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Tulia unhappy with fertiliser distribution



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'Stop using illegal fishing gear'



**THE Banker**  
Bank offers 35m/- support to five schools in Mtwara

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Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Amos Makalla (C) waves flag alongside Filbert Mponji, the NMB Bank's chief of retail banking, at the launch of the bank's rapid account app at the Magufuli Bus Terminal in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is Ubungo district commissioner Kheri James. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Minister dispels urgency as debt facing Tanzania hits 90trn/- bar

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

THE national debt increase to the current 90trn/- level in the past two years from 60trn/- earlier is not alarming, as it isn't cash that ought to be paid in the short term, the public has been told.

Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba made this remark yesterday in a television interview, following up on debates on the rapid increase in the national debt prevalent in social media networks.

Underlining the difference between the national debt as a whole and government debt specifically, he said that when individual firms such as the Tanzania Breweries Ltd (TBL), Bakhresa Group,

Mohammed Enterprises (MeTL) or GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications) borrow money from outside the country, this adds to the national debt but the debate largely focuses on government debt.

When the government went public that the debt has reached 60trn/- the reference was to the government debt, he said, noting that private sector debt is only included in referring to the national debt.

He said the national debt is now estimated at 90trn/-, of which 73trn/- is government debt and 16trn/- is owed to the private sector.

The minister earlier dwelt on the subject when tabling the 2022/2023 national budget, it asked the National Assembly to approve the issuance of a 2.17trn/- non-cash bond to pay

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## NMB launches rapid mobile account drive

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank yesterday debuted a novel solution for opening accounts within two minutes, adding fresh impetus to the national financial inclusion agenda and digital finance outreach.

Filbert Mponzi, the bank's chief of retail banking, said at the launching ceremony that this was a new banking era unfolding in the country, as the new application is a customer on-boarding process.

When completed, instant loan services like 'NMB on hand' are activated to enable transacting to start, he said, noting that the bank had ordinary and unbanked folks in mind in that initiative.

He said NMB rapid account service is the fastest digital account opening experience, at the upcountry Magufuli Bus Terminal in Dar es Salaam, describing

it as a digital finance solution that is instantaneous and cheap, lacking maintenance charges.

In the presence of chief guest Amos Makalla, the city regional commissioner, he said an account can be opened with any of its numerous agents, on a paperless basis, not needing to visit any of the bank's 228 branches.

In his remarks, the RC said that this innovation accords the entire public the chance to open a bank account, while the retail chief said the rapid account's main beneficiaries will be the underserved segments of the market.

Currently, NMB has over five million active accounts and every day over 3,000 new ones are opened, he said, underlining the bank's pursuit of leveraging technology to provide

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By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE government yesterday announced the names of 1,073,941 pupils selected to join Form I in 2023 with those from rural areas prioritized in national boarding schools.

Angellah Kairuki, the Regional Administration and Local Governments minister in the President's Office unveiled the names in Arusha, instructing that those selected need to report to boarding schools on January 7 and those selected to join day schools report on January 9.

She said that this year's selection for Form I was based on a pupil selection management information system, developed by experts in the ministry and the National Examinations Council of Tanzania (NECTA). It has helped to reduce selection time lag, she affirmed.

Just 3,224 pupils or 0.30 per cent of the total were picked to join boarding schools, out of whom 932 were picked to high passmark schools, namely 512 boys and 420

## Form I 2023: Over 1m pupils selected

■ Rural areas favoured in boarding school placements

**The number of pupils who passed to join Form I increased by 166,139 this year from 907,802 pupils passing last year**

girls, she said.

A total of 1,323 pupils were selected to join technical schools, with 1,110 being boys and 213 being girls. Additionally, 1,969 pupils were picked to join normal boarding schools, out of whom 979 are boys and 990 are girls, she stated.

The minister noted that the bulk of those selected, numbering 1,069,717 pupils, join day secondary schools where the breakdown is 512,245 boys and 557,472 girls.

The number of pupils who passed to join Form I increased by 166,139 this year from

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## TBC shaken as videographer dies in Kili descent accident



By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

A JOURNALIST with the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC), Joachim Kapembe has died under mysterious circumstances while descending from Mount Kilimanjaro.

Kapembe (pictured), a videographer with TBC based at Babati, Manyara Region, was part of a team which ascended to Kibo Peak in the recent ceremony to unveil high speed internet connected to fibre optic cable.

It was a follow-up trip to the peak as the lines had already been installed four months ago, on the basis of remarks at the rapid internet launching, presided over by ICT minister Nape Nnauye.

The accident occurred on a wheeled descending equipment taking the

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Goodluck Busago of Women in Development Efforts Organisation explains to students on the effects of sex-related acts of corruption at Kigogo Luhanga Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. The organisation is involved in an anti-corruption campaign. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika





## Minister dispels urgency as debt facing Tanzania hits 90trn/- bar

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retirees from social security funds lacking disposable funds owed by the government.

The rising debt was linked with the ongoing implementation of strategic development projects like the standard gauge railway, as funds for the projects are injected into government coffers.

Project monies are paid to contractors in phases whenever they complete a certain project or part of a project, all of which is government debt. Tanzanians should understand that such projects are intended to stimulate the economy, he affirmed.

No individual Tanzanian is eligible to repay the loan, he said, noting that properties and salaries of citizens will not be affected by debt repayment. Tanzania still qualifies for more loans in

accordance with criteria set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), he emphasized.

The criteria include balancing the national debt with national income where the current ratio for Tanzania is 32.5 percent, and the set limit is up to 55 percent, he stated.

The set limit for the foreign debt is 40 percent while Tanzania's foreign debt is presently 18.1 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP), while the value of the foreign debt to exports stands at 120 percent compared to the set limit pegged at 180 percent, he further noted.

Compared to East African Community (EAC) partner states and in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) the Versace debt to national income scale places Tanzania at 32.5 percent, Kenya at 63 percent, Uganda at 42 percent and Rwanda at 52.5 percent, he added.

## Form I 2023: Over 1m pupils selected

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907,802 pupils passing last year.

Among pupils who passed and selected to join Form I include 2,775 with special needs, where 1,491 are

boys and 1,284 are girls, she further noted, directing top regional and district officials to ensure all 1,073,941 pupils selected to join secondary schools do so without undue obstacles.

## NMB launches rapid mobile account drive

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novel banking experiences to its customers.

The end-to-end digital proposition will promote inclusive finance by enabling customers to easily access micro credit facilities, make deposits and withdrawals at agency facilities, and pay bills using smartphones or other mobile phones.

The bank's innovation prowess and investment in new technologies have won its local recognition and global accolades from prominent international rating organisations.

In the past two years, NMB has been cited in over 20 international awards from reputable global publications such as World Economic Magazine, Global Brands

Magazine, International Banker Awards, and International Business Magazine.

At the start of this year, the lender's target was to open one million new accounts but it has exceeded the target with 1,012,344 accounts opened up to now, he observed.

This comes to opening 3,135 accounts every day and takes financial inclusion a step further, while the rapid accounts raise hope for adding many more new accounts, he stated.

Earlier, Ubungu DC Heri James said the debuting of the NMB rapid account facility will stir small business growth, advancing business activity and the economy in the district and across the country.

## Bodies of 27 migrants, including children found in Chadian desert, says UN agency

N/DJAMENA

THE bodies of 27 migrants believed to have died of thirst have been found in the Chadian desert, the UN migration agency has said.

According to reports, the migrants reportedly left Moussoro, a crossroads town in West-Central Chad, 17 months ago in a pickup truck, the IOM said in a statement.

It is believed the truck got lost in the deep desert, broke down due to mechanical issues, and the migrants died of thirst, said the migration organization affiliated with the UN.

"We are deeply saddened by this most recent tragedy and extend our heartfelt condolences to the migrants' families," said Anne Kathrin Schaefer, IOM Chad Chief of Mission.

Chad, at the crossroads of North and Central Africa, currently hosts about 300,000 refugees in 17 refugee camps and 160,000 internally displaced persons in the eastern and southern parts of the country.

The forced migration has been caused mainly by conflict and general insecurity in western Sudan, eastern Chad, and parts of the Central African Republic.

According to the IOM, food insecurity, failed harvests, and

inconsistent rains have impacted migration patterns.

Since 2014, 110 migrant deaths have been recorded within Chad, including this latest incident.

These numbers are likely higher, as many migrant deaths go unrecorded, leaving families worried and without answers about their loved ones, said the IOM.

In June, the bodies of 20 Chadians and Libyans were found in the Libyan desert in Koufra, a town located along the Chad-Libya border.



**We are deeply saddened by this most recent tragedy and extend our heartfelt condolences to the migrants' families**



Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination) Dr John Jingu visits pavilions after opening stakeholders meeting about the convergence of international agricultural research institute work in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Community should realise contribution to school based feeding programmes

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Ministry of Education, Science and Technology says there a need to continue educating the community to recognise the importance for contributing towards meal expenses at schools.

Grace Shileringo, the ministry's coordinator on nutrition issues made the remarks here yesterday when addressing reporters at the launching of guidelines for the implementation of the planning policy on meals at schools that that went simultaneously with

establishing a team of experts to monitor the plan.

Grace said the community has been having a wrong concept in not contributing to the cost of meals at schools because of the existence of free education, hence she stressed that the issue of meals at schools is the responsibility of parents and guardians and does not relate at all with the free education policy.

She said yesterday's meeting has brought together various stakeholders from sectoral ministries from both mainland and Zanzibar as well as WFP who

have contributed a lot to ensure the meeting takes place as well as implementing its resolutions.

Neema Kweba, nutrition official from the President's Office - regional administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) said the school meals plan is being managed at regional up to ward level.

"We have created a plan for implementing the guideline that will soon be finalised, the aim is to make sure meals service at schools and nutrition are implemented, as we can recall, on September 30 this year president samia Suluhu

Hassan signed an agreement with Regional commissioners for the implementation of this policy," she said.

For his part, speaking on behalf of WFP, Head of the institution's Nutrition Department, Vera Kwara said WFP has been assisting on the issue of meals at schools for many years.

Kwara said the government of Tanzania has done a good thing to agree and launch the school meals plan that will assist in community development and students passes in examinations.



UWEZA Foundation executive director Esther Simba (gestures) talks with girls from difficult circumstances at Tuleeni Ophance Home situated at North Uru in Moshi district, Kilimanjaro region about the use of sanitary pads. Photo: Correspondent Godfrey Mushi

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journalist downhill from Kibo peak to Horombo hut, a usual resting spot.

The trip to unveil the rapid internet cable was organized by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) and the Tanzania Telecommunications Co. Ltd (TTCL) which administers the national fiber optic cable system.

Catherine Mbeni, the head of

## TBC shaken as videographer dies in Kili descent accident

corporate communications at the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), confirmed the sad incident, noting that Ahsante Tours handled the event's logistics.

She said it was too early to tell what exactly happened on the

mountain leading to the journalist's death, while police in Kilimanjaro Region was also working on the case.

The TBC management issued a condolence statement, affirming that the videographer died during

the descending trip.

Inaugurating the fiber optic internet service was billed to form part of Independence Day events but was rescheduled to suit other national day arrangements, she added.





Students with albinism from primary and secondary schools sponsored by the Village of Hope Organisation, listen to the reporter of the digital section, Carlos Banda, (not in the picture) on a familiarisation tour of TGL, publishers of The Guardian and Nipashe dailies in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Make plans in accordance with results of 2022 Population and Housing Census, officials told

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

LOCAL leaders and executive officers in Dodoma region have been urged to make key plans for the city's development in accordance with the 2022 Population and Housing census results.

They are called on to point out key areas and set joint and sustainable development strategies as the city population continues to grow.

Speaking while opening training for councilors and ward executive officers, Regional Commissioner, Rosemary Senyamule said the regional population has increased from 2.1 million in 2012 to 3.1 million in 2022 an increase of 3.9 per cent.

She said, "We need to organize ourselves to ensure we serve our people equally in line with the increasing population".

The councilors and local executive officers in the region have begun training on the proper use of the 2022 Population and Housing Census results.

The RC said that the government decided to conduct the 2022 Population, Housing and Residential Addresses census together to ensure it has adequate information in these areas in order to improve and implement development plans with the consideration of all areas.

"The 2022 Census was held together with two other major activities: the Housing Census and the Residential Addresses Census, and for a long time our country did not have accurate statistics on buildings that are connected to the statistics of people, housing and residential addresses but now the statistics are available and we can use them to make development plans for housing and community-based sector," Senyamule said.

Senyamule asked the leaders to use this training as an important tool to practically translate the 2022 census results in order to change, shape and improve policymaking as well as planning, evaluation and implementation of development activities so as to enhance citizens' welfare.

The RC also instructed councilors and village executive officers to meet with districts executive directors to ensure that they work on the details of the results of the 2022 population and housing census so as to find out what has been revealed about community services, buildings and residential addresses and point out areas that need to be prioritized.

She urged all the District Commissioners to provide feedback on where we have to focus and improve better especially in community sector areas such as in primary and secondary schools because the government has spent a lot of resources to collect this information and we are most lucky to be the first to receive this training from NBS.

Dodoma becomes the first Region to get this training on the use of the 2022 population and housing Census from NBS and the theme of the training is "The use of 2022 Population and Housing Census results for integrated planning and sustainable development".

The government has prepared a special National Guide on the use of the 2022 Population and Housing census result with the aim of increasing understanding, transparency and expanding the scope of the use of these results in setting integrated plans for the sustainability of social, economic and environmental development in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.

## Speaker displeased by subsidised fertiliser distribution procedures

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

DR TULIA Ackson, Speaker of the Parliament has been irked by the procedures of some fertiliser agents to send to distributors' only one type of fertiliser, the practice that makes farmers fail to get some types the farm inputs they require in time.

Two days ago Dr Tulia, who is also a Member of Parliament for Mbeya City Constituency made an inspection of the distribution procedures to farmers at shops

selling subsidised fertiliser at various shops and found that some had only one type of fertiliser while farmers were in need of all fertiliser types.

While at Uyole, in the City of Mbeya, she found some shops stocked with only fertiliser for planting while some farmers said they are often forced to visit other areas to look for other types of fertilisers.

She said the practice of farmers visiting different areas looking for fertiliser increase transport costs

thereby making government-subsidised fertiliser meaningless.

The situation made Dr Tulia call the Minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe for clarification in regard to fertiliser distribution.

For his part, Bashe instructed the main fertiliser distributor in Mbeya to communicate with other fertiliser firms to send the required fertilizer to them.

Bashe said he will continue to monitor the situation regarding the distribution of subsidized fertiliser to make sure the input is available

to all farmers and sold at indicative prices.

He also called on distributors' agents to make sure the farm input reaches farmers in time and desist from engaging in issues that violate the agreements they had reached with the government.

Some farmers said the availability of subsidised fertiliser in their areas was not all that assured, hence they appealed to the government to address the issue as early as possible to go in tandem with the farming season.

## Sub-Saharan Africa could be unsustainable by 2050 - study

By Special Correspondent

SYDNEY-based think tank Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), published recently the newest edition of its Ecological Threat Report (ETR).

Assessing which countries are most at risk from conflict, civil unrest and displacement caused by ecological degradation, the report found that countries in Africa were particularly vulnerable.

Projections to 2050 show that much of sub-Saharan Africa will be unsustainable. The main factors accounting for this unsustainability are: high levels of air pollution, poor sanitation, high homicide rates and substantial ecological threats combined with high population growth.

The 77-page report highlights 27 'hotspot' countries, which face the worst ecological threats and have the lowest societal resilience. 23 of the 27 are in sub-Saharan Africa and MENA.

41 countries are currently facing severe food insecurity, impacting economic development, public health, and social harmony. 830 million people living in these countries are at risk, with 89% residing in sub-Saharan-Africa, followed by MENA with 49 million.

According to the World Health Organisation, people facing severe food insecurity have run out of food and gone a day or more without eating.

