordination of the Tanzania Employers' Association (ATE). Other graduates from GGML are Changwa Mjella, Hellen Mallya and Flora Muhochi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzanians in general to continue capitalizing on the potential presented by the development of a digital

economy through the use of technology.

Suzanne Doran, the chief executive officer of ATE, stated

that since the program's inception in collaboration with the Eastern and Southern African Management In-

stitute (ESAMI) in Arusha, 274 women from 79 companies, including 150 members of parliament and representa-

tives, had received training.

Since the training commenced in 2016, the GGML has sent a total of 17 female employees to the Female Future Tanzania training programme, according to Dominic Marandu, the company's acting human resources manager.

Several of the graduates, including Janeth Luponelo, who serves on the board of State Mining Company, have been selected to various leadership roles within and outside the corporation, according to him (STAMICO).

"We are currently in the process of recommending four additional female employees for the next programme, and I believe GGML will keep advancing diversity and inclusion at the mine," he added.

Tatu Tibashengwa, formerly the internal control superintendent, was one of the graduates; she has since been elevated to Manager (Good Governance) and Finance. Changwa Mjella, Hellen Mallya, and Flora Muhochi are three other alumni of the FFT programme.

Tibashengwa, in addition to expressing her excitement over the promotion, praised the company for recognizing her outstanding performance, efficiency, courage, and commitment to gender equality at work.

"More women will be encouraged to work, and even my coworkers will be encouraged that it is doable," she said.

Trust for more participation of women in tourism sector

By Beatrice Philemon

AS Tanzania joined others to commemorate the International Women's Day last week, Fungua Trust has called for greater participation of women in the tourism sector.

Trust chief executive director, Dr Shongo Sedoyeka made the appeal at the just ended round table discussion that took place in Dar es Salaam recently.

She said that women, men and young people turned out in big numbers to attend a round table discussion as part of a month-long event to commemorate the International Women's Day.

Themed: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality, the event was organised by the Fungua Trust in collaboration with the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Women Caucus.

Dr Shogo said it was high time for

women to tap various opportunities in the rapidly growing tourism sector so as to improve their lives and contribute to the development of the society and the nation at large.

She said that the Trust's main focus is to enhance capacities of vulnerable communities in Tanzania, and across the region, towards exploiting opportunities which can bring a positive change in their lives.

Apart from its enormous contribution to the GDP in almost all East African countries, which in some cases is as high as thirty percent, the tourism industry also provides a wide range of income generation opportunities for women, youth and those with limited skills and financial resources.

"While these opportunities seem equally abundant to all groups in our societies, limited access to technology

and innovation are part of challenges that continue to hold back many Women from engaging effectively in the tourism businesses," she said.

Dr Christine Musisi, the UNDP Resident Representative for Tanzania who was chief guest at the event, congratulated Tanzania for having the only female head of State in Eastern Africa and the continent, Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan.

She emphasized that women have a huge task in Africa, to work towards the Africa 2063 agenda of an integrated, peaceful, prosperous continent driven by its citizens and representing a dynamic force in a global arena.

Dr Musisi clarified that Africa cannot continue to do business the same way, it rather needs to be more innovative, harness new technologies, embark on digitalization and follow a

more integrated and inclusive approach in strengthening tourism in this country.

This is in line with the sub-theme that Fungua Trust put forward to guide presentations and discussions at this event - 'Technovation for women in tourism and related sectors'.

For this, Musisi commended Fungua Trust and EALA Women Caucus for their vision and efforts.

In her remarks, Ambassador Fatuma Ndagiza, EALA MP from Rwanda and the Secretary General for EALA Women Caucus noted that this year's theme recognizes the role of innovative technology in promoting gender equality calling to action EAC stakeholders to accelerate digital inclusion and equitable strategies leaving no one behind.

She highlighted the areas of central role of gender equality and social justice in sustainable development pledging EALA

Women's Caucus commitment to strive for EAC that is an inclusive society and working for all its citizens.

She further asserted that innovation and technology are key drivers in accelerating the growth of tourism, EAC regional integration and attainment of AU agenda 2063 and UN Sustainable Development goals.

To address digital divide and gender related barriers to Technovation for women in tourism and related sectors, she proposed the following measures; Prioritize investment in tourism and inclusive technology; Promoting women's participation in science and technology and ICT; and advocacy for policies and legal frameworks to keep women and girls safe.

She applauded Fungua Trust's bold vision of impacting people's lives and promoting gender justice not only in Tanzania but EAC as a whole.

Institute pleads for bettering of quality of rice seed production

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

TANZANIA is the leading rice producer and exporter in East Africa, but there is significant potential for improvement.

In light of this, George Iranga, the liaison scientist at the international rice research institute (IRRI) in Tanzania has stressed the need to increase awareness about the advantages of improved high-yielding and climate-resilient rice varieties and address the challenges of poor availability and accessibility of affordable quality-assured seeds in Tanzania.

"These efforts are essential to ensure food security and increase rice crop yields," he added.

IRRI Tanzania office successfully concluded a three-day quality seed production training from 28th February to 2nd March 2023 in Moshi, Kilimanjaro, in partnership with Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training Center (KATC), Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI), Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA), and Kilimo Trust (KT). The training sought to promote food, income, and nutrition security in Tanzania by providing hands-on experience and sessions on theoretical aspects to various partners in the seed value chain.

Iranga highlighted the successful and long-lived technical and capacity-strengthening collaboration between IRRI and the Government of Tanzania. This collaboration began in early 1983 when IRRI's Board of Trustees visited the country for the first time," he said.

He also noted that over 50% of rice varieties released in the country were developed from IRRI breeding materials.

Currently, IRRI is sponsoring nine (9) students, six (6) M.Sc. and 3 Ph.D. at Sokoine University of agriculture under our two running AGGRI Alliance and DANIDA projects," Iranga added.

Iranga highlighted the low awareness about improved high-yielding and climate-resilient rice varieties and the lack of/poor availability and accessibility of affordable quality-assured seeds, which have been the key challenges in seed systems.

"To meet this challenge, IRRI and its partners have been promoting improved rice varieties since 2018 in different district councils where rice is an important crop. This year, IRRI has funded four Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) stations to establish a total of 120 sites of demonstration plots of nationally released varieties in different district councils,"

he said.

"This training aims to promote entrepreneurship production for existing informal seed producers and new women and young farmers' collectives, accelerate genetic gain, and create awareness and demand for good quality seeds of improved, climate-resilient, and high-yielding rice varieties," said Iranga.

"Seed quality certification is important not only for farmers but also for the overall growth and development of the agriculture sector in Tanzania. TOSCI's certification process, which involves collaboration with various stakeholders, ensures that farmers have access to high-quality seeds that are authentic, consistent, and stable," noted Emmanuel Mwakatobe, a Seed Technologist at Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute.

He also added: "Seed certification and quality certification are essential processes that contribute to the growth and development of the agriculture sector in Tanzania, and TOSCI plays a vital role in ensuring that the highest standards are met."

According to IRRI the seed value chain plays a vital role in Tanzania's agricultural sector, which is the backbone of the economy. This successful partnership is a concerted effort to train farmers and other



Three-day quality seed production training in progress in Moshi, Kilimanjaro Region. The training was aimed at promoting food, incomes, and nutrition security in Tanzania through hands-on experience and theoretical sessions with partners in the seed value chain.

stakeholders in the seed value chain to ensure that the smallholder farmers have access to the best quality seeds and that the highest seed production, certification and quality assurance standards are met.

The training covered various topics, including seed quality, seed legislation, seed production planning, preparation of seed for planting, seed crop establishment and management, seed field harvesting, seed drying and storage and conditioning.

Participants had the opportunity to visit seed production farms and gain practical experience in quality seed production. The training also emphasized the importance of good water management practices, soil analysis before applying fertilizers, maintaining cleanliness on the farm, and eliminating impurities from the seed to ensure high quality and high germination rate.

IRRI partners involved in the training included staff from TARI, TOSCI, ASA, and Kilimo Trust. Upon completing the training, farmers received TOSCI certificates that will enable them to form groups for QDS seed production and marketing, provided they meet the other necessary TOSCI requirements.

The training was designed to equip stakeholders in the seed value chain, including women and youth, farmer groups, individual farmers, and government institutions, with the necessary skills and knowledge to become proficient in quality seed production.

This training specifically focused on Quality Declared Seed (QDS) production. Participants expressed their satisfaction with the content and delivery of the training and noted that it would contribute to improving food security and livelihoods in the region.

30 farmers from 22 regions and 30 district councils benefited from the training program, which aimed to promote entrepreneurship in

seed production among existing informal producers and new women and young farmers' collectives, accelerate genetic gain by replacing local landraces with improved, high-yielding rice varieties, and contribute to the awareness and demand for good quality seeds of improved, climate-resilient, and high-yielding rice varieties.

Nice Wilfred Ntupwa from the Ministry of Agriculture, and the acting principal of (KATC), Peter Aloyce Kabela attended the first day of the training for the opening.

IRRI-Africa remains committed to supporting the development of the agricultural sector in Tanzania and is grateful to its partners for their support in facilitating this training.

This initiative is just one of many aimed at improving the quality and quantity of seeds produced in the country by various seed producers from the public, private and cooperative sectors. By working together, IRRI, KATC, TARI, TOSCI, ASA, NNAFAKA KILIMO, and KT hope to promote sustainable farming practices, increase crop yields, and contribute to the country's economic growth.

For food, income and nutrition security, and for promoting sustainable agriculture in Tanzania, there is a pressing need for concerted efforts in training farmers and other stakeholders in the seed chain.

How we can improve care, support for senior citizens

By Elena Moore and Gabrielle Kelly

MANY of us will make choices about what care we can give to an older person and we will think about how we can arrange that care. These choices are heavily influenced by material, social, cultural and relational dynamics, but they are also governed by the availability of good quality, affordable institutional care.

Will I be able to access respite care if I take on the care of an older person? Will I be able to afford a carer to help me when I am at work? How much will it cost and how much care support will I require? Who else can help, and what choices do I really have?

Imagine the following scenario: you and your partner are living in a house in a lower-middle class area. Your partner's mother, 75, is diagnosed with a chronic condition and requires care. Your partner wants the older person to move into your house, but you think you are too busy to cope, so what would you do? What do we think about this scenario and what options do we consider when making a choice?

Our study

In considering options, most participants in our study prioritised employment. Does the couple have the capacity to look after an older person if they are employed, as one person stated: "Who is going to look after the granny? What do they do? I wouldn't expect them to quit their jobs to look after her. I would ask another family member at home whether they could do it."

Some participants prioritised relational concerns, specifically how caring for an older person would impact on the marriage and family dynamics, as one person argued: "If there isn't agreement between the partners and she is not volunteering, then it is going to cause huge marriage instability. My personal belief is that when you marry, your first obligation is to your family, and then to caring for your parents."

Many participants considered an old age home as a reasonable option, something they would advise the characters to pursue. These ideas were primarily focussed on the quality of care that older persons might receive at an old age home. As one participant stated: "I think their mom is 75 years and they should place her in a home. Because there's everything and they will look after her, they will feed her, bath and do everything." But it was also based on the need for an older person to be socially included, which to some participants it was "better to put her in old aged home and sometimes people sometimes feel so down so maybe if she's with other people they could help you and make you feel better and they could do things together like activities."

The findings support existing research, which indicates a variation in support for institutional eldercare.

During apartheid, the state provided subsidised residential care facilities

for white older people, but this system could not feasibly be extended to the entire population from a financial perspective, nor was it desirable in terms of cultural values or global trends in elder care, which emphasise "ageing-in-place". Both locally and internationally, there has been a drive to reduce admissions of older persons to assisted living facilities by promoting community-based care models that promote healthy ageing and support the quality of life and ongoing participation of older people in society.

The Older Persons Act (2006) emphasises family- and community-based care, and the government has progressively de-funded facilities in favour of an ageing in place model. However, the lack of concomitant investment in community- and home-based care structures has left the country with a hollowed-out long-term care system, where there is insufficient funding to adequately support low-income persons in need of frail care in residential facilities, and very little support for care at community and familial level.

High costs of private elder care

But given the high costs of private institutional elder care in South Africa, and the limited subsidies available for frail older persons who meet the stringent physical, cognitive and income criteria for subsidisation, most older people, regardless of what might be desired, will remain in family and community settings for as long as possible.

Service centres for older persons and community-based care services are provided largely by NGOs with inadequate funding, and services are unevenly distributed across the country. Service centres are focused on active older adults through meal provision and opportunities for socialisation, income-generation projects, and access to social and sometimes primary healthcare services through older persons "clubs," rather than addressing care needs. Community-based carer workers have high caseloads and are not able to provide substantive support.

The question then becomes, how do we (and the state) better support community-based and family-based care in the context of population ageing?

Extending access to the grant-in-aid

To cater to older persons with care needs, the government offers the Grant-in-Aid (GIA), an additional grant of R505 paid to beneficiaries of the Older Persons Grant, War Veterans Grant and Disability Grant who are certified by a medical professional as in need of "regular attendance by another person" to subsidise care needs for those who are not in residential care facilities. The most recent statistics show that only around 6.5% of Old Age Grant beneficiaries are also receiving the GIA (34% of whom also receive grants for children, including child support grants, foster grants and care dependency grants), indicating that just less than 6.5% of older people in communities receive a GIA, many who are also primary or financial caregivers



Many participants considered an old age home as a reasonable option, something they would advise the characters to pursue. (Photo: iStock)

for children.