The level of undernourished is also worrisome. The number of people affected has increased by 35 per cent in 2021 to over 750 million people. Under nutrition is a malnutrition condition. It includes wasting (low weight-for-height), stunting (low height-for-age) and underweight (low weight-for-age).

Under nutrition is expected to deteriorate due to increasing ecological degradation, rising inflation, and the Russia-Ukraine war.

In addition to that, over 1.4 billion people across 83 countries now face extreme water stress, with more than half of these countries located in Africa.

Sub-Saharan Africa is the second region most impacted by natural disasters.

With natural disasters becoming more frequent, communities will struggle to recover before the next one occurs. As it has already been observed, climate-related disasters often lead to forced mass migration.

In 2021, countries that experienced the highest internal displacements from conflict and natural disasters included Syria, Ethiopia, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan, and South Sudan.

Asia-Pacific is the first region the most affected by natural disasters. Central America and the Caribbean are other particularly affected regions. The latest multi-agency report on climate revealed that the number of weather, climate and water related disasters has increased by a factor of five over the past 50 years.

Regions exposed to the highest levels of ecological threat are on average the least concerned with climate change, with sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia ranking war, terrorism, crime, violence and livelihoods as of

greater concern.

Since 2019 the world has become less concerned about climate change, dropping by 1.5 per cent to 48.7 per cent.

Many African countries are counting on the 27th session of the UN Climate Change Conference will set to kick off on early November in Sharm el-Sheikh to tackle climate injustice.

Steve Killelea, the founder and executive chairman of the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) also views this event as a chance to seize in order to bring about changes.

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

AUTHORITIES in Singida Municipality have been directed to fast-track the implementation of the process to change the use of the Manga dump site and allow the construction of hotels and entertainment buildings.

Singida Regional Commissioner Peter Serukamba made the directives yesterday when he visited to inspect the dumpsite which is located at Mtipa village along the Singida-Mwanza highway.

He said that the area will also see the construction of petrol stations as well as parking for Lorries.

Serukamba said that fast-tracking the construction of the new buildings will not only change the area's view but also increase the revenue collections of the district.

## Authorities in Singida directed to fast-track process of changing use of Manga dump site

He also directed all districts in the region to initiate robust strategies aimed to facilitate massive and sustainable tree planting along the roads as well as cleanliness campaigns.

Yagi Kiaratu, the municipal mayor, assured the regional commissioner that they are going to supervise the implantation of all the directives clarifying that processes to change the use of the Manga dumpsite have been started.

"When the dumpsite started, Singida town was still small but now due to development, the municipality has expanded and thus we saw it better to find another area of Mwankonko as a new

dumpsite," he asserted.

He said that currently, they are working on the designs and drawings of the area so as to approve construction activities. The area will include hotels, car parking, bars and special areas for food vendors to serve the guests," he added.

He said that the municipal council will focus on the construction of the car parking but other services will be implemented by investors who will be given the duty to develop the area.

"With new plans, people will be restricted throwing waste in the area and those who will be found violating the rules, they will be subjected to fines of up to 300,000/-," Kiaratu said.




### CONSULTANCY

**We're looking for a consultant to plan and implement our incubation program in the southern highland regions**

Rikolto is an international network organisation with over 40 years of experience in partnering with food chain stakeholders in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. We build bridges of trust and trade between the food industry, governments, research institutions, financial institutions and farmers' organisations around one central question: 'What will we eat tomorrow?'

Rikolto in East Africa together with its partners (INADES Formation, Agronomos Sin Fronteras, MIICO and TCCIA) secured funding for a 4-year horticultural programme in Tanzania called "Building Inclusive and Competitive Horticulture Businesses in Tanzania's Southern Highlands (BICHOBS)", which aims to improve and increase market competitiveness in the fruit, vegetables and spices sector supplying both domestic and international markets. As part of this program, Rikolto plans the establishment of an incubator and adoption of a business development curriculum that will change the attitude among youth on the issues of investing in horticulture and generating the employment in the five regions of southern Tanzania.

We are currently looking for a consultant to plan and implement our incubation program in three regions of Southern Tanzania (Mbeya, Songwe and Katavi) through Training, Coaching and Mentoring Approach. As such, this program will contribute to improving the performance of Tanzania's horticulture sector, the inclusion of smallholder farmers, job creation and nutrition security as the overall project objective.

The full job description is available on our website:  
<https://eastafrica.rikolto.org/en/news/youth-engagement-agribusiness>

Interested candidates can submit their CV and application letter to  
[estafrica.recruitment@rikolto.org](mailto:estafrica.recruitment@rikolto.org) by December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 23:59pm.




### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF COATING EQUIPMENT

REF : ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-GE-0107

BESIX Ballast Nedam Limited, the CONTRACTOR for the Engineering, Procurement and Construction of the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites experienced specialist Companies to express their interest for:

**Supply and Delivery of Coating Equipment.**

The Republic of Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), the United Republic of Tanzania and/or Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), as well as other international oil companies are participating in the implementation of the EACOP Project. As part of EACOP project, the Crude oil will be loaded on vessels via a facility located in the near shore environment of the Indian Ocean. The Facility will be located 2 km offshore from the Marine Storage Terminal site located on the Chongoleani peninsula in front of Tanga Port in Tanzania.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS / SERVICES:**

BBN needs equipment/tools to buy in order to perform the in-situ coating touch-up activities on the steel structures, this includes the surface preparation and coating over welded joints and for repair.

- For the surface preparation BBN requires Vacuum blasting machines, dust free using steel angular abrasive to Sa 3 (ISO 8501-1) & Medium G profile (ISO 8503-2). When there are angles/small

surface BBN requires a Bristle blaster brush tool.

- For the coating, BBN requires both airless handheld spray and airless spray unit on wheels

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Qualified workers and certified QA/QC;
- Warranty period of 24 months and 5 years on latent defects after expiry of the warranty period;
- Company profile with prove of sufficient financial capabilities (2021-2022 Financial Inspection report) and sufficient and capable resources.
- An experience list with relevant supply history / track record showing minimum of five (5) years' experience in execution similar services of required fabrication and transport as per international standards common in the Oil and Gas business or comparable market.
- Company's Quality and HSE plans and certification ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, OHSAS 18001 (ISO45001:2018) or equivalent certificates;
- Compliance with petroleum (local Content) regulation of 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania.
- Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is highly recommended.

Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to [procurement@bbnjv.com](mailto:procurement@bbnjv.com) (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before 29<sup>th</sup> December 2022 1800hrs Tanzania Time.

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will be evaluated and if selected will be invited, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), to participate in the bidding process.

**Note:** Only pre-qualified companies will receive an invitation to submit their bid in furtherance of the Call for Tender process.



## Zanzibar 2nd VP urges LSF to support govt's efforts in providing education on GBV

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdallah has asked the Legal Service Facility (LSF) to join the government in providing education to the community to eradicate gender-based violence and land disputes in the islands.

The Isles' second VP made the call here on Tuesday when speaking at the Second Annual Legal Aid Forum held in Zanzibar where he was the official guest.

He said the government recognizes the contribution of LSF to its work to help the Zanzibaris community and Tanzania in general in providing legal aid and access to justice for citizens, especially the poor.

As a result of these efforts, Abdulla said that the issues of humiliation have become serious in the country along with land conflicts, so he asked the LSF to be at the forefront of educating the people and supporting the government's efforts in eradicating such acts.

"The theme of this conference is Enhancing Quality and Sustainable Legal Aid Provision in Zanzibar'. I congratulate you for choosing this theme because it has come at the right time due to the importance of using alternative methods of arbitration in solving various conflicts in society," said Abdulla.

He said through the programme to strengthen access to justice under the LSF in collaboration with the Department of Constitution and Legal Aid, a total of 50 new legal assistants have been found including 32 from Unguja and 18 from Pemba.

LSF Chief Executive Officer, Lulu Ng'wanakilala said that the conference carried a theme related to the strengthening of quality and sustainable legal aid services in

Zanzibar which is built into the core of LSF's strategic plan for the next four years (2022-2026).

LSF is a basket fund established in 2011 as a non-profit organisation that strives to increase access to justice for all, in particular for women through a legal empowerment approach. The LSF channels its funding on an equal opportunity basis to organisations that provide legal aid and paralegal services on Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar. LSF is committed to promoting the protection of human rights for all, with an emphasis on poor women, girls and other vulnerable groups. They enhance the availability, affordability, accessibility, and acceptability of quality legal aid services through paralegals and other legal aid providers. They envision a Tanzanian society in which all people are equal and have access to justice.



**The theme of this conference is Enhancing Quality and Sustainable Legal Aid Provision in Zanzibar'. I congratulate you for choosing this theme because it has come at the right time due to the importance of using alternative methods of arbitration in solving various conflicts in society**

## Bunda district villagers protest eviction plan

By Guardian Correspondent, Bunda

MORE than 13,000 residents from four villages in Nyatwali ward, Bunda District, Mara Region have raised concerns over forced eviction by their leaders who claim to be directed by top government officials.

Speaking to journalists yesterday shortly after their meeting with district leaders, the villagers claimed that the District Administrative Secretary, Salimu Cherera has ordered them to move from the areas insisting to have received directives from President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The residents are from Kariakoo, Tamau, Serengeti and Nyatwali villages.

Nyatwali Ward Councillor, Malongo Mashimo said: "We have been informed that President Samia has ordered for our eviction. Accompanied by police officers and the investor, Cherera organised a meeting on December 8th 2022 where he informed the villagers on their relocation."

Malongo said the administrative secretary conducted the meeting with the main agenda being that President Samia has ordered all the people of Nyatwali ward to leave the area.

"Ward leaders questioned the administrative secretary on why he conducted a meeting without involving councillors, a gathering which was attended by a good number of police officers," said Malongo.

He claimed that Cherera even refused to show them a document that he claimed is an order from the president, saying they are not entitled to see such government documents.

He said on December 12, 2022, ward leaders organised a meeting with an order from the administrative secretary who came with officials he claimed to be from the State House.

"During the meeting, Chereha ordered all the ward leaders to switch off their mobile phones

threatening to take strict actions against leaders who will not adhere to his directive. The agenda was to inform us that President Samia wants us to move from our villages; again, he refused to share the said letter with ward leaders," stated Malongo.

Retired CCM Chairman in Bunda District, Alfredi Malagira (80) claimed that movements to relocate villagers from the four villages of Nyatwali ward started in 2002, but the matter was resolved by former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda on May 12, 2014 with a letter-PM/P/1/569/15.

Malagira said that the late President John Pombe Magufuli suspended the relocation exercise through a letter dated January 15, 2019 which was signed by the then Director of Presidential Communications, Gerson Msigwa.

"We are travelling to Dar es Salaam to see the CCM Vice Chairman, Abdulrahman Kinana so that he takes us to President Samia. We want to present our grievances to the president," said Malagira.

In his response, Bunda District Administrative Secretary, Salimu Cherera said: "We conducted meeting with the villagers because they are the ones to relocate. You may come to my office for clarifications."



**Ward leaders questioned the administrative secretary on why he conducted a meeting without involving councillors, a gathering which was attended by a good number of police officers**



Dr Abbas Essaji from the Lions Club of Dar Mzizima (2nd L) provides diabetes and cataract surgery test services to citizens who attended the four-day medical camp at Msoga Chalenze hospital in Coast region. The event was organised by members of the Lions Club Dar-Mzizima. During the camp about 100 citizens were diagnosed. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Turkish investor forcefully evicted from hotel allegedly for violating rental rules

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

A Turkish investor, Erkan Acikel, has been forcefully removed from a hotel along with his properties for allegedly violating hotel rental rules which he was given in May 2021.

Acikel is reported to have rented to operate Sipano Beach Lodge hotel from a local investor, Peter Sipano but failed to adhere to the set rules breaching the terms of the contract and thus making the Police Force apply force to evacuate him from the hotel.

The evacuation was supervised by the Kumekucha Auction Mart after the investor was ordered to leave the property through court

rule.

Addressing reporters soon after the evacuation exercise, Sipano, who is the owner of the hotel cautioned local investors to be careful when leasing their hotel to foreign investors as some of them were not faithful.

He said conflicts between patriotic local investors and foreigners were on the increase in the tourism industry, something which affects the progress of the local investors who have invested in hotel construction and later invite foreign investors to run the hotels but their decision has become a hindrance to the development of their projects.

"I signed an agreement with Acikel in May 2021 for him to run the Sipano Beach Lodge hotel and Zan Food Company, but all this time he has been violating the agreement's conditions thus leading to this situation," he said.

Peter said that despite the Zanzibar High Court issuing an order requiring the foreign investors to leave the hotels after their contract expired, Acikel refused to do so until now when they succeeded to remove him.

"The contract started in May 2021, but since the end of November 2021 when the contract ended, the investor refused to give back the hotel and also failed to comply with

the terms of the hotel maintenance agreement and so far the facility is in a dilapidated condition," he explained. Sipano further said that he was planning to file a case against the Turkish national for causing him huge loss of nearly 1bn/-.

Mansab Alawi Abdalla, assistant secretary of Kumekucha Auction Mart said they have implemented the evacuation exercise after receiving an order from Zanzibar High Court.

Shekha of Kiwengwa in Unguja north region Pandu Machano said the decision made against the investor was right because he had failed to comply with the contract's terms.



Grace Magembe deputy Permanent secretary in the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (Health) (3rd L) presents a certificate to 'best student academic' Nankondo Ladslaus Mnyone at the Feza girls secondary school during the Form IV graduation ceremony in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo: Correspondent Ashrack Miraji

## Many dead as floods hit DR Congo's capital Kinshasa

KINSHASA

OVER 55 people have been killed and dozens injured on Tuesday by widespread floods and landslides caused by heavy rains in Congo's capital, Kinshasa.

Kinshasa's 24 neighbourhood were affected according to local officials.

Some 12 million people live in Congolese city. Many of whom now grieve loved ones.

"Around 4:15 a.m. we woke up, the water had gotten into the house," Robert the relative of a deceased recounted.

"We tried to channel the water elsewhere after we noticed that there was more danger. We went

back to the house to sleep since we were soaked with the cold, we went back to bed, and just after, the wall collapsed on the children and the parents and on a neighbour, who was passing by. In total, nine people died."

In addition to submerging houses, the torrential rains ruined many roads. A landslide in the southern Mont-Ngafula district cut off a key supply route linking the capital with the Atlantic Ocean port of Matadi.

Prime Minister Jean-Michel Sama Lukonde said officials were still searching for more bodies.

"We came to assess the damage and the primary damage we see is human," Lukonde said on state

television Tuesday.

President Félix Tshisekedi who's attending the USA-Africa Summit in Washington sent his deepest condolences to the bereaved families.

In a tweet, he asked, "the national and provincial governments to come to" the aid of the most vulnerable and "to accelerate the work of rainwater drainage to prevent this type of disaster from happening again."

In the Ngaliema area, more than three dozen people died and bodies are still being counted, said the area's mayor, Alid'or Tshibanda. In another part of town five members of one family were killed, some by electrocution.

"It is a just calamity," said Pierrot Mantuela. The 30-year-old lost his mother, nine-year-old daughter and three brothers. "It's sad to lose all the members of my family," he said. He said he was spared because he was working Monday night when the rains began.

Officials said much of the destruction happened in houses built on plots without official permission. "They have no documents. They are chased away but they always come back," said Dieumerici Mayibazilwanga, the mayor of Mont-Ngafula, of people building unauthorized houses.

In 2019, flooding and landslides killed at least 32 in and around Kinshasa.





Project manager for the strengthening of children's councils from Rafiki-SDO, Tangi Clement speaks to the leaders of the children's council and heads of departments at Shinyanga municipal council yesterday. The event is aimed at raising their voices against gender based violence. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

# Govt challenges stakeholders to have sustainable plans to uplift road infrastructures in Africa

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE government has challenged infrastructure stakeholders in the continent to utilise forums and conference opportunities by putting in place sustainable strategies that will help improve road infrastructures in Africa.

Atupele Mwakibete, deputy minister for transport made the call here during the workshop which brought together players from five African countries, Serbia and the United States (US) to discuss various issues aimed to strengthen infrastructures.

He said that participants of the conferences should always prioritise how the reached strategies are going to be implemented to bring positive outcomes in their respective countries.

He said that Tanzania will continue taking recommendations raised by stakeholders through conferences, workshops and seminars to improve the transport sector.

"As per available statistics, Tanzania has reached over 180,000km of the road network including highway and district roads, all these roads need support from experts to advise on how best to develop them and make them sustainable," he said.

Mwakibete said having quality and strong infrastructures will stimulate economic

development by facilitating the smooth execution of various income generation initiatives.

He said that the government will continue improving roads to provide relief to farmers to transport their agricultural produce as well as facilitate the execution of various projects.

Chairman of Tanzania Roads Association (TARA), Joseph Odo said through the workshop, the party will draw views and experiences from experts from various countries to help improve the transport sector in the country.

He said that the association will also take recommendations reached in the workshop to advise the government in various areas to work on.

He said that the workshop aimed to raise awareness of the importance and benefits of performance-based contracts for roads, and facilitate the sharing of knowledge, practitioners' experiences and best practices on the application of performance-based contracts in the road sector.

It brought together players from Tanzania, Malawi, Ghana, Zambia, South Africa, Kenya, Namibia, Serbia and the US providing practitioners responsible for managing and maintaining road networks with sufficiently detailed tools for successfully implementing performance based contracts for roads.

## Sudan signs \$6 billion UAE deal for new Red Sea port

KHARTOUM

SUDAN has signed a \$6 billion agreement with a consortium led by the United Arab Emirates' AD Ports Group and Invictus Investment to develop a new port and economic zone in the Red Sea.

"This mammoth project, estimated to cost around \$6 billion, will give a powerful boost to the national economy and bring countless benefits to the country as a whole," said Sudanese Finance Minister Gibril Ibrahim at the signing ceremony.

The Abu Amama port, which will be built north of the Port Sudan port through which almost all of the country's imports and South Sudan's oil exports pass, will include an industrial zone, an international airport and an agricultural zone covering more than 400,000 acres, Ibrahim said.

AD Ports Group is majority owned by ADQ, an Abu Dhabi sovereign wealth fund, while Invictus Investment is headed by Osama Daoud Abdellatif, head of the Dal Group, Sudan's largest conglomerate.

In the Emirates, the official Wam news agency reported that the agreement gave the consortium the "right to develop, manage and operate port and economic zone assets" in Sudan.

The signing of the agreement came a week after Sudan's ruling military leadership signed a framework agreement with several civilian groups on Dec. 5 that is supposed to pull the country out of the morass it has been in since the October 2021 putsch led by the army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhane.

Calling Sudan a "major trading partner" of the UAE, Wam agency said Sudan's exports to the UAE amounted to \$1.86 billion in 2020, while the UAE exported \$1.14 billion worth of goods to Sudan in the same year.

## US seeks to re-establish trade, political relations with Africa

WASHINGTON

AFRICA is the new terrain of strategic confrontation between the United States, China and Russia.

Washington is hosting political and economic leaders from the African continent for three days in a summit with many facets and where some countries are treated with particular attention.

"In economic development, we know that a lot is happening, a lot of ferment in the air in Angola, and we want to be part of that growth story, we want to attract private capital, including US capital, not just in the oil and gas sector which is the traditional area in which there has been investment but in telecommunications, and manufacturing, and pharmaceuticals and agriculture... and in Peace and Security we are privileged and very pleased to be partners with the Angolan government and Head of State and Foreign Minister and helping bring peace on a regional context," said Ervin Massinga, the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State.

The Secretary of State, Anthony Blinken, and the Secretary of Defense, Lloyd Austin, received on Tuesday President Lourenço, who reminded the US administration of the ongoing change in Angola's foreign policy.

"Angola has given very clear signals that it is very interested in strengthening this cooperation with the United States of America. So, have no doubt about our intentions of this very responsible step that we are taking if we take into account the historical past of our relations, so there is a turning point that we can say is significant," said President João Lourenço.

Washington intends with this summit to regain the confidence of African leaders.

President Biden's administration has mentioned a potential financial envelope of \$55 billion to invest in the continent over the next three years



### REVISED RATES AND CHARGES EFFECTIVE FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2023

Agency Banking Withdrawal charge	Previous Rate	New Rate
<b>Band</b>		
0 - 499	300	250
500 - 999	300	250
1,000 - 1,999	300	250
2,000 - 2,999	350	300
3,000 - 3,999	350	300
4,000 - 4,999	350	300
5,000 - 6,999	800	700
7,000 - 9,999	800	700
10,000 - 14,999	1,400	1,150
15,000 - 19,999	1,400	1,150
20,000 - 29,999	1,850	1,500
30,000 - 39,999	1,850	1,500
40,000 - 49,999	2,350	2,000
50,000 - 99,999	3,200	3,200
100,000 - 199,999	3,950	3,950
200,000 - 239,999	5,300	5,300
240,000 - 299,999	5,300	5,300
300,000 - 399,999	6,500	6,500
400,000 - 499,999	6,800	6,800
500,000 - 599,999	7,700	7,500
600,000 - 699,999	7,700	7,700
700,000 - 799,999	8,000	8,000
800,000 - 899,999	8,000	8,000
900,000 - 999,999	8,900	8,500
1,000,000 - 1,999,999	10,900	8,720
2,000,000 - 2,999,999	10,900	8,720
3,000,000 - 3,999,999	12,000	9,600
4,000,000 - 4,999,999	12,000	9,600
5,000,000 - 5,999,999	13,500	10,000
6,000,000 - 6,999,999	15,000	11,000
7,000,000 - 7,999,999	15,000	12,500
8,000,000 - 8,999,999	18,000	14,000
9,000,000 - 9,999,999	18,000	15,000
10,000,000 & Above	20,000	15,000

Cards Withdrawal	Previous Rate	New Rate
Cash withdraw domestic ATM	3,540	4,720
Cash withdraw international ATM	8,850 + 1%	10,030 + 1%
Cash withdraw Domestic Partners ATM (ie: Amana, KCBL, Vision Fund, etc.)		
5,000 - 19,999	1,300	1,500
20,000 - 49,999	1,300	1,800
50,000 - 99,999	1,300	2,000
100,000 - 199,999	1,500	2,000
200,000 - 499,999	1,700	2,200
500,000 - 599,999	1,700	3,000
600,000 - 799,999	1,700	3,500
800,000 - 1,999,999	1,700	4,500

Replacement of Cards	Previous Rate	New Rate
Credit Cards Gold	Free	14,160
Credit Cards World Reward	Free	14,160

Annual Card Fee	Previous Rate	New Rate
Proprietary Card	Free	826

Transfer to MNO charge	Previous Rate	New Rate
<b>Band</b>		
0 - 9,999	100	500
10,000 - 19,999	2,000	2,000
20,000 - 29,999	2,430	2,600
30,000 - 49,999	3,600	3,800
50,000 - 99,999	4,770	5,000
100,000 - 199,999	6,390	6,700
200,000 - 299,999	6,750	7,500
300,000 - 399,999	7,425	7,800
400,000 - 499,999	8,100	8,700
500,000 - 699,999	8,550	10,500
700,000 - 799,999	9,000	10,500
800,000 - 999,999	9,450	10,700
1,000,000 & Above	10,800	11,800

Balance Inquiry	Previous Rate	New Rate
CRDB ATM	354	400
Wakala	360	400
Simbanking [USSD]	350	400

Mini Statement	Previous Rate	New Rate
Simbanking APP	Free	400
Simbanking USSD	295	450
Simaccount	295	450
Wakala	400	450
ATM	350	450

Monthly Maintenance Fees	Previous Rate	New Rate
Bidii Account [TZS]	3,540	2,500
Bidii Account [USD]	USD 3.54	USD 2.0

Other Reviews	Previous Rate	New Rate
Incoming from Crypto	Free	9,500
Uncollected Cheque Book	5,900	Free
Min Operating Balance [Bidii AC - USD]	USD 15	Free

ATM Withdrawal Charges	Previous Rate		New Rate	
Band	Card	Cardless	Card/	Cardless
5,000 - 19,999	1,300	1,300	1,000	
20,000 - 49,999	1,300	1,300	1,300	
50,000 - 99,999	1,300	1,300	1,500	
100,000 - 199,999	1,500	1,500	1,500	
200,000 - 299,999	1,700	1,700	1,700	
300,000 - 399,999	1,700	1,800	1,700	
400,000 - 499,999	1,700	3,000	1,800	
500,000 - 599,999	1,700	3,200	2,500	
600,000 - 799,999	1,700	4,700	3,000	
800,000 - 1,999,999	1,700	4,900	4,000	

\*All Rates and Charges are VAT inclusive



THURSDAY 15 DECEMBER, 2022

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Climate change and conflicts should not fuel hunger in 2022

CLIMATE change occurs when changes in Earth's climate system result in new weather patterns that last for at least a few decades, and maybe for millions of years. Human activities can also change earth's climate, and are presently driving climate change through global warming.

Whereas conflict is a clash of interest. The basis of conflict may vary but, it is always a part of society. Basis of conflict may be personal, racial, class, caste, political and international. Conflict in groups often follows a specific course. Routine group interaction is first disrupted by an initial conflict, often caused by differences of opinion, disagreements between members, or scarcity of resources. At this point, the group is no longer united, and may split into coalitions. This period of conflict escalation in some cases gives way to a conflict resolution stage, after which the group can eventually return to routine group interaction.

Millions of people across sub-Saharan Africa could face grave hunger in the first half of 2020 because of armed conflict, political instability and climate change-linked disasters, a report says.

The report published by the UN World Food Programme (WFP) this month says that the countries affected will require life-saving food assistance and investment to prevent humanitarian catastrophes.

According to estimates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, about 70.8 million people are displaced worldwide by war, violence and persecution, with low- and middle-income countries bearing the brunt of the problem.

"In some countries, we are seeing conflict and instability combine with climate extremes force people from their homes, farms and places

of work," said Alexandre Le Cuziat, World Food Programme

Climate change seems to be creating refugees on its own, with the World Bank estimating in a 2018 report that over 140 million are expected to migrate within countries by 2050, mostly in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and Latin America.

"In some countries, we are seeing conflict and instability combine with climate extremes force people from their homes, farms and places of work," says Alexandre Le Cuziat, a co-author of the WFP report.

"In others, climate shocks are occurring alongside economic collapse and leaving millions on the brink of destitution and hunger."

The WFP report is an internal analysis that is compiled every two months and used to identify countries of high prioritisation for emergency assistance. The agency identified critical and complex emergencies at risk of descending further into crisis without a rapid response and greater investment.

According to the report The Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Zimbabwe and Central Sahel region comprising Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger are more vulnerable to hunger. Zimbabwe is experiencing its worst drought in decades, with temperatures hitting over 40 degrees Celsius. This has severely affected food production and highlights the severe impacts of climate change affecting the broader sub-region, which has seen the worst drought in 35 years," explains the report.

South Sudan remains embroiled in a bitter conflict which has pushed millions into hunger and malnutrition. Meanwhile the Central Sahel faces a toxic cocktail of rapidly escalating armed conflict, population displacement, hunger and widespread poverty, compounded by the effects of climate change.

## Eliminating violence against women, most widespread, pervasive human rights violation: We need global action

VIOLENCE against women and girls is not only one of the worst forms of discrimination but also remains the most widespread and pervasive human rights violations in the world.

It is a major obstacle to the fulfillment of women's and girls' human rights and to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It occurs worldwide, cutting across all generations, nationalities, communities and spheres of our societies, irrespective of age, ethnicity, disability or other background.

Whether to have children or not is one of the most life-altering decisions a person can make. But as UNFPA's 2022 State of World Population report shows, people around the world - especially women and members of marginalised groups - are frequently denied any choice in the matter, with partners, relatives, health care providers and even governments making or strongly influencing these decisions.

"Men have greater decision-making power [regarding contraception]. Women may have to act secretly/discreetly to get contraception services," a man in India told report authors.

"Men hold the ultimate decision-making power. It is common practice for providers to ask for the husband's consent.

Though women's reproductive decisions have been subject to interference for centuries, it's only in the last decade that researchers have begun to recognise and explore this concept. They call it reproductive violence.

Reproductive violence includes any form of abuse, coercion, discrimination, exploitation or

violence that compromises a person's reproductive autonomy.

This form of gender-based violence can be committed by individuals such as partners, relatives and health care providers, or by entire communities, as social norms influence societies' ideas of who should or should not be a parent. Meanwhile governments often exert this form of violence through laws and institutions, by preventing access to contraceptives or even conducting forced sterilization campaigns, for instance.

At the interpersonal level, reproductive violence might look like a partner hiding, destroying or even forcefully removing their partner's birth control, or involve 'stealth' - the practice of removing a condom during sex without consent.

For others, reproductive violence follows the news of a pregnancy, with some women compelled against their will into motherhood and others, to terminate. It was the latter action that 58-year-old Jasbeer Kaur from Rajasthan, India, told UNFPA in 2020 that her husband's family tried to force on her after learning Jasbeer was pregnant with triplets - all girls.

"No daughter had been born in my husband's family in the last three generations. They told me, we won't allow three daughters to be born in the house at the same time. They gave me an ultimatum: Get an abortion or leave," Ms. Kaur said.

Although reproductive violence often involves partners and family members they are not the only perpetrators. Governments and institutions also commit acts of reproductive violence through coercive laws and policies, some of which aim to control national-level fertility.

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## Is it time to abandon decolonisation?

By Anye-Nkwenti Nyamnjoh

DECOLONISATION has become an uncritical and condescending buzzword used to police what it means to be African, argues a sharp new book.

Does decolonisation, as an intellectual project, harm scholarship in and on Africa? Should it be abandoned? According to Olúf mi Táíwò, the answer to both these questions is yes. In his book *Against Decolonisation: Taking African Agency Seriously* (Hurst/African Arguments, 2022), the philosopher contends that we should limit our use of "decolonisation" to what he considers its original - and much more clearly delineated - meaning: namely, self-government in politics and economics.

When the idea of "decolonisation" becomes ubiquitous and is applied to all ideas - from philosophy to literature to political theory - the project fails to take African agency seriously, argues Táíwò. It unhelpfully traps intellectuals to notions of authenticity, nativism, and atavism. This version of "decolonisation", he says, is a kind of intellectual xenophobia. It makes its mission the purging of any ideas with foreign provenance; "anything that is present while colonialism lasted is irremediably sullied by the colonial imprint, and, therefore, can have no place in the world beyond colonialism." Such a project puts colonialism on a pedestal. It makes just a few decades of African history an all-powerful master-signifier, the lens through which all post-colonial life is seen.

This flawed approach, according to Táíwò, inflates colonialism's significance in two ways. Firstly, it fails to distinguish between changes that were part of the colonial project and those that were merely incidental to it. Secondly, it undermines African agency by discounting Africans' capacity to domesticate and appropriate ideas. It condescendingly presumes that if Africans see value in foreign thought, it must be because their minds remain colonised. Much of Táíwò's frustration stems from the way in which certain narratives of decolonisation turn Africans into "permanent subalterns" prohibited from appropriating and domesticating ideas from those in other parts of the world, as humans have for time immemorial.

Táíwò's critical interventions in *Against Decolonisation* have been echoed by other theorists. In South Africa, where talk of decolonisation is popular, Jonathan Jansen has questioned the tendency to treat



Africa and the Global South as inherently peripheral. He uses the idea of distinct "knowledge regimes" - of which colonialism is one of many - to warn against reducing complex problems to a single source. Debates within Southern theory similarly unsettle the narrative of an omnipotent Global North and powerless Global South by offering thick descriptions of how agency is exercised in an unequal global knowledge economy.