While estimates and definitions for care needs vary, if it were to be based on the number of people living outside of residential care facilities who need assistance with basic activities of daily living (eg washing, walking, eating etc), we can see that the GIA coverage of persons with care needs is very low. Estimates on the number of older persons living in community settings in South Africa who need assistance with at least one Basic Activity of Daily Living (BADL) vary from 17% in people aged 60 and older in one rural area to between 38% and 49% of those aged 65-74 and 75+ respectively. One study estimated around 88% of people aged 50+ had BADL difficulties, when criteria such as catching public transport, concentrating and remembering things, or learning a new task, were included. Impairment in activities of daily living is strongly related both to age and socio-economic status, with poorer, older persons experiencing greater degrees of disability.

Further study is needed on the reasons for low uptake of this grant, but other studies on Disability Grants and Care Dependency Grants indicate that poor awareness of the GIA, poor assessment tools and practices, as well as the complexities of applying for grants where medical assessment is required may act as significant barriers.

Given the gaps in, high costs of and undesirability of residential care, increasing the value of and access to the GIA would go a long way in support-

ing the care needs of older persons and compensating family or other informal caregivers for care provided.

Other options

Other important solutions are providing more funding for community-based care workers and NGOs that can offer more caregiver support, care equipment and consumables, education/training, respite care, home-based care support, as well as more specialised services such as support for dementia care. Increasing the quality and accessibility of integrated Primary Healthcare Services to older persons through training of health workers and improvements in transportation services (in urban and rural areas) to older persons to ensure that older people receive responsive care would assist them to remain healthy and active for as long as possible.

The Revised White Paper on Families in South Africa (2021) acknowledges the role of the state in assisting families to balance care of older persons with care responsibilities for other kin and economic participation and some potentially valuable policy and programmatic interventions. These include: "personal income tax relief, care subsidies, and affordable and accessible child, community care and afterschool school care services, as well as psychological support to mitigate families' burdens of caring for their children, older persons, and people with disabilities".

The White Paper also highlights the critical need to change perceptions of gender roles within family care, ensuring that all family members play appropriate roles and that policies are in place, such as extended paternity leave, to ensure that women's share of caregiving responsibilities in the family are reduced, and men's important roles recognised. Policies and programmes to support family care now need to be operationalised, implemented, and monitored. DM/MC

Prof Elena Moore is in the Department of Sociology at UCT, and was recently awarded a Wellcome Trust Career Award to develop a new research programme on Family Caregiving of Older Persons in South Africa. Dr Gabby Kelly is Deputy Director at the Samson Institute for Ageing. Her work focuses on the health, wellbeing and long-term care of older persons, as well as health and social policy for older persons and persons with disabilities.

By Ed Stoddard

THE RMB/BER Business Confidence Index (BCI) declined further in the first quarter (Q1) of this year, dimmed of course by the relentless onslaught of rolling power cuts. One of the few bright spots was a surge in confidence among contractors and sub-contractors, which RMB attributed to the scramble for solar panel installation.

The BCI declined to 36 in Q1 from 38 in Q4 last year, when the economy contracted 1.3%. This is further evidence, if any was needed, that the economy is shrinking again this quarter, meaning it has fallen into recession.

Even with that backdrop, some of the numbers were jarring. Manufacturing confidence tanked nine points to 17, in an index with a range of zero to 100. That doesn't even rate a matric pass rate.

"A level this low is rare, and it speaks to a sector that is bearing the brunt of the combined impact of intense load-shedding and dilapidated [and poorly run] logistic infrastructure. The deterioration in senti-

Solar panels sole ray of hope as blackouts dim business confidence

ment occurred across various sub-sectors, all of which shared a common feature in falling domestic sales and production," RMB said.

"Fixed investment to expand existing production capacity also suffered as demand weakened and capital expenditure budgets were increasingly absorbed by alternative energy generation measures."

So spending was diverted from expanding production to things like generators and solar panels, just to keep the lights on.

On that front, the scramble for solar panels is a ray of light for some contractors whose ranks will include engineers and electricians.

"Confidence of building contractors, the group which is captured in the RMB/BER BCI, declined marginally from 46 to 43 ... Strikingly, if we also consider sub-contractors - particularly electricians - confidence and activity in the overall building sector rose massively thanks largely to the installation of backup power. At least for



Solar panels at an energy generating facility in Thuengen, Germany 30 July 2018. The RMB/BER Business Confidence Index notes that the scramble for solar panels is a ray of light for contractors in South Africa - especially engineers and electricians. (Photo: Alex Kraus / Bloomberg via Getty Images)

some, load shedding seems to have a silver lining," RMB said.

"Even though this improvement does not reflect in the headline RMB/BER BCI result,

the upsurge in the installation of renewable energy and other load-shedding mitigation measures is certainly a boon for the broadly defined building and

civil construction sector." The renewable energy drive is one of the few growth areas in this wretched economy, and so one of the few that is getting a

tangible bounce in business confidence. At the moment, this is a consequence of sheer desperation: the need for businesses and households to keep

the power on in the face of Eskom's failure to do so. It's also known as survival mode.

In the longer run, it will be driven by the need for an economy that is the most coal-reliant on the planet to decarbonise to retain access to key markets such as Europe, which will penalise the import of products with a heavy carbon footprint.

Beyond that glimmer, the bulk of the BCI's component parts was grim. The retail sub-index fell sharply to 34 from 42, as high inflation, declining disposable income, and the mounting costs of power cuts in lost trading hours and outlays for diesel for generators drained confidence among retailers.

New vehicle dealer confidence rose to 44 from 41, but remains in negative territory. And one supposes that a car dealer always has to have some faith.

"...a thin silver lining attached to load shedding must not distract from the devastating blow load shedding specifically, and failing rail, road, and port infrastructure more generally, are inflicting on the economy," said RMB chief economist Etienne le Roux. DM/BM

BUSINESS

Banga navigates geopolitics and tight capital for WB job

LONDON

US World Bank nominee Ajay Banga said the lender must do "everything it can" to squeeze more cash from its balance sheet while preserving its gold-plated credit rating, as he set out his credentials on a world tour for a role that involves complex geopolitics.

The former Mastercard chief executive's run at the presidency of the multilateral lender comes as the bank finds itself under sustained criticism for failing to adequately address the scale of the global climate crisis while maintaining its mission to reduce poverty. The bank's current president, David Malpass, last month resigned from his post almost a year early.

Banga said he would seek to attract the private sector to support projects underwritten by the bank, alongside exploring elements of the G20-commissioned report into the so-called "capital adequacy frameworks" of multilateral development lenders such as the World Bank.

"The estimates of monetary requirements to deal with these issues from climate change to inequality to pandemics to fragility, are in the trillions," said Banga.

"There is not enough money in the multilateral balance sheet, no matter what we do with the capital adequacy framework, which we must do everything we can with to extract what we can, while preserving our AAA status. But even at the end of that, we are not going to get to those trillions."

The bank made loans, grants, equity investments and guarantees to partner countries and private businesses of \$104bn in 2022.

The G20-commissioned report, released last summer, said multilateral development banks including the World Bank were potentially being more conservative than they needed to be to maintain their triple-A credit rating from the three big credit rating agencies.

Banga insisted maintaining the triple-A rating was a priority. "It's a very simple thing – if you don't get the right rating, you don't get the right low cost of funds, which allows you to be able to do things at the right cost to the receiving countries."



Under his watch, the bank would work with the private sector to share its knowledge about countries, he said. "Multilateral banks can be an amazing way of transferring success about what works well in Indonesia, to what works in Mexico, to what works in Kenya, to what works in another place."

Climate policy experts and developing country officials have privately expressed reservations about Banga's scant development finance expertise and the shift required for a traditional corporate leader to steer a sprawling bureaucracy run by 25 executive directors who represent 189 member countries.

Banga, 63, cited his personal experience of emerging markets in defence of his credentials. "I grew up in India. I lived there. I worked there for the first 14 years of my [corporate] life."

He also sought to allay the concerns of some developing countries that a new focus on climate would come at the expense of other priorities, such as healthcare and education, and might mean less money for the poorest.

He viewed climate change and development issues as "intertwined", he said. "In my trips to Africa... at no point did I encounter a conversation that said 'we don't care about climate, just give me my health and schools', because they all are at the receiving end of what's going on with climate."

The US dominates the World Bank with a 17 per cent shareholding, followed by Japan, China, Germany, the UK, France, India and Russia. Russia's Tass news agency has reported that it was consulting "friendly countries" about nominating a rival candidate to challenge the US monopoly over the role since the bank was founded after the second world war.

In the face of this, the UK formally endorsed Banga's candidacy after he met with Chancellor Jeremy Hunt on Thursday. India was among the first countries to express support.

Banga was in the Ivory Coast and Kenya this month and will also meet government representatives in the EU, Japan, China and Latin America in the coming weeks. Nominations for the presidency close on March 29, and the bank's spring meeting will be held in mid-April in Washington.

PM: Let women, youths go for opportunities available through programme led by CRDB Bank

By Guardian Reporter

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (pictured) has urged youths and women to grab opportunities from the newly launched empowerment programme dubbed "iMBEJU". Literary translating as "Seed", it has been jointly introduced by CRDB Bank Plc in partnership with the National ICT Commission (ICTC) and Commission for Science and Technology (Costech) to promote business innovations.

He made the remarks yesterday during the CRDB Bank Plc empowerment seminar on advisory and enabling capital, which went hand in hand with the launch of CRDB Bank Foundation and iMBEJU programme.

The Premier said the programme will create the solution to businesses, particularly youths' startups and women led through building operation capacities through strategic training provided in collaboration with ICT Commission, Costech and other partners involved with women empowerment through groups' programmes.

"The truth is that, the problem of startups is not only capital. Capitals are there and our financial institutions are ready to finance, but the risk of on-performing is high because startups are lacking management and supervision skills," he said.

"I thank CRDB Bank Plc for seeing this by combining iMBEJU programme with advisory and training."

He called on youths and women to best use of provided capital by investing in targeted areas through their business plans,



while insisting them to be trustful.

The Premier also urged government institutions to give opportunities to youths with innovative ideas that will help in solving social problems, giving example youths who have innovated traffic lights to be given opportunities by ministry of works.

"This programme is going hand in hand with the government vision of promoting youths and women innovations to create jobs and stimulate the country's development."

The Premier has assured youths that the government is determined to support their innovative ideas to ensure that their productivity to create social impacts.

Speaking during the event, the minister of information and information technology Nape Nnauye said iMBEJU programme is ex-

pected to stimulate the production of new goods and services which to cater the current demands of Tanzanians.

Nape called for youths to best use of the programme by coming up with competitive innovative ideas, which will compete in local and international markets.

The Zanzibar minister of works, communication and transport Dr. Khalid Salum Mohammed has also called for women and youths to best use of such opportunity, noting that the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar will continue to improve environments which will promote innovations and growth of startup businesses.

The CRDB Bank board's vice chairperson Prof Neema Mori said the programme is part of the bank in stimulating development through increasing financial inclu-

sion among youths and women.

She said iMBEJU is a sustainable programme which is implemented through CRDB Bank Foundation, which was given the task of creating, establishing and managing sustainable social support programmes.

CRDB Bank managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela said the main objective of iMBEJU programme is to empower many women and youths through supporting the growth of their businesses in order to improve their economies with their families, while contributing into tax coffer as well as job creation.

Nsekela said apart from capital support, the bank has allocated a total of 5bn/- revolving fund, and will collaborate with ICT Commission and Costech to provide training on business management.

"This programme is targeting women led businesses and youths startups, with emphasis being put on technological innovations," he said.

CRDB Bank Foundation managing director Tully Ester Mwambapa said in order to get empowerment capital, women and youths need to be trained and after graduating, they will be linked through iMBEJU account ad given capital.

"For startups, applications will be sent through Costech and ICT Commission website and they will pass through different training stages. For women, they will apply through our network of branches across the country," she said.

The CRDB Bank empowerment seminar which was attended by 7,000 youths across the country through physical presence and online involves presentations on how to increase innovations among women ad youths and

Record Oil Output
Aramco pumped more oil than ever in 2022

Aramco's yearly crude production (barrels a day)



Source: Bloomberg

Bloomberg

Saudi Aramco posts blowout annual profit, raises dividend

ROYADH

Saudi Aramco unexpectedly increased its dividend and said it would hike spending as it looks to deploy an avalanche of cash generated by last year's surge in oil and gas prices.

The world's biggest energy company made net income for the full year of \$161 billion, the most since it listed and up 46% from 2021. Its performance was bolstered by Russia's invasion of Ukraine roiling oil markets and the OPEC+ alliance raising production.

Aramco boosted its dividend – a crucial source of funding for the Saudi Arabian government – to \$19.5 billion for the final quarter, up 4% from the previous three-month period.

US and European peers such as Chevron Corp. and Shell Plc also

reported blowout earnings and are returning billions of dollars to shareholders through larger dividends and buybacks. Aramco, until now, has instead focused on using its extra cash to increase output.

Crude prices have fallen from \$125 a barrel since the middle of 2022, with Brent dropping another 3.6% this year to below \$83 a barrel. That's been caused in large part by the US Federal Reserve staying hawkish on inflation and investors no longer anticipating interest rates will be on a clear downward path by the second half of 2023.

The company's adjusted profit weakened to around \$31 billion between October and December, according to Bloomberg estimates, down from \$42 billion in the third quarter. Aramco will release a full financial statement on Monday.