Philosopher Paulin Hountondji also disapproves of ideas that essentialise Africanity. He aims instead to open up "the possibility for a plurality of philosophical traditions and objects of inquiry that the African philosopher might turn to, by not making him or her the prisoner of any identity-based prescriptions of what 'authentically' African approaches and themes have to look like". Elsewhere, Souleymane Diagne has argued for the treatment of Africanity as an open question, emphasising the importance of a continuous process of "translation" in developing a notion of "lateral universalism". And one could also invoke Achille Mbembe's calls to "de-substantialise" Africanity, a theme that resonates with Afropolitan reimaginings of Africanity as a transcultural phenomenon.

These debates raise key questions about the interplay of nationalist and cosmopolitan orientations to Africanity in intellectual life.

Do we celebrate what Francis Nyamnjoh has described as the "incompleteness" of being and the "permanence of debt and indebtedness" that demands conviviality? Or do we look to partition and sort ideas and people into rigidly bounded enclaves according to race, nation, ethnicity, geography, etc?

It seems to me that an important question raised by Táíwò is the possibility of a "critical universalism" and whether this requires abandoning the vocabulary of decolonisation. By critical universalism, I mean the belief that a meaningful engagement with Africa in all its specificities can include the pursuit of universal goals and the discovery of common concepts and values. A project, to borrow from Michael Cronin, that is sensitive to both the pathologies of difference - which risk separatism by conflating contact with contamination - and the pathologies of universalism - which risk erasure of, and violence towards, otherness.

For Táíwò, the narrative of decolonisation is unsuited to this project because it gives up on the "oneness of humanity". Some may disagree with him, seeing his characterisation of decolonisation as an unflattering caricature of the mission to take seriously historically induced silences and erasures. But the ideas Táíwò critiques are nonetheless present and recognisable. They go as far, as I have

experienced, as claiming Africans should renounce "English" names because they constitute a colonised subjectivity. Such an argument can only work, Táíwò would argue, if it treats naming practices as either singularly colonial or decolonial.

altogether, his overarching argument is better seen as cautioning against decolonisation's fetishisation into a buzzword by encouraging readers not take its meaning for granted. In my view, Táíwò offers a distinct critique of decolonisation-as-confinement, though other meanings of the term are possible and desirable. Nonetheless, his warning against intellectual enclosure whereby only certain topics, tones, and modes of expression are available to Africans has important ethical significance. It highlights how intellectual decolonisation can fall into a politics of belonging in which the boundaries of Africanity are policed and contested. Amidst the current clamour to decolonise this and that, *Against Decolonisation* invites readers to critically interrogate the boundaries of Africanity.

This article is part of a series of book reviews in collaboration with Debating Ideas.

Anye-Nkwenti Nyamnjoh is a Senior Research Officer at the University of Cape Town where he works on leveraging the African Humanities in ethical debates around new and emerging health technologies.





Nanyumbu resident in Mtwara region Selemani Mpepe (C) celebrates with his friends after being presented with dummy cheque worth 4m/- as part of the 'Bonge' bonus to predict the results of various sports in the world through 'bikosports.' Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## All govt buildings in Dodoma should have rain water harvesting system, directs Jafo

By Guardian Reporter

DR SELEMAN Jafo, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) has directed that all government buildings built in Mtumba area in the City of Dodoma should incorporate a system for harvesting rain water as a measure against environmental challenges.

Dr Jafo issued the remarks on Tuesday this week during his inspection visit on the progress work of the new building to house the Vice President's Office at Mtumba Government City.

He expressed his satisfaction with the building's work progress including his earlier directive in June this year regarding installation of the system to harvest rain water.

He said the installation of the rain water harvesting system will help the water to spill and flow around the area causing soil erosion, hence protecting the environment.

"I am really satisfied on how you are implementing this project and my earlier directives and today I have found you have installed this huge 500,000-litre water tank to harvest rain water," said Dr Jafo.

The minister called upon the building contractors to complete the remaining work in time in order to finalised in the agreed time as per contract

Earlier, submitting his project report, SUMA JKT Engineer, Sajidu Bwikizo said construction work is now 50 per cent and they were now putting concrete at the sixth floor.

Meanwhile, the project's coordinator, Maj. Benedict Meela pledged to work on the minister's directives by having adequate technicians on every floor in order to complete the project in time.

## Farmers complain against system of distributing subsidised fertiliser

By Guardian Correspondent, Kigoma

THE system for selling subsidised fertiliser via farmers' registered numbers system and the special labels to each fertiliser bag sold at subsidised price are among strategies established by the government to control sabotage and smuggling of the farm input that have been in place for over 15 years now.

Despite the system, there are still challenges in Kigoma Region facing farmers in the way they fight to get the farm input and how the government is addressing farmers' complaints.

Modesta Sakoma, a resident of Uvinza District in the region is among farmers who have been airing complaints and appealed to the government to rethink and revert to the former system to enable them get the fertiliser from different fertiliser

shops in order to reduce challenges they face including losing a lot of time chasing the farm input.

"I personally believe agents are involved in creating these challenges as they are the ones causing our problems, every day they have new reports but the fertiliser is not available in time, people are even ready to fight due to the poor procedures in place," said Sakoma.

Meanwhile, Laban Paul, from Luchugi Village in Uvinza District has appealed to the government to have in place a procedure to install agents in every ward to avoid transport costs to follow the farm input at Kigoma town.

"I came to register myself last week, I received a number to collect the fertiliser on December 17, it is now a week I am still waiting for the date but the queue is very long. I am spending a lot of money here

and my maize crop in the farm are unattended, it is better for the agents to be stationed closer to the farmers," he said.

Speaking about the challenges, Kigoma regional agricultural officer, James Peter said lack of adequate capital by registered fertiliser agents by TFRA is among contributing factors to the challenges.

He said Kigoma Region received 120 agents who were registered by TFRA, but due to challenges regarding capital, only few emerged to provide the agency service, the situation that has caused complaints from among farmers.

"Farmers from Uvinza, Buhigwe, and some from Kasulu follow their fertiliser at Kigoma where there are only two agents - YALA and ETG firm, thereby creating huge demand than supply of the farm input," said Peter.



### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### Advisor to PO-RALG on Revenue, Transparency and Digitalization

As an international cooperation enterprise for sustainable development with worldwide operations, the federally owned Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supports the German Government in achieving its development-policy objectives.

GIZ is looking to fill the position of an Advisor on Revenue, Transparency and Digitalization to President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) in the Good Financial Governance (GFG) Programme. The GFG Programme, co-financed by Germany, Switzerland, and the European Union and implemented by GIZ, aims to strengthen Tanzania's public finance system in accordance with the principles transparency, efficiency, and accountability. The advisor will be placed in PO-RALG's Information and Communication Technology (ICT) department.

#### Duty station: Dodoma

Fixed term contract until July 2023, with a possibility of further extension until January 2024

#### Responsibilities

The Advisor is responsible for:

- Functioning as GFG's liaison at PO-RALG, working closely with PO-RALG's Director for ICT
- Supporting GFG's senior adviser in Dodoma, coordinating overarching programme matters and implementation of activities with PO-RALG and other institutions in Dodoma, such as Ministry of Finance and Planning
- Ensuring PO-RALG support for the implementation of jointly planned activities specifically on Revenue, Transparency and Digitalisation
- Liaising and coordinating implementation with GFG advisors from all teams, ensure realization of synergies, especially between activities promoting revenue mobilization and transparency

#### Tasks

Advising the partner institutions

The advisor

- Provides professional expertise to further institutional development at PO-RALG, including on matters of digitalization
- Safeguards the flow of relevant information between GIZ GFG on one hand and PO-RALG and other partners in Dodoma, actively promotes the adoption and scaling up of GFG innovation and lessons in the partner system
- Guides and monitors the development and implementation of jointly planned activities, such as related to the Women, Youth and People with Disability Fund and District Business Councils, in close consultation with PO-RALG
- Drafts ToRs for consultants and steers them to implement activities
- Conceptualizes, prepares, and implements policy dialogues with diverse stakeholders (e.g. government, civil society, private sector and academia) on Public Financial Management issues, as well as thematic workshops, seminars, and trainings
- Assists with any other tasks given to him or her by programme management

#### Networking and cooperation

The advisor

- Supports cooperation, regular contact and dialogue with partners, assists with PR work and cooperates with stakeholders to improve and maintain good working relationships
- Represents GFG in cooperation with other development programmes such as the Public Financial Management Reform Programme (PFMRP), ensures alignment and that synergies are realized

#### Knowledge management

The advisor

- Develops strategies and technical concepts when needed, draws up presentation documents
- Prepares appropriate input for various programme reports including annual reports, and contributes to other reports as required
- Assists with research activities and studies
- Facilitates innovation, knowledge management and capacity building in relation to promoting data use, transparency and social accountability, at GFG as well as partner institutions
- Ensures that all relevant documents are recorded appropriately in internal files and knowledge management systems

#### Required qualifications, competences, and experience

- A university degree in a relevant discipline such as Computer Science/Engineering, Information Technology, Information Systems, Business Process Improvement, ICT project management, public administration, law, economics, finance, Data Science or business administration
- Six (6) years of relevant experience in local/regional administration
- Substantial experience working with civil society as well as government
- Cooperation experience with PO-RALG is an asset, as well as experience with microfinance, public private dialogues and empowerment of marginalized groups
- In-depth knowledge of Tanzania's institutional environment, cultural norms, administrative structures and procedures
- Substantial experience in public financial management reform
- High level of digital literacy
- Very good drafting skills
- Experience and knowledge in creating, maintaining, and interpreting policies, standards and procedures, and understanding their impact across organizations
- Excellent skills in verbal and written communications / fluent English and Swahili

#### Applications:

Interested candidates should send their letter of application together with the CV and copies of academic certificates by email to [hr.giz-tanzania@giz.de](mailto:hr.giz-tanzania@giz.de).

Please use the subject line "Advisor on Revenue, Transparency and Digitalization". Closing date for submission: 02.01.2023 Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

GIZ Tanzania is an equal opportunities employer and encourages applications from all qualified and eligible candidates regardless of their gender, origin, religion/belief, disability, or any other minority group.



### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR EACOP PROJECT REFERENCE REFERENCE NO. : REQ-00000075

EACOP Ltd Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, invites experienced and reputable Agricultural, Distribution or Food Services companies to express their interest in providing services to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabozale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chogoleoni, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania. The pipeline traverses eight (8) regions, comprising Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Manyara and Tanga. The pipeline will traverse 27 administrative district councils and 231 Villages.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES

The EACOP Project (hereinafter "the Project") requires a Land Corridor and associated Above Ground Installations for the construction and operation of the crude oil pipeline. As such, the Project is conducting Land Acquisition, resulting in physical and economic displacement of Project Affected People (PAPs) and Project Affected Households (PAHs).

To mitigate displacement impacts, the Project will implement transitional support in the form of food baskets for eligible physically and economically displaced PAPs and PAHs along the pipeline corridor and above ground installations. Transitional support is provided to complement compensation payments and to supplement existing efforts to maintain household food security during the transitional period once access to land has been lost and until PAPs and PAHs are able to restore their livelihood to pre-project levels. The transitional support food basket items comprise of: Maize, Beans, Rice, Cooking Oil and Salt.

The Project requires the services of reputable and experienced Tanzanian companies to provide three scope elements: 1) Supplying of food items 2) Warehousing and packaging 3) monthly distribution PAPs/PAHs. The indicative volumes are presented below:

#### Scope Element 1a: Commodity sourcing for highly impacted PAPs/PAHs over 12 months

Region	No. of Villages	Estimated Quantities per 12 Months				
		Maize (kg)	Rice (kg)	Beans (kg)	Oil (kg)	Salt (kg)
Kagera	34	39,840	39,840	39,840	9,960	1,992
Geita	40	47,336	47,336	47,336	11,834	2,367
Shinyanga	16	14,280	14,280	14,280	3,570	714
Tabora	30	51,240	51,240	51,240	12,810	2,562
Singida	31	42,900	42,900	42,900	10,725	2,145
Dodoma	23	17,280	17,280	17,280	4,320	864
Manyara	11	25,740	25,740	25,740	6,435	1,287
Tanga	46	83,820	83,820	83,820	20,955	4,191
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>322,436</b>	<b>322,436</b>	<b>322,436</b>	<b>80,609</b>	<b>16,122</b>

#### Scope Element 1b: Commodity sourcing for partially impacted PAPs/PAHs over 6 months

Region	No. of Villages	Estimated Quantities per 6 Months				
		Maize (kg)	Rice (kg)	Beans (kg)	Oil (kg)	Salt (kg)
Kagera	34	224,280	224,280	224,280	56,070	11,214
Geita	40	240,366	240,366	240,366	60,092	12,018
Shinyanga	16	86,020	86,020	86,020	21,505	4,301
Tabora	30	98,140	98,140	98,140	24,535	4,907
Singida	31	167,700	167,700	167,700	41,925	8,385
Dodoma	23	89,640	89,640	89,640	22,410	4,482
Manyara	11	44,070	44,070	44,070	11,018	2,204
Tanga	46	104,170	104,170	104,170	26,043	5,209
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>1,054,386</b>	<b>1,054,386</b>	<b>1,054,386</b>	<b>263,597</b>	<b>52,719</b>

- Tenderers are required to demonstrate an existing commodity supply chain which can meet the stated commodity volumes.
- Tenderers are required to demonstrate current food handling, health and safety and quality certification and relevant registrations.

#### Scope Element 2: Commodity warehousing and packing 12 months

- Tenderers are required to provide evidence of currently owned or leased warehousing facilities.
- Tenderers are required to provide evidence of currently owned packaging facilities, technologies, and material types in use.

#### Scope Element 3: Commodity distribution to PAPs/PAHs for period of 12 months

- Tenderers are required to provide evidence of currently owned distribution/logistics facilities, network, and equipment.
- Tenderers are required to provide evidence of their existing distribution, claim, verification, tracking, and monitoring system used for commodity volume management and fraud prevention.

Tenderers are required to express interest for ALL scope elements. Tenderers who wish to express interest for a specific scope element must provide written justification for consideration.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Proof of registration with relevant Tanzanian Registration Bodies (BREIA, TBS, OSHA).
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax (TRA) Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Companies using local suppliers MUST also provide the same documents for the suppliers.
- Proof of Registration with EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database or a proof of application for registration at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Proof of latest audited financial performance statements.
- Proof of a local supplier network in the named regions, demonstrating adequate infrastructure to achieve the required distribution. Local supplier contact and location information to be provided.
- Proof of warehousing locations, packaging and distributions facilities in the named regions, location, and status of these facilities to be provided.
- Proof of ability to source and maintain the levels of food stocks required to achieve this scope.
- Proof of accredited health and safety system policies and procedures.

Companies with the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending an Expression of Interest (EOI) via email, together with the above listed documents to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com) (Max. Email size 20Mb) before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT) on 02nd January 2023. Email subject shall be: REQ-00000075 Provision of Transitional Support Services.

Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. All Expression of interests should be submitted in English.

Note: EACOP LTD will review and assess the documents provided by companies that have expressed interest in accordance with this EOI and conduct evaluations based on internal criteria to determine which companies will be included in the list of pre-qualified companies. Only the pre-qualified companies will receive, by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to bid as a continuation of the call for tender process. EACOP LTD reserves the right at its sole discretion to make the decision to select or reject a company and maintain its decision without having to give reasons to the company concerned.



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## Climate change and conflicts should not fuel hunger in 2022

CLIMATE change occurs when changes in Earth's climate system result in new weather patterns that last for at least a few decades, and maybe for millions of years. Human activities can also change earth's climate, and are presently driving climate change through global warming.

Whereas conflict is a clash of interest. The basis of conflict may vary but, it is always a part of society. Basis of conflict may be personal, racial, class, caste, political and international. Conflict in groups often follows a specific course. Routine group interaction is first disrupted by an initial conflict, often caused by differences of opinion, disagreements between members, or scarcity of resources. At this point, the group is no longer united, and may split into coalitions. This period of conflict escalation in some cases gives way to a conflict resolution stage, after which the group can eventually return to routine group interaction.

Millions of people across sub-Saharan Africa could face grave hunger in the first half of 2020 because of armed conflict, political instability and climate change-linked disasters, a report says.

The report published by the UN World Food Programme (WFP) this month says that the countries affected will require life-saving food assistance and investment to prevent humanitarian catastrophes.

According to estimates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, about 70.8 million people are displaced worldwide by war, violence and persecution, with low- and middle-income countries bearing the brunt of the problem.

"In some countries, we are seeing conflict and instability combine with climate extremes force people from their homes, farms and places

of work," said Alexandre Le Cuziat, World Food Programme

Climate change seems to be creating refugees on its own, with the World Bank estimating in a 2018 report that over 140 million are expected to migrate within countries by 2050, mostly in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and Latin America.

"In some countries, we are seeing conflict and instability combine with climate extremes force people from their homes, farms and places of work," says Alexandre Le Cuziat, a co-author of the WFP report.

"In others, climate shocks are occurring alongside economic collapse and leaving millions on the brink of destitution and hunger."

The WFP report is an internal analysis that is compiled every two months and used to identify countries of high prioritisation for emergency assistance. The agency identified critical and complex emergencies at risk of descending further into crisis without a rapid response and greater investment.

According to the report The Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Zimbabwe and Central Sahel region comprising Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger are more vulnerable to hunger. Zimbabwe is experiencing its worst drought in decades, with temperatures hitting over 40 degrees Celsius. This has severely affected food production and highlights the severe impacts of climate change affecting the broader sub-region, which has seen the worst drought in 35 years," explains the report.

South Sudan remains embroiled in a bitter conflict which has pushed millions into hunger and malnutrition. Meanwhile the Central Sahel faces a toxic cocktail of rapidly escalating armed conflict, population displacement, hunger and widespread poverty, compounded by the effects of climate change.

## Eliminating violence against women need global action

VIOLENCE against women and girls is not only one of the worst forms of discrimination but also remains the most widespread and pervasive human rights violations in the world.

It is a major obstacle to the fulfillment of women's and girls' human rights and to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It occurs worldwide, cutting across all generations, nationalities, communities and spheres of our societies, irrespective of age, ethnicity, disability or other background.

Whether to have children or not is one of the most life-altering decisions a person can make. But as UNFPA's 2022 State of World Population report shows, people around the world - especially women and members of marginalised groups - are frequently denied any choice in the matter, with partners, relatives, health care providers and even governments making or strongly influencing these decisions.

"Men have greater decision-making power [regarding contraception]. Women may have to act secretly/discreetly to get contraceptive services," a man in India told report authors.

"Men hold the ultimate decision-making power. It is common practice for providers to ask for the husband's consent.

Though women's reproductive decisions have been subject to interference for centuries, it's only in the last decade that researchers have begun to recognise and explore this concept. They call it reproductive violence.

Reproductive violence includes any form of abuse, coercion, discrimination, exploitation or

violence that compromises a person's reproductive autonomy.

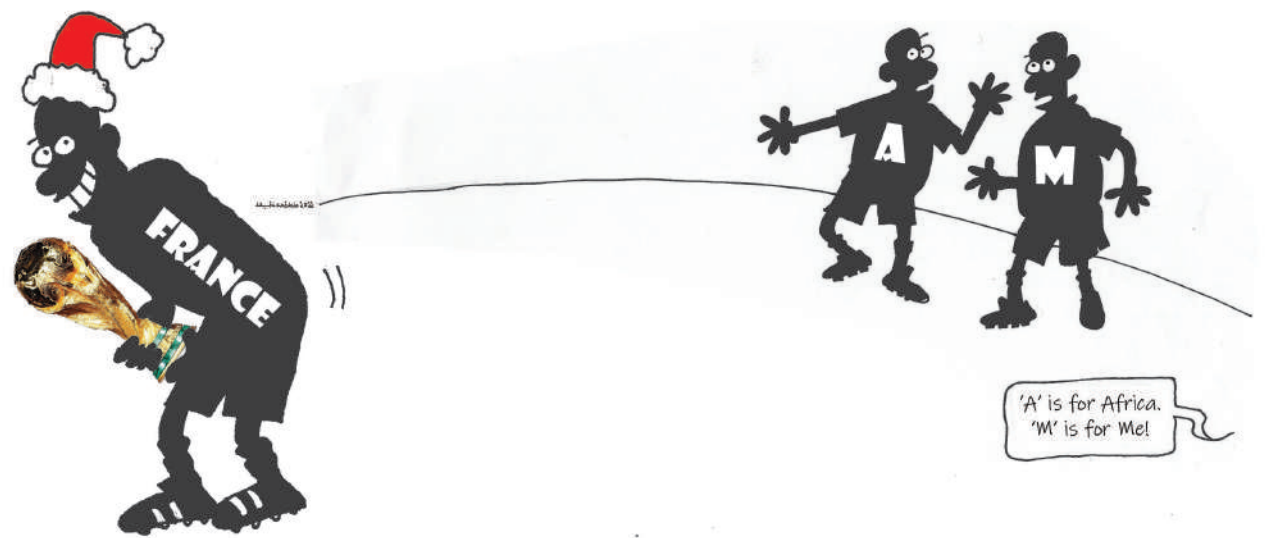
This form of gender-based violence can be committed by individuals such as partners, relatives and health care providers, or by entire communities, as social norms influence societies' ideas of who should or should not be a parent. Meanwhile governments often exert this form of violence through laws and institutions, by preventing access to contraceptives or even conducting forced sterilization campaigns, for instance.

At the interpersonal level, reproductive violence might look like a partner hiding, destroying or even forcefully removing their partner's birth control, or involve 'stealthling' - the practice of removing a condom during sex without consent.

For others, reproductive violence follows the news of a pregnancy, with some women compelled against their will into motherhood and others, to terminate. It was the latter action that 58-year-old Jasbeer Kaur from Rajasthan, India, told UNFPA in 2020 that her husband's family tried to force on her after learning Jasbeer was pregnant with triplets - all girls.

"No daughter had been born in my husband's family in the last three generations. They told me, we won't allow three daughters to be born in the house at the same time. They gave me an ultimatum: Get an abortion or leave," Ms. Kaur said.

Although reproductive violence often involves partners and family members they are not the only perpetrators. Governments and institutions also commit acts of reproductive violence through coercive laws and policies, some of which aim to control national-level fertility.



## Is it time to abandon decolonisation?

By Anye-Nkwenti Nyamnjoh

DECOLONISATION has become an uncritical and condescending buzzword used to police what it means to be African, argues a sharp new book.

Does decolonisation, as an intellectual project, harm scholarship in and on Africa? Should it be abandoned? According to Olúf mi Táíwò, the answer to both these questions is yes. In his book *Against Decolonisation: Taking African Agency Seriously* (Hurst/African Arguments, 2022), the philosopher contends that we should limit our use of "decolonisation" to what he considers its original - and much more clearly delineated - meaning: namely, self-government in politics and economics.

When the idea of "decolonisation" becomes ubiquitous and is applied to all ideas - from philosophy to literature to political theory - the project fails to take African agency seriously, argues Táíwò. It unhelpfully traps intellectuals to notions of authenticity, nativism, and atavism. This version of "decolonisation", he says, is a kind of intellectual xenophobia. It makes its mission the purging of any ideas with foreign provenance; "anything that is present while colonialism lasted is irremediably sullied by the colonial imprint, and, therefore, can have no place in the world beyond colonialism." Such a project puts colonialism on a pedestal. It makes just a few decades of African history an all powerful master-signifier, the lens through which all post-colonial life is seen.

This flawed approach, according to Táíwò, inflates colonialism's significance in two ways. Firstly, it fails to distinguish between changes that were part of the colonial project and those that were merely incidental to it. Secondly, it undermines African agency by discounting Africans' capacity to domesticate and appropriate ideas. It condescendingly presumes that if Africans see value in foreign thought, it must be because their minds remain colonised. Much of Táíwò's frustration stems from the way in which certain narratives of decolonisation turn Africans into "permanent subalterns" prohibited from appropriating and domesticating ideas from those in other parts of the world, as humans have for time immemorial.

Táíwò's critical interventions in *Against Decolonisation* have been echoed by other theorists. In South Africa, where talk of decolonisation is popular, Jonathan Jansen has questioned the tendency to treat



Africa and the Global South as inherently peripheral. He uses the idea of distinct "knowledge regimes" - of which colonialism is one of many - to warn against reducing complex problems to a single source. Debates within Southern theory similarly unsettle the narrative of an omnipotent Global North and powerless Global South by offering thick descriptions of how agency is exercised in an unequal global knowledge economy.

Philosopher Paulin Hountondji also disapproves of ideas that essentialise Africanity. He aims instead to open up "the possibility for a plurality of philosophical traditions and objects of inquiry that the African philosopher might turn to, by not making him or her the prisoner of any identity-based prescriptions of what 'authentically' African approaches and themes have to look like". Elsewhere, Souleymane Diagne has argued for the treatment of Africanity as an open question, emphasising the importance of a continuous process of "translation" in developing a notion of "lateral universalism". And one could also invoke Achille Mbembe's calls to "de-substantialise" Africanity, a theme that resonates with Afropolitan reimaginings of Africanity as a transcultural phenomenon.

These debates raise key questions about the interplay of nationalist and cosmopolitan orientations to Africanity in intellectual life.

Do we celebrate what Francis Nyamnjoh has described as the "incompleteness" of being and the "permanence of debt and indebtedness" that demands conviviality? Or do we look to partition and sort ideas and people into rigidly bounded enclaves according to race, nation, ethnicity, geography, etc?

It seems to me that an important question raised by Táíwò is the possibility of a "critical universalism" and whether this requires abandoning the vocabulary of decolonisation. By critical universalism, I mean the belief that a meaningful engagement with Africa in all its specificities can include the pursuit of universal goals and the discovery of common concepts and values. A project, to borrow from Michael Cronin, that is sensitive to both the pathologies of difference - which risk separatism by conflating contact with contamination - and the pathologies of universalism - which risk erasure of, and violence towards, otherness.

For Táíwò, the narrative of decolonisation is unsuited to this project because it gives up on the "oneness of humanity". Some may disagree with him, seeing his characterisation of decolonisation as an unflattering caricature of the mission to take seriously historically induced silences and erasures. But the ideas Táíwò critiques are nonetheless present and recognisable. They go as far, as I have

experienced, as claiming Africans should renounce "English" names because they constitute a colonised subjectivity. Such an argument can only work, Táíwò would argue, if it treats naming practices as either singularly colonial or decolonial.

altogether, his overarching argument is better seen as cautioning against decolonisation's fetishisation into a buzzword by encouraging readers not take its meaning for granted. In my view, Táíwò offers a distinct critique of decolonisation-as-confinement, though other meanings of the term are possible and desirable. Nonetheless, his warning against intellectual enclosure whereby only certain topics, tones, and modes of expression are available to Africans has important ethical significance. It highlights how intellectual decolonisation can fall into a politics of belonging in which the boundaries of Africanity are policed and contested. Amidst the current clamour to decolonise this and that, *Against Decolonisation* invites readers to critically interrogate the boundaries of Africanity.

This article is part of a series of book reviews in collaboration with Debating Ideas.

Anye-Nkwenti Nyamnjoh is a Senior Research Officer at the University of Cape Town where he works on leveraging the African Humanities in ethical debates around new and emerging health technologies.



# If you always ask for favours without extending help, expect to lose friends

**M**Y brother and his friend have this sort of mantra which goes like 'You can't ask President for a sleepover.' This means no matter how close you are to the President, it just wouldn't be right whenever you are in town to call and ask for a place to sleep, right?

What then happens when you desperately need help, say to sponsor your new project or maybe just support when you vie for some political seat after you've used all your infinite chances asking for petty things? So whenever you are stranded and thinking of ways out, remind yourself that you should only ask for help from someone when it is absolutely necessary.

It's true that in this life, you can never do everything alone, even the heroes and achievers we watch and see at some point need someone else to assist them in some way. The question though is: how much help can you ask for before it becomes unacceptable? How much asking is too much?

This is something most of us do without actually thinking. You could



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be having this friend who is always willing to help you with anything. So you just overdo it under the guise of 'we are friends' right? So, you go all the way from sending them to buy you that dress you saw at the mall to requesting for air-time or asking for loans and other endless favours.

But what happens when you suddenly lose your money and have no fare

to get you home? Or when you are terribly sick with not enough money for medication? By this time, your dear loyal friend is exhausted by your endless requests. Who then do you turn to?

Let's face it, when it is too much, one cannot handle it. They will tolerate you for as long as they can but some day they'll just say it out loud or silently: 'I quit!' And trust me, friends like

these, you lose them and that's it. No one likes being used let alone being over-used.

It's the same thing when you decide to ask for an advance at work but the advance is for you to buy some latest smartphone or when you use up all your off days for petty stuff like attending a birthday party. What then happens when you need a day to go for a mega interview?

Maybe we should really look at every chance we get to be golden or even as golden as the three wishes of Aladdin. Maybe every time we want to ask for something from someone, we should ask ourselves: 'If I just had three chances to make a wish to this same person, would this still be important or necessary?'

If you check, the wise people, whenever someone tells them 'I owe you one' they never quickly jump in to say 'buy me pizza then' or 'buy me this attire' or 'take me to this place'. They say 'I'll save that chance for a better day.' This is because some chances and opportunities don't come back twice.

By the way, I'm sure

you've heard or even done this yourself. There may be a time where someone asked you for help and you quickly rush to assist them because they have never asked for a favour before, meaning this must be something very important. Unlike someone who keeps running to you for everything, you wouldn't take them that seriously, would you?

So yes, don't always let your friend be the one to pay for your dinner. Sometimes be the one to pay for theirs. Don't always be quick to ask for favours at the slightest problem you face. Don't take people for granted by how much help they offer you.

More importantly, do not use people no matter how much they love you. Friendship, family or any other kind of bond has to be two-way. So help so that you can be helped too. But it should be within limits because yes, too much of anything is unhealthy and sometimes annoying. Of course I'm not saying you shouldn't ask for small favours, we all do that from time to time. The point is: just don't make it a habit, extreme and overboard.

## Europe's dash for gas presents pitfalls for Africa

ROME

**O**ne of the knock-on effects of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine is that European countries have embarked on a 'dash for gas' to find alternatives to Russian energy supplies.

A flurry of deals has ensued with several African States being enticed by the prospect of lucrative energy contracts.

A new report, however, has warned that helping Europe continue its addiction to imported fossil fuels risks having devastating long-term effects for African societies.

The Fossil Fuelled Fallacy: How the Dash for Gas in Africa will Fail to Deliver Development argues the pitfalls are plentiful.

The first is that feeding the West's fossil-fuel habit will accelerate the climate crisis, which is already having disproportionately severe effects on African communities.

Drought, wildfires, flooding, disease and pest invasions will increase in their severity and frequency with this 'new scramble for Africa', pushing developmental goals further out of reach.

The report, which was presented at COP27, also argues that, even if the planet were not overheating because of human-caused emissions, further facilitating the 'dash for gas' would not be wise.

Many African states looking to expand gas production will be building the infrastructure from scratch, so projects will take years, perhaps decades, to become operative, it says.

With renewable energy

sources increasingly competitive, the projects are unlikely to benefit from the current favourable prices, so there is a risk they will not be able to operate for their entire intended lifespan, saddling African States with debts, forgone revenues and huge clean-up costs.