Sabic, a chemicals firm controlled by Aramco, saw income slump in late 2022 as a global economic slowdown weighed on consumption of everything from plastics to building materials.

Many traders still think oil will climb later this year, perhaps back to \$100 a barrel, as China's economy recovers with the ending of coronavirus lockdowns.

Demand in China and India, two of Aramco's main markets, is robust, Chief Executive Officer Amin Nasser said to reporters on Sunday. Oil consumption will probably hit a record of 102 million barrels a day by the end of 2023, he said.

"Europe might have been impacted a little bit because of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine and economic headwinds," he said. "But in the rest of the world, where

most of our supplies go to, we are seeing pick up in demand."

Aramco reiterated there's too little investment globally in oil and gas production and warned that a tight market could cause prices to jump.

"Given that we anticipate oil and gas will remain essential for the foreseeable future, the risks of underinvestment in our industry are real – including contributing to higher energy prices," Nasser said in a company statement.

Saudi Arabia has criticized Western governments and energy firms for trying to transition to clean energy too quickly. Aramco, in contrast, is spending billions of dollars to raise its daily oil capacity to 13 million barrels by 2027 from 12 million, and gas output by more than 50% this decade.

Aramco spent \$376 billion on

capital projects in 2022 and will increase the figure to between \$45 billion and \$55 billion this year, it said. In addition to oil, its investing heavily in cleaner fuels including hydrogen.

The full year dividend of \$75.8 billion – the world's largest for a public company – was easily covered by free cash flow, which soared to almost \$149 billion.

"We're aiming to sustain it at this level and grow it through the years," Chief Financial Officer Ziad Al-Murshed said of the dividend.

Aramco will also issue one bonus share for every 10 shares owned.

The gearing ratio, a measure of net debt to equity, fell further into negative territory as the firm's finances improved. It dropped to -7.9% from -4.1% at the end of September.

Crude production averaged 10.5

million barrels a day in 2022, the highest level ever for the kingdom. That came as the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and its partners – a 23-nation group led by Saudi Arabia and Russia – opted to pump more following deep supply cuts in 2020 as Covid-19 battered the oil market.

Saudi Arabia's energy minister, Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman, has indicated the alliance will leave its quotas unchanged for at least the rest of the year.

Aramco, based in Dhahran in eastern Saudi Arabia, carried out an initial public offering in 2019. The government still owns around 98% of the stock, which was unchanged on Sunday in Riyadh at 32.80 riyals.

Aramco has a market value of \$1.9 trillion, second only to Apple Inc.

Centenary gets licence to run banking services in Malawi

KAMPALA

CENTENARY Group has been granted a license to operate a new banking services subsidiary in Malawi.

The bank, which is majority owned by Centenary Group and the Catholic Church Archdiocese of Lilongwe - with minority shareholding - will trade as Centenary Bank Limited.

The move follows Centenary Group's acquisition of MyBucks in October last year, which had been placed into bankruptcy in December 2021.

Centenary Group is the holding company of Centenary Bank Uganda, Centenary Technology Services and Centenary Foundation.

In Uganda the banking subsidiary has an asset value of more than Shs4.8 trillion (\$1.3b), supported by a large network of customers, many of which are made up of Saccos and village saving and lending associations.

In a statement yesterday, Prof John Ddumba-Ssentamu, the Centenary Group chairman, said the Reserve Bank of Malawi had extended support to the Group, noting that the "bank will from the onset adopt an agile approach to operations, scaling customer centric propositions that will allow [it] to create highly personalised solutions ... within the Malawi market".

It is the first time Centenary is attempting to take its services beyond Uganda.

The Centenary Group has experienced rapid expansion in the last 10 years, boosted by a mix

of small and medium enterprises and corporate banking, which is supported by a network of more than 80 branches, Automated Teller Machines and more than 5,200 bank agents.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Lilongwe, with which Centenary Bank will operate the new bank owns a number of educational institutions, hospitals, companies and commercial properties estimated at more than \$30m.

Centenary Bank is Uganda's second largest bank, grossing an annual revenue of Shs211.5b as of December 2022.

The bank largely depends on micro customers, a model that has largely helped it to deepen financial inclusion.

Centenary will also seek to implement the same model in Malawi, in addition to digitalising financial services.

A former Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) soldier has sued Centenary Rural Development Bank Ltd over allegedly defrauding him of Shs15.86 million while he was deployed in Mogadishu, Somalia, in February 2021.

In a suit filed at the Chief Magistrates Court at Mengo in Kampala on June 13 through his lawyers of Allan & Partners Advocates, Mr Charles Abelebele accused the bank of fraud, negligence and breach of duty.

Mr Abelebele said unknown people withdrew Shs15.86m from his account through agent banking between February and July 2021.

He said he was not registered for mobile banking and his

attempts to seek an explanation from the bank were futile.

"Particulars of fraudulent acts include permitting registration of the complainant's account on agency banking without his knowledge, cashing out money from his account without his consent, and failure to account to the plaintiff over the said incidents," the suit reads in part.

Mr Abelebele retired from the UPDF in 2018 but was recalled for a mission to Somalia in 2020 under the UPDF reserve force.

Travel documents seen by this publication indicate that Mr Abelebele left the country on December 16, 2020 and returned on December 20, 2021.

A copy of a bank statement presented before the court indicates that between February 10 and July 2021, Shs15.86m was withdrawn from Mr Abelebele's account.

On February 10, the bank statement indicates that Shs6 million was withdrawn from the account. On February 12, 25, 26 and 27, Shs1.8m, Shs2m, Shs2m and Shs2m were withdrawn from the account via an agent bank, respectively.

"The complainant seeks the court's declaration that the bank's acts leading to the cashing out of the complainant's money to third parties in the said period accordingly were illegal and that a refund of Shs15,865,143 should be made to him," the suit reads.

On June 16, the Mengo Chief Magistrate, Ms Dorcas Zako, asked the bank to file a defence over the suit. "You are hereby required to file a defence in the said suit



within 15 days from the date of service of summons on you, should you fail to file a defence on or before the date mentioned, the complainant may proceed with the suit and judgment may be given in your absence," the court document states.

However, in their defence filed through their lawyers of Muhumuza-Kiiza Advocates and Legal Consultants on July 7, the bank denied Mr Abelebele's claims, saying the transactions were initiated from his mobile phone.

They also stated that Mr Abelebele validated the agency banking withdrawals using passwords that were sent directly to him for various transactions.

BK introduces an interbanking transfer feature

KIGALI

BANK of Kigali has upgraded 'BK Mobiserve' by introducing an interbank transfer feature dubbed "BK to other banks."

The novel BK to other banks feature allows customers to carry out transfers to other banks via USSD.

The USSD short codes did not change as they are still *334#

The USSD service - BK Mobiserve - is an App that enables customers to access bank services using mobile phones. Mobiserve USSD has been offering multiple functionalities.

Customers can view their account balance, request a mini statement, transfer funds, request checkbook, buy electricity, Top Up airtime, Pay Bills, view foreign currency exchange rates, and receive account movement notifications (SMS or Email), among others.

The new service is a game-changer offering customers a seamless and convenient banking experience.

In addition, Bank of Kigali added new billers such as NAEB, Ejo Heza, and Liquid Telecom, to its platform, giving customers more options to conduct financial transactions.

The revamp is expected to revolutionize the way people conduct financial transactions, making it easier, faster, and more convenient than ever before.

"On top of that, the BK Mobile USSD was designed and developed in-house, leveraging the expertise and knowledge of our own people, we have created a platform that is faster, easier to use and better tailored to the needs

of our customers. This will streamline the customer support process and any future upgrades as well," Bank of Kigali said.

The BK Mobile USSD will have all features of the former Mobiserve USSD, namely BK Quick, My account (Default account, balance and exchange rates), Intra-bank and transfer to Mobile wallets (MTN and Airtel Money), Bill Payments, Withdraw cash, Mini statement, Settings (Change PIN and Change language) and Prepaid card top up.

How to use BK Mobile USSD platform To be able to access the BK Mobile USSD platform, a customer dial *334# on their mobile phone and be able to access the BK Mobile USSD.

To check account balance: "Dial USSD code *334# and enter your PIN. Once on the BK Mobile menu, press 5 (My account). Once on the My account menu, press 1 (Account balance). From there select the account who's balance you want to check and enter your PIN. You will be able to view your account balance."

To send money to my MTN Mobile Money or Airtel Money, the customer does the following: "Dial USSD code *334# and enter your PIN. Once on the BK Mobile menu, press 2 (Send money). Once on the Send money, press 3 (Bk to Mobile money). After you choose between MTN Mobile Money and Airtel Money, enter the recipient phone number. You will then choose which of your accounts should be debited and enter the amount. Once you confirm your transfer you will only need to enter your PIN and your transfer will be complete."

Costly loans beckon as govt paper rates hit record levels



Treasury Cabinet Secretary Njuguna Ndung'u

NAIROBI

HOMES and businesses face costly loans as the government steps up borrowing from the domestic market, pushing returns on bond and Treasury bills to record levels.

The government has in recent weeks increased borrowing amid below-target revenue collections and reduced reliance on debt for the better half ending in December.

This has pushed returns on the 364-day Treasury bill to 10.747 percent in this week's auction—the highest rate since mid-2018.

The benchmark 91-day Treasury bill yields rose to 9.74 percent from 7.86 percent in June last year, forcing bankers to match it in an attempt to encourage larger depositors to leave their money with banks instead of lending to the State.

The State accepted bids of Sh16.6 billion for the 91-day Treasury bill despite setting the target to collect Sh4 billion, underlining its increased appetite for borrowing.

While the higher rates are welcomed by the cash-rich investors, banks are being forced to raise the rates for wholesale deposits and ultimately pass on the additional costs to consumers in the form of expensive loans.

"The interest rate on deposits for our high-net-worth depositors is rising due to T-bills because we are in competition for funds with the government," a CEO of a top bank told the Business Daily while seeking anonymity for fear of Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) reprisals.

"The T-bills are rising and the industry is facing pressure to increase lending on the high cost of deposits."

Banks use a base rate, which is normally the cost of funds plus a margin and a risk premium, to determine how much they

charge a particular customer.

A sustained rise in yields on government paper will trigger a review of the bankers' base rates in what could end the era of cheap credit.

The cost of bank loans hit a 52-month high in December in the wake of the CBK rate hikes and the rising yields on government paper.

Data from the CBK show the average lending rate rose to 12.67 percent in December from 12.22 percent in May last year when the banking regulator first raised rates in nearly seven years.

On Wednesday, the March infrastructure bond became the most lucrative government paper in the market after the CBK was forced to accept higher yields from investors at 14.39 percent for the issue.

This signalled that the government was willing to pay more for budget cash through domestic borrowing.

"The upward shift has resulted from increased budgetary financing pressure from modest growth in revenues with the CBK borrowing aggressively in the domestic debt market," noted analysts at Sterling Capital.

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) missed its revenue collection target by Sh27 billion in the three months to December amid President William Ruto's aggressive push to weed out tax evaders and boost receipts.

Tax collections from five major streams—payroll, corporation, VAT, excise and import duty - in the period amounted to Sh466.46 billion against a target of Sh493.11 billion.

Official data show gross domestic borrowing fell by 42.8 percent in the seven months to January to Sh304.2 billion compared to Sh532.9 billion tapped in a similar period a year earlier despite the full-year targets for the two periods being near similar at Sh1 trillion.

Growth in insurance not enough to deepen penetration, says IRA

KAMPALA

INSURANCE Regulatory Authority (IRA) has said the sector experienced a 20 percent growth in uptake in 2022, demonstrating growth in insurance coverage against risks.

However, the growth was not good enough to deepen penetration, which continues to be below 1 percent.

Speaking at the Annual Insurance Week in Kampala, Mr Ibrahim Lubega Kaddunabbi, the IRA chief executive officer, said deliberate steps that seek to bring services closer to the people, digitizing products and innovating products that are relevant to people, continue to shore up the sector, amid a number of disruptions, worsened by a slowdown in economic growth.

"We have now put products for low income earners on the market for people who earn about Shs10,000 a day. Due to these micro insurances, the number of policies sold has increased by about 50 percent," he said.

The insurance week, which is organised by IRA in partnership with Uganda Insurers Association, Insurance Training College and Insurance Brokers Association of Uganda, seeks to enhance uptake that has remained low over the years.

However, despite the low penetration, the sector has been growing steadily in recent years, with an annual growth rate of around 15 percent.

The growth has been more prominent in the life sector, with a number of people seeking to cushion themselves against large hospital bills.



Dar microfinance firm inaugurates a special smartphone funding programme for women

By Guardian Reporter

IN a bid to bridge the gender gap in financial and digital inclusion, Y9 microfinance has launched an affordable smartphone financing program that has seen more people connected to 4G internet.

In Tanzania, like in many developing countries, price is the biggest barrier to accessing technology. A smartphone that costs around \$100 can take up to 60% of an individual's monthly income. Situation is more pronounced for women, who often earn less than their male counterparts and are less likely to have access to credit. Lack of access to credit makes it hard for women to start and grow businesses, save for the future, and meet their everyday needs.

According to the World Bank, Tanzania has one of the lowest rates of financial inclusion in Africa, with only 16% of adults having access to formal financial services.

This situation is worse for women, who are more likely to be excluded from the formal financial sector. Furthermore, the gender gap in mobile ownership in Tan-



Chief Executive Officer of Y9 Microfinance Faith Pella (R) speaks with clients about the institution's activities recently in Dar es Salaam.

zania is up to 11% of the adult population while the gap in mobile internet use is noted to be 52%.

Y9 microfinance aims to address this problem by providing affordable financing for smartphones that come with

4G internet connectivity. The program targets women and other underserved groups who are excluded from the formal financial sector.

The microfinance institution has partnered with mobile network operators to provide affordable smartphone packages that come

with 4G internet connectivity. Customers can choose to pay for the phones in installments over six to twelve months, making it easier for them to access technology.

"By providing affordable smartphone financing, we are not only addressing the gender gap in finan-

cial inclusion but also promoting digital inclusion. Access to technology is key to economic empowerment, and we believe that every Tanzanian should have the opportunity to be connected," said Faith Pella, the CEO of Y9 microfinance.

The program has already seen a positive impact on the lives of many women who have been able to start and grow businesses, access education, and connect with family and friends, added Fredrick Mtui, the Head of Sales of Y9 microfinance.

Mtui said: "Our success comes down to understanding the needs of our customers and providing them with solutions that fit their budget and lifestyle."

"I used to struggle to keep in touch with my family who live in a different part of the country. With the smartphone and 4G connectivity, I can now call and send messages to them anytime, anywhere," said Grace Mwakuya, a small business owner who recently acquired a smartphone through Y9 microfinance.

Another beneficiary of the program, a food vendor, Amina Said, said, "The smartphone has

opened up a world of opportunities for me. I can now access online resources and connect easily with my customers."

The Y9 microfinance smartphone financing program has also created job opportunities for young people who are trained to sell and support the devices.

"I was struggling to find a job after finishing college. But when I heard about the Y9 smartphone financing program, I applied for a job and was hired as a sales agent. I now earn a decent income and have gained valuable experience in sales and customer service," a sales agent for Y9 microfinance.

The program has also had a positive impact on the mobile network operators who have seen an increase in the number of customers using their services.

The Y9 microfinance smartphone financing program has demonstrated the importance of financial and digital inclusion in promoting economic empowerment and improving the lives of underserved communities. The program is a step towards bridging the gender gap in financial inclusion and promoting sustainable development in Tanzania.

Total stock sees sharp fall to six-year low on energy sector jitters

NAIROBI

OIL marketer TotalEnergies saw its share price drop to a six-year low on Thursday amid headwinds facing the fuel retail sector.

The company's stock price was down 7.7 percent to close at Sh19.1 from Sh20.7 on Wednesday.

The fall of the share price to multiyear lows comes in the backdrop of interlocking sector challenges including limited access to foreign exchange and plans by the government to import oil into the country outside the open tender system (OTS).

Already, oil marketers such as Rubis have disclosed difficulties in accessing dollars to ship in new fuel cargo leading to jitters over a potential fuel shortage in the country.

As a cure to the hard currency access woes, Kenya has sought a government-to-government deal with the United Arab Emirates which will see the importation of fuel on credit as a measure to contain the growing crisis in the foreign exchange market.

The oil marketers have subsequently petitioned against the plan at the High Court, citing their exclusion from the bidding process.

Moreover, TotalEnergies share price decline has coincided with accelerated foreign investor sell-offs from the Nairobi Securities Exchange this week in what analysts say has been the pricing in of a deeper global economic contraction than was earlier projected.

TotalEnergies posted a 53.2 percent decline in net profit through six months of operations to June 2022 at Sh794.6 million from Sh1.7 billion previously.

The halving of the marketer's earnings was largely attributable to increased cost of sales which offset a 33.9 percent growth in net sales which resulted from higher fuel prices in the domestic market.

"During the period, international oil and gas prices, while being volatile, have continued to rise due to market disruptions linked to geopolitical conflicts. These have exacerbated the upward trend of fuel prices in the country as well as working capital requirements of the company," TotalEnergies said last August.

A plan to drop the current fuel import plan through an open tender in favour of a government-to-government deal has exposed consumers to expensive fuel in the coming months after it failed to materialise on time.

Correspondence between the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (Epra) and the parent ministry shows that the regulator was banking on the plan to make the next purchase, but its delay has forced it to go back to the old process, which will come at an extra cost.

The Epra warns that the oil marketer that will now win the tender to import fuel will be exposed to high insurance and freight charges due to limited timelines, and high costs that will ultimately be passed to consumers.

"Planned importation of petroleum through a government-to-government arrangement is yet to be concluded and this has delayed tender calls for March 2023," says the Epra in a letter to the State Department of Petroleum dated January 31, 2023.

"Epra further notes that the delay has occasioned very tight import timelines, which if no action is immediately taken, may result in high rates of cargo premiums and freight. As a result pump prices would be negatively impacted."

This means that consumers are staring at higher pump prices due to the delayed issuance of the open tender for the importation of fuel to be sold in the March-April pricing monthly cycle.

The hitches have been attributed to delays in passing regulations to support government-to-government deals on fuel importation, prompting Epra to call for speeding up the process to avert a looming rise in pump prices next month.

A litre of super and diesel is retailing at Sh177.30 and Sh162 respectively in Nairobi for the pricing cycle that lapses on the 14th of this month.

The State published regulations to support government-to-government deals on fuel importation in December in a push aimed at enabling negotiation for discounts on product cost and freight besides allowing Kenya to access extended credit periods from suppliers.



**MONDAY - WEDNESDAY
FROM 10:30 PM**



ITV

MONDAY 13 MARCH

5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 ITV Top Ten
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jungu Kuu
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Mjue Zaidi
13:40 Art and Lifestyle rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:10 Soap rpt: Rebeca
14:40 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 Music: The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 DW: Afrimaxx
18:45 Kipindi maalum: Brela
19:00 Afya ya Jamii
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari
21:05 Dakika 45
22:00 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing
22:15 Bundesliga na DW
22:30 Soap: Uzalo
23:00 Habari
23:30 Music: The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV

TUESDAY 14 MARCH

5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo

9:30 Kipindi maalum: Wiki ya Usalama barabarani Live
13:30 Shikabamba
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Shikabamba
14:05 Igizo rpt: Rebeca
14:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto wetu
17:00 Music: The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba
21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF
21:45 Chetu ni chetu
22:30 Soap: Uzalo
23:00 Habari
23:30 Music: The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV

WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH

5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:25 Kipindi maalum: TMDA rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Kipindi maalum: NSSF rpt
14:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 Music: The Base

18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Kipindi maalum: TAZARA
18:30 Jarida la wanawake
19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari
21:05 Abu Yako
21:10 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco
21:40 Kipindi maalum: Pesa Fasta
22:00 Ripoti maalum
22:30 Soap: Uzalo
23:00 Habari
23:30 Music: The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV

THURSDAY 16 MARCH

5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:30 Shamba lulu
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Ripoti maalum rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT
13:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: Brela
13:45 Shamsham za pwani rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Shamsham za pwani rpt
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru
16:30 Watoto wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Kipindi maalum: TMDA
19:00 Usafiri Wako
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari
21:05 Malumbano ya hoja
23:00 Habari

23:30 Music: The Base

00:30 Al Jazeera

02:00 DWTV

CAPITAL-TV

Mon 13 March

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Dw
11:00 Al Jazeera
11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt
12:00 Dw News Africa rpt
12:30 Our Earth
13:00 Telenovela rpt The Three Sides of Ana
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Business Edition Rpt
16:30 Culinary delight rpt
17:00 Innovation rpt
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Tommorrow Today
19:30 Spots Gazette
19:30 Chetu ni chetu
20:00 Monday Agenda Rpt
20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana
21:30 Capital Prime News
22:00 Dakika 45:
22:45 The Décor
23:15 Al Jazeera

TUES 14 MARCH

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Dw
11:00 Al Jazeera
11:30 Spots gazette
12:00 Innovation
12:30 Culinary
13:00 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Tommorrow Today
16:30 Business edition rpt
17:00 In good shape
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Out & About Rpt
19:30 EcoAfrica
20:00 Our Earth Rpt
20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana
21:30 Capital Prime News
22:00 Jagina rpt
22:30 EcoAfrica
23:00 Al Jazeera

WED 15 MARCH

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Dw
11:00 Al Jazeera
11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt
12:00 Dw News Africa rpt
12:30 Our Earth
13:00 Telenovela rpt The Three Sides of Ana
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Business Edition Rpt
16:30 Culinary delight rpt
17:00 Innovation rpt
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Tommorrow Today
19:30 Spots Gazette
19:30 Chetu ni chetu
20:00 Monday Agenda Rpt
20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana
21:30 Capital Prime News
22:00 Dakika 45:
22:45 The Décor
23:15 Al Jazeera

THURS 16 MARCH

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Dw
11:00 Al Jazeera
11:30 Spots gazette
12:00 Innovation
12:30 Culinary
13:00 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Tommorrow Today
16:30 Business edition rpt
17:00 In good shape
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Out & About Rpt
19:30 EcoAfrica
20:00 Our Earth Rpt
20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana
21:30 Capital Prime News
22:00 Capchat rpt
23:00 Al Jazeera

WORLD

Mutiny at the BBC: Lineker row causes mounting crisis

LONDON

BRITAIN'S BBC faced a mounting crisis as a row over football presenter Gary Lineker's criticism of government migration policy led to a presenter mutiny, drew a comment from the prime minister and left the broadcaster's boss defending his position.

The BBC was forced to axe much of its sports coverage on Saturday as presenters refused to work in a show of solidarity with Lineker, after the BBC sought to defend its impartiality by taking him off the air due to his comments on social media.

Lineker, a former England soccer captain, the BBC's highest-paid presenter and the anchor of the football highlights program Match of the Day, was suspended from his role following his criticism of Britain's migration policy.

Critics of Lineker's suspension say the BBC bowed to government pressure, leading to a furious debate about the impartiality of the national broadcaster.

BBC Director General Tim Davie told the BBC on Saturday he had no intention of resigning over the matter. "We in the BBC, and myself, are absolutely driven by a passion for impartiality, not left, right or pandering to a particular party," he said.

Davie said he wanted Lineker back

on the air and hoped to find a balance which enabled some presenters to express opinions while at the same time maintaining the BBC's neutrality.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak issued a statement on Saturday defending the migration policy, which bars the entry of asylum seekers arriving in small boats across the English Channel, saying he hoped Lineker and the BBC could resolve their differences in a timely manner.

"It is rightly a matter for them, not the government," Sunak said.

The Lineker row severely disrupted the BBC's sports programming on Saturday as multiple presenters walked out, prompting it to issue an apology.

Saturday's edition of Match of the Day, presented by Lineker for more than 20 years, aired at the usual time despite his absence, but was slashed to just 20 minutes and aired as a show of highlights without commentary.

Neutrality under scrutiny

The BBC is committed to being politically impartial, but has faced criticism from the Conservative and Labour parties about how neutral it actually is, particularly in the era of social media when high-profile presenters can easily make their personal positions known.



Gary Lineker, former England footballer turned sports TV presenter for the BBC

The opposition Labour Party and media commentators accuse the BBC of silencing Lineker, after Sunak's spokeswoman called Lineker's comments "unacceptable" and interior minister Suella Braverman said they were "offensive".

"The BBC is not acting impartially by caving in to Tory MPs who are complaining about Gary Lineker," Labour leader Keir Starmer told reporters at a conference in Wales on Saturday.

Lineker declined to comment to media as he left his London home on Saturday and did not reply to questions from reporters on arrival at the King Power Stadium in Leicester where he went to watch one of his former clubs play.

The furore followed Sunak's announcement of the new law earlier in the week. Lineker, 62, took to Twitter to describe the legislation as a "cruel policy directed at the most vulnerable people in language that is not dissimilar to that used by Germany in the 30s."

Seeking to resolve the dispute, the BBC said there needed to be an agreed position on Lineker's use of social media before he can return to presenting. But critics of Lineker's suspension say he is entitled to his personal opinions because he is not a

news presenter.

Greg Dyke, who was director-general of the BBC between 2000 and 2004, told BBC radio earlier on Saturday that the BBC had made a mistake.

"The perception out there is going to be that Gary Lineker, a much-loved television presenter, was taken off air after government pressure on a particular issue," Dyke said.

That could turn viewers away from the 100-year-old BBC, which is funded by a 159 pound (\$192) annual "license fee" tax on all television-watching households.

While the broadcaster remains a central presence in British cultural life, it is battling to stay relevant with younger audiences and faces threats to its funding as some Conservative lawmakers want to scrap the license fee.

Questions about BBC Chair Richard Sharp pose a further challenge for the broadcaster.

Sharp is under pressure for failing to declare his involvement in facilitating a loan for former Conservative Prime Minister Boris Johnson shortly before he was appointed to the role. Sharp's appointment, made on the recommendation of the government, is being reviewed by Britain's public appointments watchdog.

Agencies

Pence: History will hold Donald Trump accountable for Jan 6

WASHINGTON

FORMER US vice-president Mike Pence said on Saturday that "history will hold Donald Trump accountable" for his role in the Jan 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol, one of the most forceful rebukes he has so far offered of his one-time boss.

Pence was in the Capitol when thousands of Trump supporters breached the building in an attempt to stop Congress from certifying the results of the 2020 presidential election, which Trump lost to Joe Biden.

As the vice-president has the constitutional role of Senate president, Pence was presiding over what had always been the ceremonial task of approving the votes of the Electoral College to select the president and vice-



president.

Throughout the siege, Trump sent several tweets, one calling on Republicans to "fight" and others making false claims of voter fraud. He also criticized Pence for certifying the results.