"African countries' plight to help satisfy Europe's dash for gas is a dangerous and short-sighted vision fuelled by a capitalist utopian dream that has no place in Africa's energy future," Dean Bhebhe, the Co-Facilitator of Don't Gas Africa, a network of African-led civil society organisations that produced the report, told IPS.

"Investment in fossil gas production will lock Africa into another cycle of poverty, inequality and exploitation while creating a firewall for Africa to leapfrog towards renewable energy".

The reports points out that fossil-fuel infrastructure projects do not have a good track record on combatting energy poverty and advancing development on the continent.

It gives the example of Nigeria, saying that, despite decades of fossil-fuel production, only 55% of the population had access to electricity there in 2019.

It says that jobs in fossil-fuel industries in Africa tend to be short-term, precarious, and concentrated in construction, while green jobs are longer term and have the potential to bring benefits to the entire continent, rather than just a handful of nations with fossil-fuel reserves.

Furthermore, the pollution and environmen-



Don't Gas Africa protest during COP27. Credit: Don't Gas Africa

tal degradation caused by expanding gas production would endanger the lives and livelihoods of many, the report says, arguing fossil-fuel infrastructure in Africa has been shown to force communities from their land and disrupt key fisheries, crops and biodiversity.

Among the examples it gives is that of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), which will run from Uganda to Tanzania and is set to force around 14,000 households across the two countries to move.

The report also argues that allowing high rates of foreign ownership of Africa's energy system would pull wealth out of the continent at the expense of African citizens.

It says that any investment in fossil fuels displaces investment from clean, affordable renewable energy systems that can bring immediate benefits to African communities.

It says, for example, that the potential for wind power in Africa is almost 180,000 terawatt hours per year, enough to satisfy the entire

continent's current electricity demands 250 times over.

"As the UN Secretary General António Guterres said this year, investing in new fossil fuel production and power plants is moral and economic madness" Bhebhe said.

"New gas production would not come on-line in time to address Europe's fossil-fuel energy crisis and would saddle the African continent with stranded assets".

The report says that the arguments used by some

African leaders and elites to justify expansion in gas production on the basis of climate justice, on the grounds that now it's 'own turn' to exploit fossil fuels to deliver prosperity, are bogus.

The conclusion is that, rather than replicating the fossil-fuelled development pathways of the past,

Africa should opt for a rapid deployment of renewables to stimulate economies, create inclusive jobs, boost energy access, free up government revenues for the provision of public goods,

and improve the health and wellbeing of human and non-human communities.

"We need an end to fossil-fuel-induced energy Apartheid in Africa which has left 600 million Africans without access to modern clean renewable energy," Bhebhe said.

"Scaling up cost-effective, clean, decentralized, renewable energy is the fastest and best way to end energy exclusion and meet the needs of Africa's people. Policymakers in Africa need to reject the dumping of dirty, dangerous and obsolete fossil-fuel and nuclear energy systems into Africa.

"Africa must not become a dumping ground for obsolete technologies that continue to pollute and impoverish".

Freddie Daley, the lead author of the report, echoed those sentiments.

"The idea that fossil gas will bring prosperity and opportunities to Africans is a tired and overused fallacy, promulgated by those that stand to benefit the most: multinational fossil fuel firms and the elite politicians that aid and abet them," said Daley, a research associate at the University of Sussex in the UK.

"Africa has the opportunity to chart a different development path, paved with clean, distributed, and cheap energy systems, funded by African governments and those of wealthy nations that did the most to create this crisis. We cannot let Africa get locked-in to fossil fuel production because it will lock-out Africans from affordable energy, a thriving natural world, and clean air."



# With activists, journalists jailed for 'spurious reasons', commentators say India's chief justice faces challenges

Lucknow

India's new Chief Justice, Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, has a significant challenge ahead - as activists and minorities remain hopeful that he will remain true to his legacy of delivering judgments that enshrined the Constitution, especially on personal liberty.

Sanjay Kapoor, founder editor of Hardnews Magazine and political analyst told the IPS that many of the rulings by Indian courts in recent times have been deeply disturbing.

"In the name of national security, draconian laws are evoked to curb personal liberty. Journalists and activists have been arrested and locked away under anti-terror law without evidence," said Kapoor.

He gave the example of Siddique Kappan, who has remained in jail for more than two years for unknown reasons. Kappan got bail from the Supreme Court, but anti-money laundering laws were immediately slapped upon him to ensure that he remained in prison.

Kapoor's main concern is the undermining of courts by the government, which is sure to weaken institutions and harm democracy in India.

Meanwhile, the CJJ also warned that he was not here to do miracles.

"I know that challenges are high; perhaps the expectations are also high, and I am deeply grateful for your sense of faith, but I am not here to do miracles," Chandrachud said after his appointment.

The challenges facing the judiciary include a backlog of cases, delays in appointing Supreme Court judges, and significant inconsistencies in judicial approaches.

Soon after Chandrachud took oath on November 9, Chandrachud expressed concern over the long list of requests before the Supreme Court for bail. He said that district judges are reluctant to grant bail in a fair manner out of fear of being targeted.

Activists say that this is the same reason that media personnel, political opponents, and social activists are languishing behind bars without bail today.

Activist Teesta Setalvad was arrested in June 2021, and her bail plea was only accepted three months later when she was finally released. There are others, like student leader Umar Khalid, who has languished in jail for more than two years.

The judicial system in India is under tremendous pressure. Until last May, countless cases were pending in courts across different levels of the judiciary. Many of the cases were pending in subordinate courts, a large percent in High Courts, while a hundred thousand cases have been pending for over 30 years. Amid the rising trend of litigation, more and more people and organisations seek justice from courts today. However, there are not enough judges to hear the cases. The courts are overburdened, and the backlog of cases is intimidating.

The reluctance to grant bail to especially political opponents has only aggravated the matter. Most recently, Sanjay Raut, senior opposition party leader, said that he had lost 10 kgs while in prison. The legislature was accused of money laundering. He was in jail for 100 days before bail was granted to him in November. He was kept in a dark cell where he did not see sunlight for 15 days.

Raut said that he would not have been arrested if he had surrendered to the will of the ruling party and remained a mute spectator to the politics of the day. He wondered if only those who oppose the politics of the ruling party would continue to be arrested.

The use of the justice system as a political



India's new Chief Justice, Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud has significant challenges ahead as activists hope he will continue with his legacy. Credit: Subhashish Panigrahi and Charmanderrulez



tool and reluctance to grant bail at the district level has clogged the higher judiciary with far too many cases.

"The reason why the higher judiciary is being flooded with bail applications is because of the reluctance of the grassroots to grant bail, and why are judges reluctant to grant bail not because they do not have the ability to understand the crime. They probably understand the crime better than many of the higher court judges because they know what crime is there at the grassroots in the districts, but there is a sense of fear that if I grant bail, will someone target me tomorrow on the ground that I granted bail in a heinous case. This sense of fear nobody talks about but, which we must confront because unless we do, we are going to render our district courts toothless and our higher courts dysfunctional," Chandrachud said at an event hosted by the Bar Council of India last week to felicitate his appointment as the country's 50th CJJ.

The Supreme Court of India is perhaps the most powerful Court in the world. However, in recent times the judiciary has been criticised for its uneven handling of cases. It is under scrutiny over contradictions found in its functioning. The fact that a former CJJ accepted a seat in the upper house of parliament soon after his retirement two years ago had raised eyebrows.

The judiciary's perceived deference to the present government is a major concern, including the ongoing arrest of political opponents, and refusal to grant bail to those arrested is becoming the norm. On the other hand, 'friends' of the ruling party are allowed to get away with murder and rape.

The nation was shocked after a document was made public last October as proof that the premature release of 11 men convicted for the gang rape of Bilkeesha and the killing of her family during the 2002 Gujarat riots was approved by the home ministry despite opposition by a special court. A Communist Party of India (Marxist) member Subhashini Ali, journalist Revati Laul and Professor Roop Rekha Verma together filed a public interest litigation (PIL) against a remission granted to 11 convicts who were released on August 15, India's 75th Independence Day celebrations this year on account of good behaviour.

Bano was gang-raped along with 14 members of her family. Her 3-year-old daughter Saleha was killed by a mob in a village in the province of Gujarat as they fled communal violence in 2002. Bano was 19 years old and five months pregnant at that time. Shobha Gupta, the lawyer for Bano has battled for years for the rape survivor to get justice. Gupta told Barkha Dutt, a senior journalist, that she is shattered and unable to face Bano. That after the release of her rapists from custody, Bano is silent and feels alone.

Dutt had interviewed Bano 20 years ago. Today she wrote in her column that an unspeakable injustice is unfolding with brazen impunity. Its legality is dodgy. Dutt said, "Let's raise hell".

After the men who raped Bano and killed her child were freed, they were greeted outside the prison with sweets and garlands. This is the story of a very seriously ill nation, columnist Jawed Naqvi said.

"The nation that was baying for the execution of men who raped a young woman in a bus in Delhi in 2012 seemed deaf to Bilkeesha's trau-

ma," Naqvi wrote. The executive has turned its back on Bano. The media is disinterested and civil society has been bullied into silence at a time when principles are passe for most politicians."

So who will give justice to citizens like Bano?

## The Supreme Court?

In a plea filed by Azam Khan last July, the opposition party leader pointed out a new trend amongst the high courts to impose unnecessary bail conditions. Khan said that a high court had ordered the politician to hand over allegedly encroached land as a condition for bail. The ruling was overturned.

## Seeking justice these days is tough within the courts and outside.

The 74-year-old Khan has been behind bars since early 2020. Multiple charges have been slapped on him, including corruption, theft, and land grab, in an effort to make sure that he remains behind bars on some charge or the other. However, Khan was granted interim bail last May. A few months later, he was fined and has been sentenced to three more years in prison for a hate speech made in 2019. At that time, Khan was accused of blaming the Prime Minister for creating an atmosphere in the country in which it was difficult for Muslims, the largest minority community in India, to live.

A new report published by the USA-based NGO Council on Minority Rights in India (CMRI) and released on November 20 at New Delhi's Press Club found that by helping offenders, detaining victims, and failing to register first information reports (FIR) in some cases, law enforcement agencies play a role in

furthering hate crimes.

Discussing the legal aspects of persecution, lawyer Kawalpreet Kaur said that minorities are facing the brunt of the state to varying degrees. Cases of the pogrom against Muslims during the Delhi riots have been lying in the high court for the last two years.

"Indian courts need to keep their eyes and ears open; it is not a one-off case of Afree Fatima's house bulldozed or when the stalls of working-class Muslims were razed in Delhi despite a stay from the court," she said.

The lawyer called it an attack by the Indian state against its minorities and a campaign of misinformation and Islamophobia witnessed every day.

The release of the CMRI report comes at a time when numerous countries and organisations are calling upon India to take stock of the plight of its religious minorities.

Six international rights groups - the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT), Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW), International Dalit Solidarity Network, Amnesty International, and Human Rights Watch have reminded New Delhi in a joint statement that it is yet to implement recommendations of a recent UN report on India which cover topics which include the protection of minorities and human rights defenders, upholding civil liberties, and more.

"The Indian government should promptly adopt and act on the recommendations that United Nations member states made at the UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review process on November 10," the joint statement read.

# 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



## BIODIVERSITY

# New AfDB, WWF study calls for urgent attention and increased investment in Africa's biodiversity

By Special Correspondent

THE African Development Bank (AfDB) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), have launched a regional report on the performance of African countries under the strategic plan for biodiversity 2011-2020.

The report highlights the important role that multilateral development banks can play in meeting biodiversity targets by providing advisory services, capacity building, market research, and linkages with other relevant partners.

The assessment, launched on the sidelines of the UN biodiversity summit (COP15) in Montreal, Canada, is based on the 6th national reports on biodiversity submitted by African countries in 2018-2020.

Prof. Kalemani Jo Mulongoy, president and co-founder of the institute

for enhanced livelihoods and former head of the scientific, technical and technological matters division of the secretariat of the convention on biological diversity, presented the findings of the report.

She said: "For Africa, it is critical to adopt a framework with targets that will not only curb the loss of biodiversity but will enhance opportunities to improve the lives of many Africans, especially those depending on biodiversity for their survival, bearing in mind Africa's biodiversity priorities."

The strategic plan for biodiversity 2011-2020 outlines a framework for action by all countries and stakeholders to safeguard biodiversity and the benefits it provides to people.

Conclusions from the synthesis of the 6th national reports on biodiversity underpin Africa's stance in negotiations over the post-2020 GBF. The reports shed light on the status of biodiversity



in Africa regarding implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans. This information will serve as a baseline, together with Africa's biodiversity priorities and the bank's high five objectives, which will guide negotiations over the post-2020 global biodiversity targets.

Innocent Maloba of WWF said: "The immediate goal after the

adoption of the GBF is to update NBSAPs to ensure they reflect the ambition of the GBF as well as to start developing national biodiversity financing plans." He also called for a multi-sector approach to biodiversity conservation to achieve the post-2020 GBF goals.

Vanessa Ushie, acting director of the African Development

Bank's African Natural Resources Management and Investment Centre, said: "There is a unique opportunity to finance the implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (link is external) (GBF) in Africa, if we invest in natural capital and build an asset base of nature-sensitive investments that protect, restore, and make sustainable use of bio-

diversity and natural resources."

During the country panel conversation, Jeanne Ntain, Cote d'Ivoire CBD focal point, highlighted the importance of raising awareness of the decision-makers on biodiversity issues and on the implications of implementing the next GBF: "Otherwise, what we are doing here at COP15 has zero value".

Ousseynou Kasse, African group of negotiators chair, thanked the African Development Bank for its continuous support of the African negotiating team.

Arona Soumare, principal climate change and green growth officer at the African Development Bank, insisted on the opportunities to scale up public and private finance for biodiversity and the need to achieve ambitious GBF, in line with the development priorities of the countries and using all existing financial instruments.

Prudence Galega, former policy advisor and Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Environment in Cameroon, moderated the session. She called on the African Development Bank to strengthen the support of African countries to address the challenges of sustainable development and biodiversity loss in an integrated way

## From European Union, lifelines for young African entrepreneurs

By Chijioko Iremeka

THE European Union (EU) has hosted the high-level launch of the Team Europe Initiative's Investing in Young Businesses in Africa (TEI IYBA) in Nigeria. The launch, which held in Lagos recently, featured a conversation on Supporting Young Entrepreneurs: Nigeria and Team Europe Working For The Future, by a four-man panel moderated by an entrepreneur of the Women Entrepreneurship for Africa (WE4A), Lalita Purbhoo-Junggee.

The occasion, which drew men and women from all walks of life, also witnessed two plenary - the official launch of the initiative and an afternoon session where successful women entrepreneurs from across the Sub-Saharan Africa pitched their business cases to soon-to-be investors.

This session held within the framework of the WE4A programme, a constituent of the TEI IYBA, sought to facilitate the conditions where early-stage businesses and entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa could thrive, especially women and young people.

Aimed at extending financial and technical support at the early stages of those businesses' development, the programme hopes to strengthen the ecosystem of organisations that support them, the incubators and accelerators.

According to the organisers, WE4A programme strengthens African women entrepreneurs' business skills; improve their access to formal financial services and markets, and help to narrow the gender gaps that exist in labour markets.

One example of such programme is a new €15 million agenda to improve the digital innovation ecosystem in Nigeria. While the EU and Germany are financing it, the project will be implemented by GIZ, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH.

This project also supports policy-makers and institutions such as the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) in promoting digital transformation and strengthening business support organisations by enabling more women and young people to develop their digital and entrepreneurial skills.

Executive Secretary of Lagos State Employment Trust Fund, Teju Abisoye, acknowledged that a major challenge being faced by businesses run by young people in Lagos is paucity of information, saying that documentation and documents management are often overlooked by a number of businesses including startups in the tech space.