"President Trump was wrong," Pence told assembled journalists and their guests at the Gridiron dinner, an annual white-tie event in Washington, DC.

"I had no right to overturn

the election, and his reckless words endangered my family and everyone at the Capitol that day, and I know that history will hold Donald Trump accountable."

Pence, who is considering a run for the Republican nomination for the 2024 presidential election, was whisked to safety by law enforcement during the attack.

He rarely addressed Jan 6 in the months following the inci-

dent, but has since upped his criticism of the rioters and the behavior of his former boss that day.

He has sharply criticized Trump's conduct in recent media interviews, and in a memoir released in November, he accused Trump of endangering his family.

Still, Pence's comments on Saturday were his most pointed to date.

"What happened that day was a disgrace," he said. "And it mocks decency to portray it any other way. For as long as I live, I will never, ever diminish the injuries sustained, the lives lost, or the heroism of law enforcement on that tragic day."

A spokesperson for Trump did not immediately respond to a request for comment outside

business hours.

Pence's relationship with Trump has been complex since the two left office, but the former vice president's comments on Saturday indicate he is willing to more forcefully distance himself from Trump as the 2024 campaign heats up.

His remarks came just days after conservative television host Tucker Carlson aired security footage of the Capitol attack, claiming that many of the rioters were "orderly."

Carlson's depiction of Jan 6 was sharply criticized by Democrats and several high-profile Republicans in the Senate, though many other Republicans - particularly in the House of Representatives - shrugged off the episode.

Agencies

Russia sees no chance for talks with Ukraine given Kiev's position – Lavrov

MOSCOW

RUSSIA currently sees no opportunity to engage with Ukraine because of Kiev's position, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said on Friday.

"We have been saying that we are not dodging negotiations not because we have been imploring them to negotiate.

At the moment, we see no chance for holding talks, but we have simply been underscoring this amid a non-

stop wave of

statements to the effect of 'how bad it is that Russia is reluctant to engage'."

Russia's top diplomat said in an interview with the "Bolshaya Igra" ("The Great Game") public affairs program on Channel One television.



"Has anyone read what [Ukrainian President Vladimir] Zelensky has been saying?"

Does anyone remember the decree he signed back in September banning any talks?", Russia's top diplomat wondered as he referred to Zelensky's refusal to negotiate with Russian leader Vladimir Putin.

"You must have heard the latest statements, (CIA Director - TASS) Bill Burns for some reason said yesterday that Russia shows no signs of backing

down. Well, is Zelensky showing signs of backing down?", Lavrov asked rhetorically.

According to the Russian foreign minister, Zelensky stated simultaneously with Burns that he would never sit down at the negotiating table with Putin, that Ukraine would have its victory no matter what, and that he had allies elsewhere and other venues where he would decide his country's future.

Agencies

China's path to modernisation, peaceful development inspire African partners

NAIROBI

THE accelerated pace of modernization combined with peaceful and inclusive development that China has embraced with zeal is inspiring African countries as they embark on a new chapter of renewal, experts have said.

African countries have benefited from China's model of peaceful development and continuous renewal, as evidenced by sustained capital flows, robust trade, technology and skills transfer to the continent, said Cavince Adhere, a Kenya-based international relations scholar, in a recent interview with Xinhua.

Adhere attributed Africa's rapid economic take-off to China's willingness to share expertise, support peace-building efforts in Africa, and invest in sectors like transport, manufacturing and energy.

Highlighting the whole-of-society approach to development that China has prioritized, he said that it is best suited for Africa where people-centered growth is key to sustaining cohesion. "We still hope to see China's internalisation in terms of resource mobilization, in terms of development cooperation with African countries under the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation," Adhere said.

He added that as the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area gathers steam, the continent should tap China's technological prowess to revitalize its digital economy, manufacturing and value addition.

China's rapid modernization that has encouraged inclusivity, solidarity, and healthy consensus should be emulated in Africa where poverty and under-development have threatened stability, said Adhere.

In addition, Beijing's embrace of green development as espoused in its ecological civilization mantra has aided efforts to tame the climate crisis that has taken a heavier toll on livelihoods across the sub-Saharan region, he said.

By upholding the multilateral system, China has also proactively supported a peaceful resolution to Africa's conflicts, thereby placing the continent on the path of equitable growth and long-term stability, said Adhere.

He noted that China's pioneered Global Security Initia-

Angola to deploy troops for peacekeeping mission in DRC

LUANDA

ANGOLA announced Saturday that it would deploy a contingent of troops to support peacekeeping operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) following consultations with DRC authorities.

In a statement posted on the Presidency's Facebook account on Saturday, it was revealed that the primary objective of the troops would be to secure the cantonment areas of the March 23 Movement (M23) and to protect members of the ad hoc verification mechanism.

The statement adds that Angola took the initiative to inform regional leaders of this development within the framework of coordination between the Luanda and Nairobi Processes, the United Nations, the African Union, and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS). The Angolan President and Commander-in-Chief of the Angolan Armed Forces will also request authorization from the National Assembly to send the contingent, according to the statement.

This move follows decisions taken by mini-summits on the peace and security process in the DRC, in which Luanda serves as mediator under the "Luanda Process" framework.

During a tripartite summit of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) in July 2022, a roadmap was approved that included the establishment of a Verification Mechanism led by an Angolan general officer.

The mechanism will investigate reciprocal accusations between the DRC and Rwanda, as well as allegations of border violations.

The DRC has accused Rwanda of supporting the M23 movement, a rebel group that has been accused of committing atrocities against civilians in several areas, but Kigali strongly denied these accusations.



This move follows decisions taken by mini-summits on the peace and security process in the DRC, in which Luanda serves as mediator under the "Luanda Process" framework

Agencies

China's high-quality development contributes to global economic recovery

THE international community has paid high attention to the ongoing "two sessions" in China, looking forward to more positive messages of promoting high-quality economic development and injecting more vitality and confidence into the global economy that is facing downward pressure.

The annual meetings of the National People's Congress (NPC) and the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) bring together thousands of national legislators and political advisors.

International personages have voiced support for China's firm endeavor to pursue high-quality

development unveiled in the meetings, believing that it will create more opportunities for the world and contribute to world economic recovery.

High-quality development is the first and foremost task in building a modern socialist country in all respects, said Chinese President Xi Jinping while attending a deliberation with his fellow deputies from the delegation of east China's Jiangsu province at the first session of the 14th NPC on March 5.

During the deliberation, Xi stressed that efforts should be made to fully and faithfully apply the new development philosophy on all fronts, and better coordinate the ef-

fective upgrade in quality with the appropriate expansion in quantity in economic development.

China must unswervingly deepen reform and opening-up and transform the development model, and the happiness and well-being of the people are the ultimate goals of promoting high-quality development, Xi said.

The remarks have charted the course and provided fundamental guidance for advancing high-quality development under new conditions and further enhanced the international community's confidence in China's economic development.

China aims to expand its economy by around 5 percent in 2023,

according to a government work report submitted to the national legislature for deliberation.

The international community generally believes that the growth target is scientifically reasonable and has demonstrated to the world its firm resolve to promote high-quality economic development.

During the past five years, China's gross domestic product (GDP) has grown to over 121 trillion yuan (\$17.95 trillion) at an average annual rate of 5.2 percent in spite of multiple challenges, including the rapidly evolving international landscape, impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and domestic economic downward pressure.

Over the past decade, the country achieved a medium-high rate of economic growth given its large economic aggregate and transitioned to high-quality development. During the period, the country's GDP has increased by nearly 70 trillion yuan, with an average annual growth rate of 6.2 percent.

Such remarkable achievements have fully proven that the fundamentals remain unchanged, and the Chinese economy still enjoys strong resilience, enormous potential, great vitality and long-term sustainability.

International organizations and investment institutions have lifted their growth forecasts on China's

economic growth this year as a result of their growing confidence in its economy. "If you are looking for growth, the answer is very simple. The next China is China," said Joe Ngai, managing partner of McKinsey Greater China. The positive judgment on China's economic outlook has sparked widespread resonance in the international community.

China accounts for more than 18 percent of the world economy and contributes around 30 percent to global economic growth. It ranks first globally in terms of trade in goods and services, and has become a major trading partner of more than 140 countries and regions.

People's Daily

Venezuelan president says US imperialism in decline

CARACAS

VENEZUELAN President Nicolas Maduro said Saturday that US hegemony in Latin America, the Caribbean and the rest of the world is in decline.

"The US empire is in historical decline and no longer has anything to offer for the good of the people of Latin America and the Caribbean, nothing. On the contrary, all its policies are backward," Maduro said in an interview with Argentine media from Caracas.

However, "there is still an expansive wave" of ultra-right groups promoted by the White House that seeks to finance and push ahead with "anti-democratic, totalitarian, exclusionary and ideologized projects to generate intolerance and hatred in Latin American societies," he warned.

Maduro stressed that Venezuela has managed to resist difficult times and contribute to building "a multipolar, multicentric, new world, a common destiny for humanity."

US imperialists and the ultra-right forces believe that "by destroying Maduro, they are destroying Venezuela's Bolivarian and revolutionary project. They are mistaken, very mistaken," he added.



Biden to host Australia, Britain to detail submarine pact

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden is expected to meet leaders of Australia and Britain in San Diego today to announce a way forward for Australia to receive nuclear-powered submarines in Canberra's biggest-ever defense project.

The three countries announced the so-called AUKUS plan in 2021.

However, questions remain over strict US curbs on the extensive technology sharing needed for the project and about the length of time it will take to deliver the submarines.

Australia is expected to buy up to five US Virginia class nuclear-powered submarines in the 2030s as part of the landmark agreement to be revealed in detail by Biden, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, four US officials told Reuters this week.

The agreement would have multiple stages with at least one US submarine visiting Australian ports in the coming years and end in the late 2030s with a new class of submarines built with British designs and American technology, one of the officials said.

Two of the officials said that after the annual port visits, the United States would forward deploy some submarines in Western Australia by around 2027.

Sharing sensitive technology

The officials did not elaborate on the planned new class of submarines, including where they would be built, but Australia's ambassador to Washington said last week there would be a "genuine trilateral solution" and the plan offers the prospect of jobs in all three countries.

In launching AUKUS, Australia abruptly cancelled a deal to buy conventional submarines from France, leading Paris to accuse its allies of betrayal.

Sunak will travel to the US after meeting French President Emmanuel Macron on Friday, an attempt to repair ties between the two countries.

Britain, which left the European Union in 2020, says AUKUS will create new jobs in Britain and help boost its economy's low growth rate.

Under the initial AUKUS deal announced in 2021, the US and Britain agreed to provide Australia with the technology and capability to deploy nuclear-powered submarines.

It will be the first time the US has shared nuclear-propulsion technology since it did so with Britain in the 1950s. Currently no party to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty other than the five countries the NPT recognizes as weapons states - the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France - has nuclear submarines. In a second stage of the AUKUS project, the three countries will share advanced technology such as artificial intelligence and hypersonic weapons. British and Australian officials said last week there was still work needed to break down bureaucratic barriers to such technology sharing.

Bill Greenwalt, a former senior Pentagon official for industrial policy, said that since it will be years before the Australia has new submarines, the partners urgently need to move forward with this second stage, which covers capabilities that could be deployed within the next few years.

"Undersea drones, swarming drones, ubiquitous surveillance, advanced AI and data analytics are all in this potential wheelhouse but ITAR (International Traffic in Arms Regulations) prevents the types of cooperation that is needed," said Greenwalt, referring to US export rules.

Idea of renaming Russia to Muscovy proves attempts to create 'anti-Russia' – diplomat

MOSCOW

THE idea of renaming Russia into Muscovy in the Ukrainian language once again proves attempts to create "anti-Russia" from Ukraine, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said on Saturday.

Earlier it was reported that Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky tasked Prime Minister Denis Shmygal with "carefully studying" the possibility of renaming Russia to Muscovy in the Ukrainian language.

"The bunker (President of Ukraine Vladimir Zelensky - TASS) proves that we are right every day. Here is another evidence of an attempt to create an "anti-Russia" from Ukraine," she wrote on her Telegram channel on Saturday, commenting on the instructions of the Ukrainian President.

The instructions came as a response to a petition that gathered 25,000 signatures on Zelensky's website, and therefore was submitted for consideration to the president of Ukraine.

The Ukrainian President asked Shmygal to study whether the move is possible in the historic and cultural context, and what consequences it may entail in terms of the international law.

The petition also suggests replacing the term 'Russian Federation' with the 'Moscov Federation,' and the demonym 'Russian' with 'Muscovite.'

A proposal to rename Russia to Muscovy was voiced by the Kiev city council in January 2022, following similar initiatives put forward by regional authorities from the Ukrainian regions of Lvov and Rovno in December 2021.



Ugandan female youths design digital platform to provide opportunities for peers

KAMPALA

THE theme for this year's International Women's Day is "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality".

Within this domain, digital entrepreneurship has the potential to be an effective means of integrating African women into the digital economy.

Natasha Katondwaki, 24, with her colleague Collins Mbulakyalo, designed Waape, a technology start-up platform that has so far created a pool of 3,000 talented youths, 60 percent of whom are females.

The Ugandan youths use the platform to carry out software development and digital marketing, among others. Three years ago, Katondwaki and Mbulakyalo developed the idea of creating a digital platform on which talented Ugandans would showcase their digital skills in a bid to get meaningful opportunities both locally and internationally.

"The pandemic (COVID-19) made us think harder. We have managed to get more than 200 placements from our pool of talent in Uganda, Africa, and Europe," Katondwaki told Xinhua in a recent interview. She said they are now targeting to penetrate the Chinese market once they get partnerships there.

"We have attended workshops where Chinese people have displayed some quite advanced technology. We are ready to tap into their space when the right time comes."

Katondwaki is optimistic that the platform creates opportunities in a country with high unemployment,



Natasha Katondwaki (R2), a computer scientist, talks with her colleague at an office of the Innovation Village in Kampala, Uganda on March 7, 2023. (Photo by Hajarah Nalwadda/Xinhua)

especially among the youth. Figures by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics show that youth unemployment stands at about 70 percent, and about 400,000 youths are released annually into the job market to compete for approximately 10,000 available jobs.

The computer science graduate said they realized that so many youths were equipped with digital skills, yet the job opportunities were not forthcoming.

"We are hoping that this platform will be a solution for people who have digital skills but have no access to equal opportunities."

Minister of Gender, Labor and Social Development Betty Amongi told reporters ahead of

International Women's Day that the government has designed a new strategy that will ensure that more girls are involved in science and technology in a bid to promote innovation in the digital era.

The minister said the government is implementing measures aimed at bridging the gender divide and ensuring that the rural population, including women and girls, access the internet cheaply.

She said females remain underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics subjects. "Bringing women, girls and other disadvantaged groups on board results in more creative solutions, and has great potential for solutions and innovations that meet their needs and interests, therefore promoting gender equality." **Xinhua**

Iran arrests over 100 for involvement in students' poisoning

TEHRAN

IRAN'S Interior Ministry said on Saturday more than 100 people in 11 provinces have been arrested on charges of involvement in the recent incidents of student poisoning at the country's schools.

The ministry announced the arrests in a statement published on

its website, listing the provinces as Tehran, Qom, Zanjan, Khuzestan, Hamedan, Fars, Gilan, West Azarbaijan, East Azarbaijan, Kurdistan and Khorasan Razavi.

The statement noted for some of the arrestees who used poisonous substances as a "mischievous" way to escape classes, and the authorities have given them neces-

sary warnings and instructions. Some other arrestees are individuals with "hostile motivations," the statement added, noting they sought to cause fear and anxiety among people and students.

The authorities are investigating them to find out if they are connected to terrorist groups.

More than 700 students in over

30 schools across Iran have fallen victim to mysterious poisoning cases since Nov. 30, 2022 when the first case was reported in the Qom province.

Most of them were soon released from the hospital after receiving treatment, according to the official news agency IRNA.

Xinhua

China's GDP target of 'around 5 percent' for 2023 manifests prudence and confidence

CHINA has set its gross domestic product (GDP) growth target at "around 5 percent" for 2023. The projected target has been widely reported by overseas media as soon as it was announced.

Foreign media including Reuters, Bloomberg and Cable News Network (CNN), cited analyses by authoritative international organizations and personages as saying that the target sent a positive signal for pushing the Chinese economy on an upward trajectory.

China is the largest developing country in the world. It needs to maintain long-term reasonable economic growth while improving the quality and efficiency of development. The country's target for economic growth, therefore, should be the result of careful consideration of the balance between the speed and quality of economic growth, between the vitality and order of the economy, and between the present and the future. Besides, it should be practical and feasible.

The GDP growth target of "around 5 percent" conforms to the current trends in the country's economic operation and the law of economics. It conveys China's stability and confidence in achieving high-quality development.

The target is reasonable and moderate. At the same growth rate, the larger the base in the previous year, the greater the actual growth.

In 2022, China's GDP growth reached 3 percent year on year to more than 121 trillion yuan (\$17.95 trillion), with the increment standing at 6.1 trillion yuan, which is equivalent to the GDP of a medium-sized country. China's 3 percent GDP growth rate is among the highest of world's leading economies.

Therefore, by setting its GDP growth target at "around 5 per-



An employee works at a foldable electric bicycle packaging workshop in Jiujiang city, east China's Jiangxi province, to meet the deadlines for export orders, March 8, 2023. File photo

cent", China tries to avoid over stimulus and excessive pursuit of high growth rate, maintain reasonable economic growth, create favorable conditions for overall planning for various tasks, including expanding employment, improving people's livelihoods, and preventing and defusing risks.

China's 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities have set their growth targets for 2023, with 27 of them setting their growth target higher than the national one and 23 targeting at least 5.5 percent, which has created favorable conditions and solid a foundation for the realization of the national economic growth target.

China's GDP growth target for 2023 shows that the country pays great attention to the quality of development. High-quality development is considered the first and foremost task in the country's efforts to build a modern socialist country in all respects.

The Government Work Report delivered at the first session of the 14th National People's Congress on March 5 has provided a blueprint for the country's social and economic development in this year, setting a slew of targets concerning the quality of development, such as around 12 million new urban jobs, CPI increase of around 3 percent, growth in personal income that is generally synchronized with economic growth, continued reductions in energy consumption per unit of GDP and in the discharge of major pollutants, as well as the GDP growth target of "around 5 percent".

In fact, China's pursuit of high-quality development began long ago. As of the end of 2022, the country's number of valid invention patents exceeded 4.21 million, ranking first in the world; over the past five years, the value-added of China's high-tech manufacturing industry has grown at an average annual rate of 10.6 percent; and during the past 10 years, China's GDP has continuously reached new levels, its con-

tribution to global economic growth has been the greatest in the world, and it has eliminated absolute poverty.

Anyone who views the matter with a historical perspective knows that although GDP growth is important, it is never China's only criterion for development.

It has become a consensus of the Chinese society that while keeping economic growth within a reasonable range, the country should put more effort into optimizing economic structure and improving the quality of its economic growth.

The country's GDP growth target of "around 5 percent" for 2023 injects confidence into the world economy. China cannot develop without the rest of the world, and the prosperity of the world needs China's effort. With a population of over 1.4 billion, China is the world's second largest economy, the largest country in manufacturing and goods trading.

During the past five years, the country's economy has expanded at an average annual rate of 5.2 percent, which is significantly higher than the world's average of around 2.3 percent in the same period.

Besides, China has the world's most complete industrial system and a domestic market with the greatest potential in the world. The country's realization of high-quality growth at a rate of "around 5 percent" will mean huge opportunities for the rest of the world.

Since the beginning of this year, foreign merchants and businesses have shown confidence in the Chinese economy with practical actions.

Moody's Investors Service has shifted its forecast for China's real GDP growth from 4 percent to 5 percent for both 2023 and 2024; German company Kärcher has located its global research and development center in Suzhou city, east China's Jiangsu province, to attract outstanding talents; and Howard Schultz, founder of Starbucks, said that he is more confident than ever that the company's growth in China has just begun.

The characteristics of the Chinese economy, namely strong resilience, tremendous potential and great vitality, remain unchanged, so do the fundamentals sustaining the economy's long-term growth and the necessary production factors for high-quality development.

It can be predicted that the GDP growth rate of "around 5 percent" will still be one of the highest economic growth rates among major economies.

Sticking to its primary task of high-quality development, China will strive to achieve the goals and tasks for economic and social development this year and make more wonderful contributions to the world.

People's Daily



Tanzania's female boxers, Rahma Joseph Maganga (L) and Beatrice Ambros Nyambega, will represent the country in this year's International Boxing Association (IBA) Women's World Boxing Championships slated for later this month in India.

Dar female boxers out to make history

By correspondents Nassir Nchimbi & Chaji Bakari

TANZANIA will send a team of female pugilists to the Women's World Boxing Championship to be staged in New Delhi, India from March 15-26.

It will be the first time in Tanzania's amateur boxing history the country's female boxers take the ring in the global showdown.

The Women's World Boxing Championship will as well open the Boxing Federation of Tanzania (BFT)'s calendar of events for this year.

The BFT's new executive committee noted the release of the calendar was among the major issues discussed in the federation's first meeting in Dar es Salaam.

Besides releasing the calendar of events, the meeting discussed the federation's implementation of plans for the year, international studies, the mini-election to fill vacant positions, and hosting the African Boxing championship.

According to the federation's president Lukelo Willilo, the next event for this year is the Region 3 meeting which will bring envoys from 14 countries to Dar es Salaam from April 11-18 this year.

He said the third event in the calendar is the men's World Boxing Championship to be held in Tashkent, Uz-

bekistan from May 1-14 this year.

"It will be a hectic season as we have set goals that we are sure to achieve in a bid to develop amateur boxing in this country and build good cooperation with foreign organizations," he said.

In addition to the international events, BFT also conducted a mini-election whose goal was to fill the vacant posts.

"The executive committee also visited the National Women's team camp at Africa Human Rights Network (AHRN) at the Mbezi Beach, which has sponsored the team's accommodation, the International Gym of Oasis Club also backs the squad," he said.

Makore Mashaga, BFT Secretary-General, said the main goal is to take boxing to international levels because right now boxing is a sport that has been given priority as is the case with other sports.

The BFT official pointed out: "We have planned strategies and plans that will help us propel boxing to greater heights."

"The mini-election we did has enabled us to find a person who will organize the African Boxing Championship, we expect to release the official date for the showpiece before starting preparations," he said.

Govt lists six priority sports disciplines

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE government has listed athletics, boxing, netball, basketball, soccer, and swimming as sporting disciplines to be given priority.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports Said Yakubu noted when he met Tanzania Basketball Federation (TBF) president Michael Kadebe in Dodoma last week.

Yakubu, however, stressed prioritizing the six sports disciplines does not mean other sporting codes will be neglected, saying all are important and equal.

The Permanent Secretary said the government will start with infrastructure development for the six sports codes. The official noted: "The government is committed to improving and promoting all sporting disciplines in the country but priority has been given to six disciplines, football, netball, athletics, swimming, boxing, and basketball."

"We will start with infrastructure for training, we will build new venues like the arts and sports arenas in Dar es Salaam and Dodoma, which will have a capacity of 15,000 and 16,000 people respectively, and renovation of Benjamin Mkapa Stadium is to start soon," he said.

The TBF president hailed the government for the development, revealing: "We are very thankful to the

government for its commitment to championing sports development, we hope with the support we are getting from the government, the country is destined to scale great heights in sports," he said.

Giving priority to selected sports disciplines is not new in the country and in other countries, many nations with suitable sports development programs select a list of sports codes that are given priority for development.

Prioritizing sports codes depends much on the nature and geography of the particular country's competitors in the sports disciplines.

In the past, athletics was one of the sports disciplines that were prioritized by Tanzania given it has, among others, a big number of suitable competitors and desired geographical position.

It was for that matter hardly surprising that Tanzania produced many top athletes like Filbert Bayi, Suleiman Nyambui, Juma Ikangaa, and others who broke world records.

However, due to known and unknown circumstances, athletics is no longer a top and popular sport in the country.

Currently, football is becoming the number one sport in the country as it has a big number of fans and stakeholders, and it is increasing the country's visibility in the region and the continent.

Respect untainted with latest home 'derbies', pundits not quite flattered

By Correspondent John Kimbute

HOME 'derbies', against Group Stage 'archrivals' as to who first drops out of continental inter-club tournaments have just been completed at Dar es Salaam's Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, nicknamed 'Estadio Lupaso', and on the face of it, both city rivals succeeded their 'midterm' tests, winning their duels against the weaker sides of their respective tournaments, apart from themselves.

Pundits are aware that outside Vipers SC the next weak side in this season's CAF Champions League Group C is Simba SC unless it manages a miracle of sorts, beating Guinea's Horoya AC in Dar es Salaam.

Their next-street rivals, Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, are in the same position, not altogether assuring, of this.

Simba SC was on duty to see off Vipers SC to have an outside chance of progressing, just as Yanga had to do the same for AS Real Bamako in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup, where Yanga's score line was more convincing.

It has two good wins to its credit both on home ground, while losing significantly on an away tie, but obtained a point in the other away ties.

It is in a more comfortable position compared to next-street rivals, who all the same have tougher opposition to handle, and thus their ability to do so is slippery.

The two matches brought up added enthusiasm on the fans' part, who has started to despair after the first-round wallop on both sides, at Raja Club Athletic and then a last-minute hosts' equalizer at AS Real Bamako.

The next round of derbies was flattering for Yanga and soul-breaking for Simba SC, as Yanga won 3-1 against DR Congo's TP Mazembe whereas Simba SC suffered a 3-0 loss to Morocco's Raja Club



Tanzania's Yanga forward, Fiston Mayele (2nd R), shoots to put his club 1-0 up when the team took on Mali's AS Real Bamako in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup Group D tie played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last Wednesday. Yanga commanded a 2-0 victory. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Athletic.

Then they invited teams from outside and the results were respectable, as both sides won, confidently enough.

If there is one impression that can be made out is that both sides are good enough at the Group Stage of the tournament as both can count on at least one team which is decidedly weaker than themselves.

So far Simba SC has Vipers SC as the weaker side to it and will face a climb to demonstrate that Horoya AC is also weak enough to stand aside.

This will be determined when the side visits 'Estadio Lupaso' not far from here, in the penultimate Group Stage game before the formality of a return match with the hard-hitting Moroccan side, the group leaders whose chances are fixed.

In that case, the series of 'derbies' has only one substantial match being awaited concerning each side, an away match for Yanga at TP Mazembe, and a home game for Simba SC with Horoya AC.

That means the two North African teams, one in either group are top of the group by far and away and non-assailed, while the city rivals battle for second positions. Yanga seems to be slightly more assured, here.

That is not surprising as Yanga started in the 2022/23 CAF Champions League and was

relegated to the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup while their next-street rivals remained in the upper-tier tournament.