She said before one finds a business that is good with its documentation, such business would have gotten the necessary training at one point or the other, insisting that documentation is pivotal, especially when a business owner wants to grow his or her business.



She said, "You need to document every little thing, especially when you want to grow your business. To also speak to investors, you need to have proper documentation. What we also find lacking is structure. Most times, businesses start out of the need to solve a problem, but you do not actually think through the structure of what it's going to be like."

"When you look at the micro small and medium businesses in Nigeria for example, most of them started from the bedrooms and living rooms. Most times, they start as family businesses before they eventually grow. And due to lack of structure, and not being able to distinguish one's child and employee, creates a lot of misunderstanding and misinformation on how the businesses should be run."

"Interestingly for tech, there are no much women going into tech businesses. I guess they're not ready to take that risk. There's that fear. And that brings me to some of the challenges we also face in terms of acceleration, which is really ambitious. Most women are not ambitious enough. And cultural elements exist in Nigeria."

"So, when you start a business to solve a problem and it's always a small problem, you never really think big. And when they come to the organisations like others and ours that are incubators or accelerators, you discover that there's no way such a business can grow. But when they start something like beauty business and go into tech, they can actually grow their business; you can actually scale. So, there's always a cultural element that affects things with ambition and that's what I mean by cultural elements."

"Again, most female entrepreneurs are risk averse; they want to play safe and it's a challenge. So, as much as there is the funding, as much as there is this challenge of access to funding, you find out that there are not enough female entrepreneurs that are actually saying, 'I want to take this business to a much larger scale.' And then when you do find those women who think otherwise, they actually go far and beyond. These are women who have said, 'this is what I'm doing and this is how I'm able to scale that business.' I'm happy that we have initiatives like this where we can replicate this for more female entrepreneurs."

In his keynote speech, the Minister of Youth and Sports Development, Sunday Dare, said the EU-Nigeria Partnership has been a productive and energetic one, thanking the EU on behalf of the Nigerian government, for its contributions and supports in the country's other critical areas of development.

He said, "The youth business is everybody's business, I insist. This launch couldn't have come at a better time as the youth sector continues to amplify the voices of over 33 million youth entrepreneurs in Nigeria who no longer need empowerment but are in need of investment."

According to him, the Fate Institute's report, 'State of Entrepreneurship in Nigeria 2021,' 43 and 67 per cent of entrepreneurs in the country are women and youth whose age brackets fall within 18 and 35 years respectively.

He said the report examined three thematic areas: the entrepreneurial index in Nigeria, women and youth-led businesses and the impact of technology on

businesses.

The report, he said, revealed that the state of entrepreneurship development in Nigeria continues to wax stronger, but access to finance, inadequate infrastructure and insecurity are major obstacles to the desired entrepreneurial growth.

"Most businesses in Nigeria are less than 10 years old and 49 per cent of them are also led by young people. Following the impact of COVID-19 on Nigeria's entrepreneurial community, we as a government have understood that working with the private and civil sectors, we need to establish a well-functioning entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports innovation and business growth."

"In Nigeria, SMEs contribute 48 per cent of national GDP, account for 96 per cent of businesses and 84 per cent of employment. It's no longer business as usual. When asked, 22 per cent of young people aged 15 to 22 want to be traders or business owners when they reach the age of 30."

Head of Unit, European Commission, Ms. Cecile Billiaux, who spoke on behalf of the Ambassador of the EU to Nigeria, Samuela Isopi, said, the EU would like to support Africa, not only Nigeria.

"I'm really happy to be part of it and try to develop this Europe's initiative invest in young businesses in Africa. It's not only the EU, but also the EU and EU member states together. We are 11, we're part of this initiative, and we want all to work better and together to scale up our support for young businesses."

"Nigeria is the second country where we launched this initiative. We launched it in Senegal earlier this year in February, and now it's Nigeria. Of course, Nigeria in

terms of numbers, and in terms of dynamism of the young population, which is a must in Africa.

"If we look at the United Nations' (UN) estimates, we see that by 2050, Nigeria's population is set to surpass that of the United States. The median age, I've learned, age of Nigeria population is 17 years old. So, it's very impressive. And it's going to be really something that we would be keen to support also, and bring growth and jobs to these young people."

"And to do that, Nigeria is working to create a more attractive investment climate. It's very important for the private sector to thrive and invest as well as develop business activity. And here, we have young people who have opportunity. We need to take part in the development of the country."

"I'm sure the government is already making great efforts to do that. And we know that challenges are still numerous and that's why this initiative is being shaped together. We see today that an entrepreneur has a good idea and has some good business model but still struggles with finance."

"This is a very important point because if you want to develop your business and to make it grow, of course, you need to have the finance but not only finances, you need the skills, the experience, the ability to develop your business model with digital means and innovation. It's very important to ensure that your very small company at the end can go into a more successful one and take some scale on the African continent."

Also speaking, Consul-General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Lagos, Mr. Gerald Wolf, said, "It's been impressed with the spirit of free enterprise and the business pointness of people in this very dynamic city. I'm very happy that this is coming to Nigeria at last and a great sense to invest in entrepreneurs because they are the ones that are actually driving the economic transition, development, and economic progress."

"They are the ones who find solutions for the challenges of daily life and they are creating the jobs. I think about 70% of such jobs are created by micro, small and medium enterprises. These actually, are really the future we want to support. And they don't just increase the GDP; they also contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)."

"So, they are not only after economic success, but also after the development of their country. They're very important for that. And it also makes sense to concentrate or focus on young entrepreneurs because they're more likely to embrace innovation."

"It also makes sense to focus on women because they are more likely to employ other women and so you improve the economic integration of women."



# Solar energy benefits children and indigenous people in northern Brazil

## BOA VISTA, BRAZIL

Solar energy is booming in Roraima, a state in the far north of Brazil, to the benefit of indigenous people and children in its capital, Boa Vista, and helping to provide a stable energy supply to the entire populace, who suffer frequent electricity shortages and blackouts.

The local government of Boa Vista, a city of 437,000 people, installed seven solar power plants that bring annual savings of around 960,000 dollars.

"We have used these savings to invest in health, education and social action, which is the priority of the city government because we are 'the capital of early childhood'," said Thiago Amorim, municipal secretary of Public Services and Environment.

Solar panels have mushroomed on the roofs of public buildings and parking lots around the city. The largest unit was built on the outskirts of Boa Vista - a 15,000-panel power plant with an installed capacity of 5,000 kilowatts.

In the city, the parking lot of the Municipal Theater, a bus terminal, a market and the mayor's office itself stand out, covered with panels. There are also 74 bus stops with a few panels, but many were damaged when parts were stolen, Amorim told IPS in an interview in his office.

In total, the city had a solar power generation capacity of 6700 KW at the end of 2020, equivalent to the consumption of 9000 local households. It also promotes energy efficiency in the areas under municipal management.

"Eighty percent of the city is now lit up by LED bulbs, which are more efficient. The goal is to reach 100 percent in 2023,"



Aerial view of the Municipal Theater of Boa Vista and its parking lot covered by solar panels, near the center of a city of wide avenues, empty spaces, abundant solar energy and high quality of life compared to other cities in Brazil's Amazon region. In the background is seen the Branco River, which could be dammed 120 kilometers downstream for the construction of a hydroelectric plant that would flood part of the capital of the state of Roraima. CREDIT: Boa Vista city government

said the municipal secretary.

The mayor's office, during the administration of Teresa Surita (2013-2020), was a pioneer in the installation of solar power plants and also in comprehensive care for children from pregnancy to adolescence, for youngsters in the public educational system.

The city's Welcoming Family program provides coordinated health, education, social assistance and communication services for mothers and children, from pregnancy through the first six years of the children's lives. The day-care centers are called Mother Houses.

In recent years, students in

the local municipal elementary schools have performed above the national average, coming in fifth place in student testing among Brazil's 27 state capitals.

This was an especially outstanding achievement because the influx of Venezuelan migrants more than doubled the number of students in Boa Vista schools in the last decade.

Despite this, the quality of teaching was not affected, according to the indicators of the Education Ministry's Basic Education Evaluation System.

The results of the local early childhood policy have been recognized by several national and international specialized

entities, including the United Nations Children's Fund, which awarded it the Unicef Seal of Approval in 2016 and 2020.

More visible than the solar panels are the 30 playgrounds of varying sizes scattered around the city, in some cases featuring large playground equipment and structures in the shape of national wild animals, such as crocodiles and jaguars. They are called "selvinhas" (little jungles).

The use of solar power has spread to other sectors of life in Roraima, a state with only 650,000 inhabitants, despite its large area of 223,644 square kilometers, twice the size of

Honduras, for example.

In May, there were 705 solar plants in homes, businesses and private companies, in addition to public buildings, in the state, with a total installed capacity of 15,955 KW (just under one percent of the region's total).

In Roraima there are solar plants in the courthouses in four cities, in an aim to cut energy costs through a program called Lumen.

The Federal University of Roraima (UFRR) is also building a 908-panel plant, to be inaugurated by March 2023, with the capacity to generate 20 percent of the electricity consumed on its three campuses.

"The main objective is to save energy costs, and the goal is to expand to cover 100 percent of consumption. But it will also be useful for electrical engineering studies," Emanuel Tishcer, UFRR's head of infrastructure, told IPS.

The training of specialists in renewable sources, research into more efficient and cheaper panels, the comparison of technologies and innovations all become more accessible with the availability of an operating solar power plant, which serves the university's electrical energy laboratory.

Edinho Macuxy, general coordinator of the Indigenous Council of Roraima (CIR), the largest organization of native peoples in the state, said "the great objective (of solar energy) is to prove that Roraima and Brazil do not need new hydroelectric plants."

The Bem Querer (Portuguese for "good will") plant on the Branco River, Roraima's main river, "will have direct impacts on nine indigenous territories" and will also affect other nearby indigenous areas if it is built, as the central government intends, he told IPS.

That is why the CIR is involved in three projects - two solar energy and a wind energy study - in territories assigned to different indigenous ethnic groups, he said.

The government's hydroelectric plans, which currently prioritize Bem Querer, but include other uses of local rivers, have sparked a renewed debate on energy alternatives in Roraima, which has an installed electricity capacity of only 300 megawatts, since it has almost no in-

dustry.

From 2001 to 2019, Roraima relied on electricity from neighboring Venezuela, generated by the Guri hydroelectric plant in eastern Venezuela, the deterioration of which caused a growing shortage over the last decade, until the supply completely ran out in 2019, two years before the end of the contract.

Diesel thermolectric plants had to be reactivated and new plants had to be built, including one using natural gas transported by truck from the Amazon jungle municipality of Silves, some 1,000 kilometers away, in order to guarantee a steady supply of electricity that the people of Roraima did not have until then.

It is costly electricity, but its subsidized price is one of the lowest in Brazil. The subsidy drives up the cost of electric power in the rest of the country. That is why there is nationwide pressure for the construction of a 715-kilometer transmission line between Manaus, capital of the state of Amazonas, also in the north, and Boa Vista.

With this transmission line, Roraima will cease to be the only Brazilian state outside the national grid, and local advocates believe it will be indispensable for a secure supply of electricity, a long-desired goal.

To discuss this and other alternatives, a group of stakeholders created the Roraima Alternative Energies Forum in September 2019, to promote dialogue between all sectors, in search of "the strategic construction of solutions to make the use of renewable energies viable in the state."

"Our focus is energy security. The Forum is focused on photovoltaic sources and distributed generation. But it seeks a variety of renewable energies, including biomass," said Conceição Escobar, one of the Forum's coordinators and president of the Brazilian Association of Electrical Engineers in Roraima.

"There is an opportunity for everyone to be involved in the discussion. The construction of transmission lines and hydroelectric plants takes a long time, we have perhaps ten years to develop alternatives," she told IPS.

### THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 398 00--

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

- 3 letters TRY, EAR, ERA, USE, EVE, GET, SEE, INS
- 4 letters USED, EDEN, EDEN, LEEK, EROS
- 5 letters KRAAL, MECCA, USHER, KRAFT, PENCE, ARAME, TOWNS, ASSET
- 6 letters KAGAME, GARAGE, AFRICA, ERASED
- 7 letters SEVERE, CARINA, LUGGAGE, CONDOMS, EEL GRASS
- 8 letters
- 9 letters

**WORD-FIT**

**CROSSWORD**

**SOLUTIONS**

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

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

- CLUES: Across**
- not well
  - a brief time of importance
  - used for emphasis to express anger
  - Yemen's Capital
  - carved human image
  - part of a town
  - a person who donates something
  - violent anger
  - syllable added to the end of the word to modify its meaning
  - name for lake Malawi in Tanzania
  - chopped into small pieces
  - an air-like substance with the capacity to expand
  - times between sunrise and sunset
- Down:**
- symbol
  - a student at an armed forces
  - male cat
  - to give back
  - an authorised weight or measure
  - Boss
  - a state of serene calmness
  - coverings for the feet
  - a room for business
  - the bark of a tree
  - short prose work
  - a mischievous child
  - military commander during Ottoman Empire
  - Donkey

**RADIO One**

**RAIIBA YA VIPINDI**

**JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI II 08.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI III 08.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI IV 08.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI V 08.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI VI 08.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI VII 08.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI VIII 08.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI IX 08.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI X 08.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI XI 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI XII 09.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI XIII 09.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI XIV 09.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI XV 09.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI XVI 09.25 AM HABARI NYEPESI XVII 09.30 AM HABARI NYEPESI XVIII 09.35 AM HABARI NYEPESI XIX 09.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI XX 09.45 AM HABARI NYEPESI XXI 09.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI XXII 09.55 AM HABARI NYEPESI XXIII 10.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI XXIV 10.05 AM HABARI NYEPESI XXV 10.10 AM HABARI NYEPESI XXVI 10.15 AM HABARI NYEPESI XXVII 10.20 AM HABARI NYEPESI XXVIII 10.25 AM HABARI 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## BancABC revamps school toilets to bolster education

By Felister Peter

**B**ANCABC Tanzania has revamped toilets at Dar es Salaam Secondary School at the tune of 18m/- to complement the government efforts to uplift teaching and learning environment.

The facilities will benefit over 600 students, thus making them concentrate on learning in comfort.

The toilets were handed over to the Ilala MP, who is also the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Mussa Azan Zungu said:

"This donation demonstrates a good relation between the government and the private sector. The lavatories will benefit the community and will help to alleviate the shortage that existed for many years."

He added: "We call upon BancABC Tanzania to continue supporting various government efforts in making sure our pupils and students have a friendly learning environment. The rehabilitation of these modern lavatories is a good example of that."

Imani John, BancABC Tanzania Managing Director said: "Our initiative is intended at supporting government's efforts towards improvement of the education sector. Our vision is to refresh and improve the lives of Tanzanians in various sectors. We do business the right way for a better-shared future, this support will resolve shortages of lavatories facilities at Dar es Salaam Secondary School, especially at this time where we expect an increase in the number of students during the January enrol-



Ilala MP, who is also the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Mussa Azan Zungu cuts a ribbon to officially unveil modern lavatories at Dar es Salaam Secondary School, which have been rehabilitated by BancABC Tanzania at the tune of 18m. He is flanked by BancABC Tanzania Managing Director Imani John (3rd L), Gerezani CCM Ward Councillor (2nd L) and CCM Secretary for Gerezani Ward Blandina Sinah (right). Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

ments," said John.

He said the bank has been involved in different social activities because as a financial institution, it understands its role of supporting surrounding communities.

He said apart from rehabilitating the toilets, they have also repaired the sewage system, supplying clean water to the toilets, inserting of tiles and 31 hardwood toilet frames and doors.

"The bank has been working tirelessly in delivering financial services to Tanzanians, the bank has over 700 agents and 100 satellite offices in different districts in the country," said the Managing Director, adding the bank has special accounts for small and medium entrepreneurs (SMEs) which are made for offering loans in order to boost their businesses.

John said they also offer loans to civil servants through the satellite offices which are available countrywide.