Fans were exchanging diatribes as to who is in a more comfortable position, with Simba SC fans satisfied that their take is \$1.5m for playing at the Group Stage of the upper tournament, while Yanga earns 0.8m dollars for their Group Stage appearance (or something of similar margin at least).

That is commerce but Simba SC has greater exposure to unhappiness in its Group Stage run.

The other issue tormenting fans and pundits, in particular, is whether indeed either side ought to enter the quarterfinals in the state they find themselves, which is excellent for prestige and for commerce but as the teams are, they risk plenty of suffering in that stage.

Scenarios like the walloping by Yanga of TP Mazembe beckon when a weak side penetrates the next stage, earning the prestige, the cash, and for some fans, a day with pills for a missed heart attack. Plenty of trouble.

What was a bit surprising was to hear a section of Yanga fans already talking about lifting the CAF Confederation Cup, a sentiment that was difficult to fathom but appears to have been generated by the wide-margin win over the once-famed Congolese

side.

On another side at least it seems to be a prolongation of the Jangwani Street outfit's dominance over the local league, and with the recollection of the late equalizer by AS Real Bamako, think they can win all the way. Except for US Monastir.

That scenario looks quite realistic for Yanga but merely to reach the quarterfinals, for them, it is a bit more realistic, though not assured, to win at TP Mazembe.

Those who wish to prolong their home game against the Congolese side have points it has been repeated with Vipers SC on their rivals' side, but there are examples where the local side overturns the table as with Simba SC vs Kaizer Chiefs earlier.

That would end all expectations as only a clear win over Horoya AC, TP Mazembe can do. Still, some preliminary conclusions are being drawn as to where the local sides find themselves in continental tournaments and especially the Msimbazi Street side as it survived in the top tier tournament.

There is no doubt that the side is not as inspiring as the one topling Kaiser Chiefs in the return game at 'Estadio Lupaso'.

The answer is acute investments but as it is seen with other top clubs, it is not assured.

Dar es Salaam Scout partners with ASF for swimming, diving course

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Agness Swimming Foundation (ASF) will, this month, train 30 Dar es Salaam scouts in swimming, diving, and rescuing.

Agness Kimimba, ASF Director, said they are delighted to impart the 30 scouts with swimming, diving, and rescue knowledge which, according to her, is vital to the country, especially during water calamities.

The ASF Director pointed out: "As a foundation in which our sole aim is to train people on rescue during water calamities, we are happy that the Dar es Salaam Scout Committee has engaged us for the training."

"We hope the knowledge we will impart to them will be of great benefit to the participants and others," she said.

She said the course, which will involve both theory and practicals, will take place at Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Memorial College in Kigamboni, Navy Beach, and Mwalimu Nyerere Bridge on Vijibweni's side, adding it will last for eight weeks.

The ASF Director disclosed that they will use an



Agness Swimming Foundation director, Agness Kimimba.

internationally recognized syllabus and they have six instructors for swimming, three for life-guard, six for life-saving, and diving, and two for first aid.

"We will follow the internationally recognized syllabus, whereby we will be assessing the students continuously, only those who will pass one subject will be admitted to another subject," she said.

Commissioner for Dar es Salaam Scout, Amina Maulid, in her letter to ASF, dated March 9, 2023, said they hope the course will start this

month.

She said Dar es Salaam Scout plans to establish a water calamity rescue team and, to achieve that, they need 30 scouts to have swimming, diving, and rescue knowledge and skills.

"Your foundation has expertise in the field, and we ask for your cooperation to train 30 scouts, we hope that the 30 scouts who will attend the course will pass the knowledge gained to others, hence the country having many people with knowledge in life-saving during water calamities," part of the letter to ASF revealed.

This is the second time that Dar es Salaam Scout Committee is engaging stakeholders to train its scouts in water calamity rescuing. In 2019 they engaged the services of Kimimba Swimming Promotion (KSP) for training.

The ASF is one of the leading agencies which promote, life-saving, swimming, and diving courses.

Other ASF aims are educating the community and bringing awareness of life-saving skills, or-

ganizing regular swimming events for different groups' categories, and acting as legal representatives (hence agents) for professional sports figures such as athletes and coaches.

The foundation moreover seeks to procure and negotiate employment and endorsement contracts for the athletes and coaches or any other professional figures in water sports industry activities.

The body as well provides the opportunity for young boys and girls to be inventive and creative in water sports activities, and participate in designing water sports or activities including publicizing, promoting, and organizing events.

The foundation is providing an outlet for advanced participation and competition in water sports, deals with all aspects of swimming industry clients' finances from investments to all aspects of financial management, and identify barriers and challenges to water sports promotion in various communities

BBC boss will not step down as Lineker removal sparks sports coverage chaos

LONDON

THE BBC's director general Tim Davie said he will not resign after the publicly-funded broadcaster's sport service was decimated on Saturday by a backlash to Gary Lineker's removal as Match of the Day host.

"Everyone wants to calmly resolve the situation," Davie said in a BBC interview.

Lineker was forced to "step back" from his duties presenting the flagship Premier League highlights show after accusing the UK government of using Nazi-era rhetoric in tackling illegal immigration.

The BBC said on Friday that England's fourth highest goalscorer of all-time had breached guidelines on impartiality and the corporation would seek "an agreed and clear position on his use of social media" before an on-screen return.

However, the decision caused chaos to scheduled sports programming across the BBC's television and radio output.

Former England strikers Ian Wright and Alan Shearer were among the pundits who refused to take up their usual roles on Match of the Day, followed by the programme's commentators.

As a result, the longest-running football television programme in the world was aired for the first time without a presenter, pundits or even commentary in a shortened 20-minute highlights package of six matches from the English top-flight.

Weekend preview show Football Focus and results programme Final Score were also pulled from the schedule, while BBC Radio 5Live's coverage was disrupted.

When asked if he should resign over the crisis, Davie replied: "Absolutely not."

"I think that my job is to serve licence-fee payers and deliver a BBC that is really focused on world-class impartial landmark output, and I look forward to us resolving this situation and looking forward to delivering that.

He added: "To be clear, success for me is Gary gets back on air and together we are giving to the audiences that world class sports coverage which, as I say, I'm sorry we haven't been able to deliver today."

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said he hoped the stand-off can be "resolved in a timely manner."

Lineker is a freelance broadcaster for the BBC, not a permanent member of staff, and is not responsible for news or political content so does not need to adhere to the same strict rules on impartiality.

The former Leicester striker was in attendance at the King Power Stadium to watch his home town club lose 3-1 to Chelsea, but did not speak to reporters.

Some Leicester fans showed their support for Lineker with placards reading: "I'm with Gary, migrants welcome."

- 'Immeasurably cruel' -

The row was sparked by Lineker's response to a video in which Home Secretary Suella Braverman unveiled plans to stop migrants crossing the Channel on small boats.

Lineker, the BBC's highest-paid star, wrote on Twitter: "This is just an immeasurably cruel policy directed at the most vulnerable people in language that is not dissimilar to that used by Germany in the '30s."

The Conservative government intends to outlaw asylum claims by all illegal arrivals and transfer them to other countries, such as Rwanda, in a bid to stop the crossings, which totalled more than 45,000 last year.

A YouGov poll published on Monday showed 50 percent backing the measures, with 36 percent opposed.

But rights groups and the United Nations said the legislation would make Britain an international outlaw under European and UN conventions on asylum.

The BBC's move sparked a wave of criticism from politicians and public figures, many of whom accused it of buckling to demands from Conservative lawmakers.

Opposition Labour leader Keir Starmer said the BBC "got this one badly wrong and now they're very, very exposed", while a petition calling for Lineker to be reinstated has attracted over 190,000 signatures.

The issue has brought to a head years of debate over BBC impartiality, which intensified after Britain voted to leave the European Union in 2016.

The Lineker row comes at a particularly heated period after allegations that BBC chairman Richard Sharp facilitated a loan guarantee for former prime minister Boris Johnson while applying for the job.

AFP

Curry, Warriors rally past NBA-best Bucks 125-116 in OT

SAN FRANCISCO

STEPHEN Curry knocked down all the dazzling shots everybody has come to expect from him in crunch time night after night – and then a surprising block at the rim that mattered just as much or maybe even more.

Curry scored 36 points with 22 of those in the fourth quarter and overtime, shining in his first home game back from a long injury absence and leading the Golden State Warriors past the NBA-best Milwaukee Bucks 125-116 on Saturday night.

Curry hit a tying 3-pointer with 19 seconds left in regulation, then blocked a layup attempt by Jrue Holiday in the closing moments.

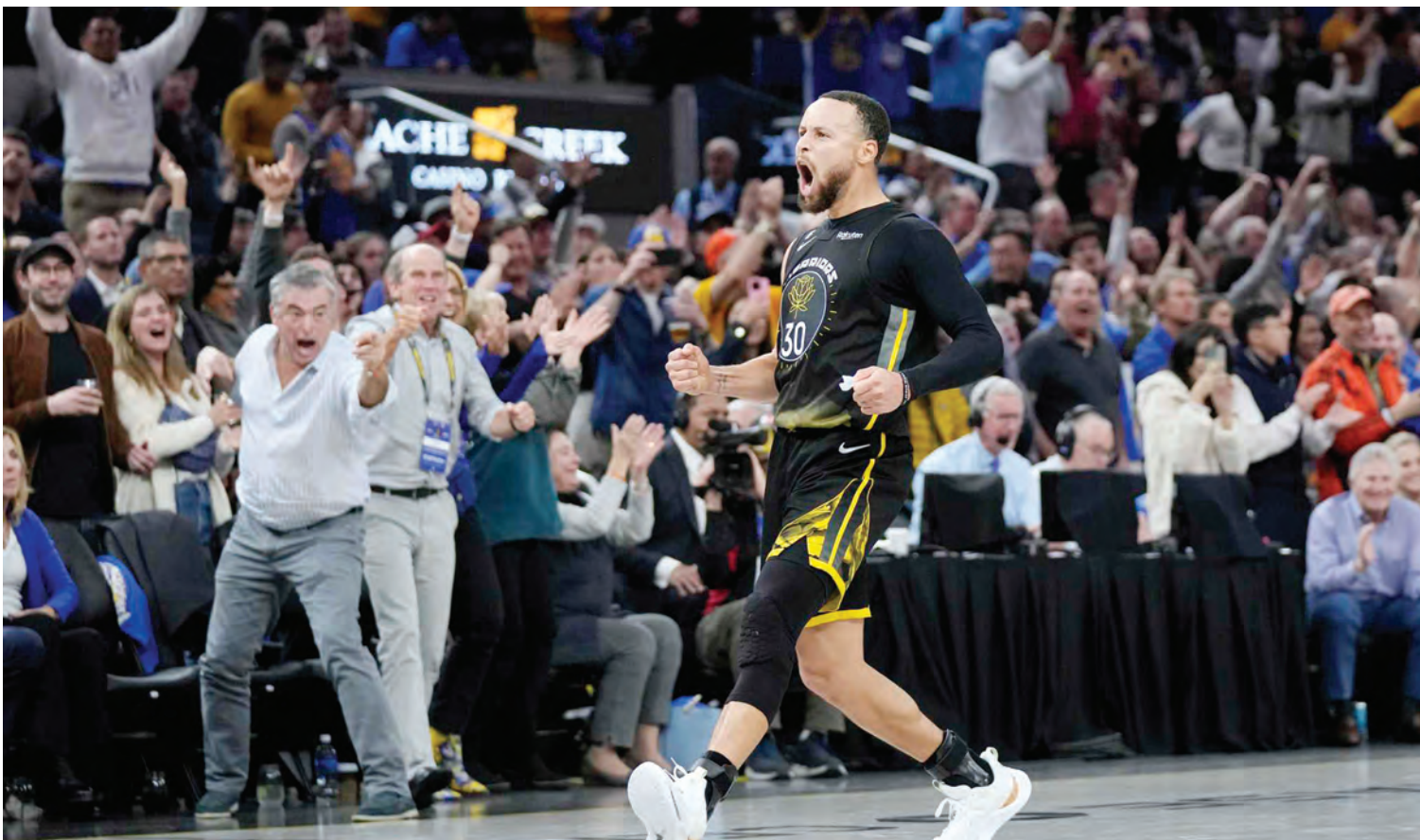
"He came out of nowhere. Jrue had a straight line drive to the rim," Draymond Green said.

The Warriors got the ball back with 1.9 seconds remaining and Curry inbounded to Green, who missed from deep though he thought for sure it was "cash."

Holiday had put Milwaukee up on a 3 with 32.7 seconds to play and wound up with 18 points, nine rebounds and eight assists. But the Bucks (48-19), playing without star Giannis Antetokounmpo, had their three-game winning streak snapped with just their second defeat in 21 games since Jan. 21.

"I loved this game. I thought we competed the entire time," coach Steve Kerr said. "I thought we were really solid for most of the night."

Curry's 3 with 1:08 remaining in regulation got Golden State within 108-106. A steal by Klay Thompson on the other end moments later led to a tying layup by Curry



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) celebrates after making a 3-point basket during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Milwaukee Bucks in San Francisco, Saturday, March 11, 2023. (AP Photo)

before Holiday delivered.

"Overtime and fourth quarter, he got away from us a little bit," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said of Curry. "Some of them were high level."

Thompson added 22 points, Donte DiVincenzo had 20 points and 10 rebounds and the Warriors won at home for the seventh in a row and 11th in 12.

Curry loved making a difference on the defensive end.

"To hit a couple big shots down the stretch and then find yourself in a position where you can make a play on the other side, it gives everybody a good boost because it's shocking," Curry said. "I think I got more about that in the locker room than any shot I made tonight, which speaks for itself."

Khris Middleton had 19 points and five assists, Bobby Portis contributed 15 points and 13 rebounds and Brook Lopez 19 points, seven boards and five blocks.

Bucks leading scorer and rebounder Antetokounmpo missed his second straight game with right hand soreness and third overall after sitting out March 7 with a non-COVID illness.

Golden State used a 16-4 burst out of halftime to go ahead 66-

53 but the Bucks fought back to get within 80-77 heading into the fourth.

Green went down hard and limped to the locker room midway through the third quarter before returning with 38.7 seconds left. While cutting through the key, Green's left foot got tangled with Holiday's right leg and Green tripped and rolled his ankle.

While sore, "I will 100% expect to play," Green said of Monday's game with Phoenix.

Green finished with five points, 13 rebounds and nine assists and Golden State shot better from beyond the arc (41.8%) than it did inside (40.4%).

Curry returned March 5 at the Lakers from a left leg injury suffered Feb. 4 that sidelined him for 11 games. He played on the team's three-game road trip.

DiVincenzo has learned that anything Curry lets fly has a chance.

"It's super fun to watch," he said. "Sometimes when it leaves his hand I'm like, 'No way.'"

Thompson presented soon-to-be 16-year-old Braulio Noriega with a birthday surprise: a custom-basketball wheelchair. Noriega had his left leg amputated from above the knee because of cancer as a 6-year-old.

The teen hopes to compete playing wheelchair basketball in college and eventually in his home country of Mexico.

"I can't even describe how I felt," an overjoyed Noriega said. "... There's so much emotional energy from him."

Meanwhile, in Phoenix, Harrison Barnes scored 19 points, De'Aaron Fox and Malik Monk each added 18 and the Sacramento Kings used a balanced effort to beat the Phoenix Suns 128-119 on Saturday night.

The loss snapped Phoenix's four-game winning streak. The Kings moved 3 1/2 games ahead of the Suns for the No. 3 seed in the Western Conference playoff race.

The Kings finished the game on a 13-4 run. Seven Sacramento players scored at least 12 points. Domantas Sabonis had 17 points and a team-high eight rebounds.

Sacramento's bench combined for 65 points on 20-for-33 shooting.

"A lot of guys were able to contribute tonight," Kings center Chimezie Metu said. "We've got a lot of good players on the bench. We have been consistent since I have been here with our starting lineup and guys

just know what their rolls are and are ready to go in and impact the game, whether it is on the defensive end or going out there like Malik (Monk) did tonight."

The Suns were playing their second straight game without recently acquired star Kevin Durant, who hurt his ankle during pregame warmups before Wednesday's game. The team says he has a sprained left ankle and will be re-evaluated in three weeks.

Devin Booker scored 28 points on 11-for-19 shooting for Phoenix. Deandre Ayton had 22 points and 12 rebounds, and Chris Paul added 16 points and 16 assists.

"We had so many 'My bads' and blown coverages, it just stacked against us," Suns coach Monty Williams said. "You couple that with them having 36 free throws, then they made some 3s. It was too many holes for us to dig out of tonight."

Sacramento took a 67-59 lead into halftime. Trey Lyles led the Kings with 11 points, while Booker led the Suns with 17. The foul-filled half had 41 free throw attempts, including 26 by the Kings.

AP

Manchester United transfer plans unchanged by collapse at Liverpool

BY RICHARD TANNER

ERIK ten Hag insists Manchester United's Anfield humiliation has not altered his summer transfer plans - but has warned his players there cannot be a repeat.

The stunning 7-0 loss to Liverpool followed 6-3 and 4-0 setbacks to Manchester City and Brentford earlier in the season and raised serious question marks over the team's alarming ability to implode.

But Ten Hag will not allow the club's heaviest defeat since 1931 to influence his recruitment strategy, believing that after a run of only one defeat in the previous 22 games it was more a blip rather than a sign his squad needs a major rebuild.

The Dutchman kept faith with the players who were shamed on Merseyside by naming an unchanged team against Real Betis in the Europa League on Thursday and was encouraged by the way they bounced back with a 4-1 victory that should ensure their passage to the quarterfinals.

But Ten Hag has demanded that standards do not drop again and told his players to keep working on improvements as United chase a silverware treble and a top four place - or futures could be at stake.

United have been linked with moves for Harry Kane and long-term target Frankie de Jong but asked if the Liverpool mauling had prompted a change of mind over summer transfers, he replied: "No, it can't change after one game."

"There is a continuing process and it's already in the background. At the moment the main focus is game to game. The next game is always the most important and that's Southampton."

"We have to improve our game and every player has to improve it. Always in bad times you learn a lot but also the positive is that you need bad times to find out what is the character, what is the personality of the team. You always coach and mentor the team in such moments to progress."

"No matter how bad it is, you use it as a tool to

get better in the future. Sometimes you have to get the bad result where everyone opens their eyes."

Apart from the Anfield debacle, Ten Hag was also unhappy with parts of the performances in the recent wins over Leicester in the League, West Ham in the FA Cup and even against Newcastle in the Carabao Cup final.

Liverpool, Tottenham and Newcastle are all chasing a top four spot to clinch Champions League qualification next season and Ten Hag wants a collective show

of character plus relentless consistency from his squad at the business end of the campaign.

"It is a big challenge if you want to win silverware," he said. "And as the season goes on, and you are going for the final positions in the league and the trophies, the pressure will become higher and higher for every team."

"You need a strong character as a team, you need determination, you need resilience, you need a team with personalities and I think we've already shown several times this season

that this team can deal with set-backs.

"Against Betis we have seen an example of that, but after Brentford, Manchester City and Arsenal we also bounced back. Betis was part one and Southampton has to be another one."

"I think with this team we can rely on the fact they can bounce back. It demands a lot of energy, a lot of togetherness from a lot of players to get the performances that we showed against Betis."

"We go from game to game. We are not looking over our shoulders.

We have to focus on our process and what others are doing is not for us. So we have to win games and do that game after game."

Marcus Rashford can reach the 30-goal mark for club and country - he has scored 26 for United and three for England at the World Cup - for the first time if he continues his hot streak against the relegation-threatened Saints at Old Trafford on Sunday but the demanding Ten Hag says the in-form England striker can still improve.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Curry, Warriors rally past NBA-best Bucks 125-116 in OT

PAGE 19

5 EATV Sports

TONIGHT @ 9:00

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
14:00 SKONGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 S5ELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hit
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 5SPORTS LIVE
22:00 Zote kuntu
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

5Sports
The week's local and international sporting events as well as in-depth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on 5Sports.

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM



Simba SC Media and Communication Manager, Ahmed Ally. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Simba SC praises Samia for motivating Dar clubs

By Guardian Reporter

SIMBA SC has showered praise on President Samia Suluhu Hassan for motivating Tanzania's soccer outfits that are battling it out in the Group Stage of 2022/23 Africa inter-club competitions.

The Msimbazi Street-based outfit is participating in CAF Champions League, whereas the country's other club, Yanga, battles it out in CAF Confederation Cup.

President Samia recently placed a 5m/- offer for each goal scored by the two clubs in the competitions. Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Simba SC's Media and Communication Manager Ahmed Ally said President Samia not only wants to ensure Tanzania's clubs perform well internationally but also is fully involved in strategies for seeing to it the outfits emerge victorious in their assignments.

He said this spurs players, fans, club members, and officials to recognize that they have a huge debt to their President, hence, the need to work hard to win their matches.

The Simba SC leader noted: "President Samia not only wants to ensure we make progress but is also involved in looking for victory via presenting cash prize when we score goals in difficult matches."

"Such kinds of motivation from the Head of State are very heartening, taking into consideration the person doing so is not an ordinary citizen."

"Simba Sports Club promises Samia that it will do well when playing our next opponent, Horoya AC of Guinea, in the coming Saturday, to qualify for the quarterfinals," Ally disclosed.

So far Yanga has bagged 30m/- after scoring six goals, whereas Simba SC has collected 10m/- for scoring two goals.

The Msimbazi Street squad defeated Morogoro's Mtibwa Sugar 3-0 in this season's NBC Premier League tie that took place in Turiiani last Saturday to keep on challenging Yanga in the top-flight's title chase.

Azam FC, Ihefu SC in high stakes Premier League battle



Azam FC's forward Prince Dube (L) seeks to outsmart Ihefu SC defensive midfielder Papy Tshishimbi when the outfits took on each other in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League tie in Dar es Salaam last year. Azam FC cruised to a 1-0 win. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM FC and Ihefu SC will have a high-stakes battle when they meet in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League fixture at the Highland Estate Stadium in Mbeya this afternoon, with kick-off slated for 4 pm.

Hosts Ihefu SC will look to confirm their top-flight status for next season with a positive result.

A record of five wins in their last seven league matches has kept Ihefu SC clear of the relegation zone.

Last time out, the team recorded a 2-1 win over Dodoma Jiji FC to move within touching distance of the top six.

Despite the recent form, Ihefu SC remains in mathematical danger of finishing in the relegation playoff spot after both Ruvu Shooting and Tanzania Prisons won their games last weekend.

A win here would go a long way in confirming the Mbeya club's safety and also keep alive their top four/six finish

ambitions.

Against Azam FC, Ihefu SC will bank on their home venue advantage having four of their last five league games in their backyard.

They have claimed 20 points from 11 home matches this season, with their last result as hosts being a 1-1 draw with Singida Big Stars in mid-February.

Ihefu SC will look to Yacouba Songne, Rashid Juma, and Obrey Chirwa for goals with Juma Said

Nyoso and Lenny Kissu shielding the defense.

Nelson Okwa and Victor Akpan who are on loan from Simba SC could be pulling the strings in midfield.

Ugandan international, Nicholas Wadada, and Zimbabwean midfielder Never Tigere are also in line to face their former employers.

On the flip side, Azam FC is in a tight battle with Singida Big

Stars for the third spot

which would earn an automatic CAF Confederation Cup spot for the 2023-24 campaign.

The ice cream makers recorded a 2-0 win over the lower-tier side, Mapinduzi FC,

in the last 16 of this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC)

last time out.

Azam FC assistant coach Kally Ongala and his boys have not played well away from home and are on a five-match winless streak on their travels.

There have been defeats in clashes against Singida Big Stars and Dodoma Jiji FC and stalemates with Kagera Sugar and Geita Gold FC plus a 1-1 draw with Simba SC.

Prince Dube, Kipre Junior, and Iddy Selemani 'Nado' will be the key players for Azam FC.

Dube has six goals, one less than the club's top scorer, Idris Mbo-mbo, who has struggled to start recent games.

In head-to-head stats, Ihefu SC and Azam FC have met in three league matches since the start of the 2020/21 campaign.

Azam FC won the reverse fixture against Ihefu SC 1-0 in October, with Dube scoring the all-important goal for Azam FC in the tight game.

The match saw Ihefu SC reduced to 10 men in the first half following center-back Juma Nyoso's dismissal after he was shown a red card.

The other two games have ended in an Azam FC win and a draw in Ihefu SC's topflight debut season in 2020/21.

Hat-trick delights Jean Baleke in Simba SC's win

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC striker Jean Baleke scored his first hat-trick for the club in the 3-0 away win over Mtibwa Sugar as the Msimbazi Reds put pressure on 2022/23 NBC Premier League leader, Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, on Saturday afternoon.

The Congolese forward's hat trick was also the third by a Simba SC player in the league this season following in the footsteps of Saidi Ntibazonkiza and John Bocco.

It is the fifth hat trick to have been recorded in the NBC Premier League this season with the other two having been scored by Yanga's Fiston Mayele and Abdallah Mkoko of Namungo FC.

The 22-year-old Baleke showed some fantastic finishing inside the box to net three for his outfit, popularly known as 'Wekundu wa Msimbazi', including two inside five minutes when he put Simba SC 2-0 in the opening 10 minutes.

He took advantage of sloppy defense to chip his shot home and stun the Mtibwa Sugar crowd just three minutes into the game.

The second goal came four minutes later when Baleke headed home a cross from Said Ntibazonkiza.



Jean Baleke. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

On a day when goals flowed through the striker, Baleke wrapped up his hat-trick in the 33rd minute when he nodded home Shomari Kapombe's headed pass at point-blank range.

As is customary, Baleke took the

match ball home and revealed his delight in a perfect afternoon for his club and on an individual level.

Baleke said: "I am happy to score my first hat trick at Simba SC. I am a striker, my job is to score, so I promise

I will continue to score."

The victory took Simba SC five points within touching distance of NBC Premier League leaders, Yanga, as the former has posted 57 points from 24 games, at least until the defending champions played host to Geita Gold FC in yesterday evening's match.

Baleke took his tally this season to six goals, including five in the NBC Premier League.

He was signed by Simba SC from DR Congo's TP Mazembe after spending a loan stint at Lebanon's outfit Nejmeh FC.

The attacker moved to Simba SC in the December-January mini-transfer window as a replacement for the departed Serbian striker Dejan Georgijevich.

Simba SC will be out to book their place in the knockout stage of this season's CAF Champions League when they welcome Horoya Athletic Club to the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in a Group C tie in Dar es Salaam on Saturday evening.

The Tanzanians sit second in Group C with six points and hope Baleke and other strikers will get the necessary goals needed to fire them past their visitors from Guinea who are placed third in the group.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