Head teacher of Dar es Salaam secondary school Hamad Mwalaba said the support has come at a right time as they are expecting more students in January. Currently, the school has a total of more than 1000 students. "We expect an increase of students in January; we call upon other institutions, stakeholders, and non-government organizations to also support us to further improve the learning environment for our students," he stated.

Mwalaba added: "This support will make a big difference in their lives and education as well improving their academic performance, thus contributing to the nation's development."

## BII, AGF sign \$75m programme to fund African SMEs

By Olushola Bello

BRITISH International Investment (BII), the UK's development finance institution and impact investor, and African Guarantee Fund (AGF), a Pan African guarantee provider, have announced their partnership of a \$75 million re-guarantee agreement for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) across Africa.

Through this facility, AGF and BII will provide credit guarantees to partner financial institutions for up to 75 per cent of the risk on SME loans, thereby increasing access to credit and reducing collateral requirements for these SMEs.

As a result, the eight-year partnership is expected to facilitate up to \$150 million in loans to 17,300 SMEs through partner financial institutions. This partnership will also encourage lending to SMEs that are women-owned or led as well as SMEs that are climate-focused.

SMEs in Africa continue to face significant challenges in accessing credit. Financial institutions are often constrained by regulatory requirements, limited appetite for a segment that is perceived to be higher risk, a lack of adequate collateral available from SMEs, knowledge gaps by the lenders and skill gaps demonstrated by SME borrowers.

UK Foreign Secretary, James Cleverly said: "British International Investment is already a force for good in Kenya, supporting jobs and

livelihoods in Africa. This investment shows that when we go together, we can go far."

Deputy group chief executive officer and group chief risk officer, African Guarantee Fund, Constant N'zi, said: "our partnership with British International Investment marks our first engagement with a UK Development Finance Institution and is the beginning of a journey that will positively impact African SMEs."

"Through this re-guarantee, our capacity to support lending institutions has been increased and we are certain of increased economic growth across the forty African countries wherein our guarantee products are utilised."

Investment director & head of Intermediated Credit, British International Investment, Jo Fry added, "we are delighted to partner with African Guarantee Fund, a deeply impact-focused African institution, on this critical mission. This investment will increase access to finance for SMEs across the African continent, with a focus on those in the most challenging contexts."

"The partnership, which will also target funding at climate-focused businesses as well as SMEs owned and led by women, will contribute toward increasing inclusive and sustainable development for Africa. The programme represents BII's commitment to working with best-in-class local institutions who are deeply embedded in the countries and communities that they serve."



Director of Business Banking at NBC Bank, Elvis Ndunguru (3rd L) along with other senior officers from the bank as well as representatives from the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) and Bank of Tanzania (BOT), showing the statistics of the achievements made in the sale of the bank's bond known as NBC Twiga Bond that was oversubscribed by 30 percent from the target of 30bn/- of the first trench. The announcement was made in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

By Banker Reporter

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has announced its first Twiga Bond issuance oversubscription; the bank has surpassed its targets by 30 percent whereby 38,911,200,000/- was raised, representing a subscription of 130 percent.

This is NBC bank's first public issuance aimed at supporting lending to retail, small and medium-sized businesses, agricultural activities, businesses whose products and services directly impact women and youth, and local and multinational corporations.

Elvis Ndunguru, NBC's Director of Business Banking revealed this in Dar es Salaam yesterday, saying the bond sold for one month was officially closed on December 8 this year with great success compared to the bank's expectations.

## NBC Bank announces oversubscription of Twiga Bond by 30 pct

"As one of the largest lenders in Tanzania, we are thrilled to announce the success of the 1st tranche of Twiga bond issued early last month and oversubscribed by 30 percent, raising a total of 38,911,200,000/- from the initial target of 30bn/-," Ndunguru said.

He said Investors in the NBC Twiga Bond will earn a whopping interest rate of 10percent per annum, payable semi-annually throughout the five years until December 2027. The interest rate paid is free from withholding tax deduction.

"This is the first time the Bank has issued bonds for the public and it is a welcome call to the SMEs, farmers and small traders who form the majority of employments of the youth and women in Tanzania," Ndunguru said.

Peter Nalitoleta, bank's director of treasury and markets said extended his appreciation and gratitude to all valued investors for their support and trust in NBC Bank.

"The Management of National bank of Commerce Limited would like to thank and acknowledge guidance

and support from the Bank of Tanzania (BOT), Capital Markets and Securities Authorities (CMSA), and Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) and efforts made by all parties including transaction advisors to ensure that the first tranche of NBC Twiga Bonds was a success," Peter said.

He said the proceeds from the Twiga Bond will enable the lender to meet the financing needs of the identified crucial groups that employ the majority of the population.

Speaking at the event, the representative from

the BoT, Mr Lameck Kakulu, in addition to congratulating the bank for the success, said that the BoT is more interested in the objectives of the bond that aims to expand the empowerment (loans) at affordable prices for small and medium businesses, the small sector and Agriculture in the country.

Emmanuel Nyalali, Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) representative mentioned the date of listing the bond on the stock market as December 20, this year the move that will provide an opportunity for various stakeholders to participate in the sale and purchase of bond shares.

NBC Bank launched its first ever Public Bond branded NBC Twiga Bond with a minimum purchase beginning at 500,000/-. The offer was opened to the public on November 6th and closed on December 7th, this year.

## Market your tourist attractions to the world, TCCIA Chief urges regions

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) yesterday asked every region to market its unique tourist attractions to the world in order benefit from the quickly unfolding tourist opportunities after the clamp down of the covid-19 pandemic and the availability of royal tour film in Tanzania.

In an end-year review on the tourism sector, the Acting TCCIA President, Mr Swallah Said Swallah, said here that tourism is a strategic sector capable of creating jobs,

creating revenue for families and improving sharply district and regional economies if there will be aggressiveness and innovation at district and regional levels. He called on members of TCCIA to join regional and district authorities, use to the maxim regional and district councils and clear all issues relating to the sector, which he said have already been as worked upon by the TNBC tourism task force. Regions must make most of the royal tour film, he appealed.

Regional business councils were

launched on March 15 2005 and districts councils were launched on December 4, 2008. The World Economic Forum's Tourism and Travel Index has ranked Tanzania as the 4th world best tourist destination.

"The world is ticking again after the covid-19 pandemic, the royal tour film has exposed incredible opportunities to the world; we have tackled problems and challenges of the tourism sector within the TNBC. All this huge body information is there waiting for us to work on. Let us take action to create jobs for our people, create

wealth for families and alleviate poverty," he appealed.

Swallah said many tourist attractions have been exposed in the royal tour film virtually in all regions of Tanzania, and called on TCCIA members to translate all of them into business opportunities and investment opportunities. "Let us use the TCCIA network to create business and investment opportunities because the necessary infrastructure is already in place," he said.

Swallah called for strengthening of the public-private dialogue, saying the com-

ing year should see earnest efforts towards poverty alleviation and wealth creation at the district level.

The TNBC tourism task force identified challenges facing the tourism sector as including inadequate national vision for tourism sector, destruction of national strategic resources, skills gap and restrictive labour laws, multiplicity and unpredictability of taxes, levies and fees, limited tourism infrastructure and inadequate marketing and branding of Tanzania as a tourist destination.



# Bank offers 35m/- support to five schools in Morogoro

By Banker Reporter, Morogoro

NMB Bank Plc has donated construction materials and desks to five schools of Kilosa and Mvomero districts worth 35m/- as part of its commitment to support education sector development in Morogoro region.

Speaking during the handing over of the materials held at Matongolo primary school in Kilosa district yesterday, Sifa Jonas, the school's principal said the school received 50 desks worth 5m/-.

According to her, the donation will help in addressing the challenge of desks shortage that forced students to sit down during class sessions.

She said the donations include iron sheets, timber, nails and desks which will benefit Murrad Sadiq Secondary school, Mziha Secondary school together with Madizini, Mlali, Matongolo and Mkwatani primary schools.

Jonas said Matongolo primary school has a total of 2379 students, 1,155 being boys while 1,224 are girls adding that the school has a total of 236 desks with a deficit of 557 desks.

"This donation will help reduce the challenge of shortage of desks as students were forced to sit on the ground. We are facing the shortage of 557 desks;

The 236 desks that we currently have do not meet the needs of our 2,379 students. We need another 557 desks," said Jonas.

Mvomero district primary education of-



ficer Bruno Sangwe said that from the donations, Murrad Sadiq and Mziha secondary schools received building materials including roofing sheets each worth 5m/-.

Najma Ally, a standard five student at Madizini pri-

mary school in Mvomero district said that the donation helped reduce the challenge.

NMB Bank central zone manager, Nsolo Mlozi said the bank has this year allocated more than 2bn/- to

support various corporate social responsibility projects across the country in sectors that include education, health and emergencies among others.

"We commit one percent of our profit after tax each

year to support various corporate social investments in sectors including health, education and emergencies; This year alone, we have allocated more than 2bn/- to support the sector," Nsolo said.

## Listing of Lifezone Metals to bring Tanzania's nickel to global markets

By Banker Reporter

THE government is confident that Tembo Nickel Corporation Limited is well equipped to trade with global big businesses as it finalizes processes of listing at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE).

This comes after Lifezone Metals, also known as Hydromet green-processing technology, Tembo Nickel parent company, has the potential to produce cleaner metals to support growing demand for batteries used in electric vehicles.

In a statement to the press shared yesterday, minister for minerals Dotto Biteko said will enable the mining company to advance the development of the Kabanga nickel project and progress towards construction and production over the coming years.

The Kabanga mine and Hydromet technology are expected to produce refined high-grade nickel.

LME grade A copper cathode and cobalt.

"The minister said Lifezone is willing to work with the government and BHP Billiton DDS Limited through a special agreement.

Under the agreement, he said, Tembo Nickel (owned 84 percent by Kabanga Nickel and 16 percent by the government) was established to mine, process and refine nickel with cobalt and copper products.

"We are proud to stand together with our partners in Tembo Nickel on this momentous occasion. The advancement of Lifezone Metals towards a listed company means local subsidiary Tembo Nickel has the potential to set the stage for Tanzanian mining and confirms the country is open for business," he said.

According to him, the ministry welcomes the private sector investment centered on shared returns and mutual economic and social benefits. The ministry believes Tembo Nickel will be a key vehicle supporting the country's status as an emerging leader in the clean energy transition.

"As we work towards the socio-economic development goals of Agenda 2030, partnerships like Tembo Nickel will be key to unlocking the rich potential that our sovereign resource wealth represents," said Biteko.

Lifezone Metals founder and chair, Keith Liddell said as the world shifts towards electric vehicles the partnership will open up to various opportunities such as green energy, and affordable solutions for the energy transition are indeed possible.

"Automakers have repeatedly stated that the battery metals they use have to be low-carbon. As we continue to press forward with project development, we will maintain our commitment to employing and developing local talent, sharing the value we create with the people of Tanzania, and building an effective and lasting partnership with this great country," he said.

## Invest in participatory research, college students advised

By Getrude Mbago

STUDENTS from agricultural training colleges in the country have been urged to invest in conducting participatory research so as to closely engage farmers and stakeholders in the process so as to bring productive outcomes.

Speaking during the 9th Workshop for Participatory Research Design (WPRD) held in Morogoro recently, executive director of the Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT) Janet Maro said that the agriculture sector faces a number of challenges with farmers having broader knowledge to express so as to come up with durable solutions.

"As a young researchers, you are part of the change by contributing through conducting participatory studies with farmers so as to come up with solutions to overcome the concerns, SAT has been supporting some of the research aimed to promote agroecological practices," she said.

She said that SAT has been organising the workshop every year to provide a platform for young researchers, research supervisors, farmers and pastoralists work together focusing on existing problems, particularly those related to sustainable land management, marketing, crop and livestock production, and nutrition

Themed: "Collaboration in Addressing Challenges in Crop Production, Postharvest Handling and Livestock Production through Participatory Research", this year's workshop brought together postgraduate and undergraduate students and tutors from Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) as well as farmers and pastoralists from the



districts of Mvomero, Morogoro in Morogoro Region, Masasi, Nanyumbu and Lindi in Lindi Region.

The thrust of the workshop was to provide a platform whereby young researchers, research supervisors, farmers and pastoralists work together focusing on existing problems, particularly those related to sustainable land management, marketing, crop and livestock production, and nutrition

Maro said that the organisation has been training farmers in various Agroecological (AE) practices ranging from farm preparation to post-harvest handling.

"We have witnessed farmers who have been practising AE practices generating many benefits, including environmental, health, eco-

nomical, and social benefits. The socioeconomic benefits include improved household food security and increased income," she said.

Maro acknowledged the ongoing collaborations between SAT and SUA as one of the efforts that bring positive outcomes to farmers and pastoral communities in the country.

She further explained that the majority of farmers are using acknowledged agroecological methods to improve their livelihoods, conserve the environment and reduce pressure on natural resources.

"Since we commenced our activities ten years ago, we have brought direct impacts to farmers and pastoralists with the majority of them having improved

their situation, achieved balanced diets, reduced their production cost and have seen improved access to markets," she explained.

Maro indicated that the organization was planning to carry out an impact assessment in the near future, which will update the presented parameters' scores.

Prof Benard Chove, Principal of the College of Agriculture at SUA said that students have been locking themselves in boxes by failing to search for the right information and opportunities.

According to him, challenges that the agricultural sector is currently facing can be addressed if researchers will play their role by being innovative to dig and come up

with findings and solutions to address the same.

Prof Chove wanted agriculture students to utilise the knowledge obtained in class to address farmers' problems by putting emphasis on participatory research.

Salma Yassin from SAT, hinted on the note that the organisation through Farmer Centred Research Programme (FCRP), works to provide solutions for small scale farmers who are practising agroecological farming methods.

She said FCRP decentralises the research process and puts the farmers at the centre where they can express their key issues. With addressing these issues, students start collaborations with farmers for designing and conducting participatory research.

## Youth of African diaspora consider climate solutions at US summit

WASHINGTON

A GROUP of young Black Americans and their peers from African countries on Tuesday highlighted their common anxieties over climate change, shared as members of the global African diaspora.

They were gathered at the African and Diaspora Young Leaders Forum in Washington, held on the sidelines of the Biden administration's US-Africa Leaders Summit, in which some 50 leaders from the continent are participating this week.

Michael Regan, the first Black American head of the US Environmental Protection Agency, called on the people in attendance to throw themselves into humanity's fight against a warming world.

"Young people have always been at the forefront of movements to change, and the environmental movement is absolutely no exception," he said.

"Your generation is leading the charge and fighting to secure a healthier, more just tomorrow."

For activist Wafa May Elamin, society must "allow young people to really take charge" to tackle the "massive" climate challenges ahead.

Elamin, a 30-year-old Sudanese-American, said she had been waiting for such an event for "a really long time" -- the most recent iteration of this summit was organized eight years ago, during Barack Obama's presidency.

Other attendees of Tuesday's meeting, which was organized by the National Museum of African

American History and Culture, included Vice President Kamala Harris, the first Black, South Asian and female US vice president, and Ghanaian President Nana Akufo-Addo.

Speaking at the convention, actress and activist Sabrina Elba -- a United Nations goodwill ambassador for the International Fund for Agricultural Development -- said the environmental conservation of the immense African continent is especially close to the hearts of people whose ancestors came from Africa.

Elba recalled how her mother, who immigrated from Somalia to Canada, instilled in her a remembrance of their ancestral home: "As early as I can remember, she would say 'give back, give back, give back, give back to the continent, so we

can go back."

It was this relationship to Africa that inspired Elba -- whose husband, the British actor Idris Elba, also spoke Tuesday -- to get involved with the UN.

"It only took one visit back home to see a drought or famine or people really being affected by an issue that they have very little output towards," she said.

For her, the priority is to support the people living in areas in need of preservation.

"These people are the custodians of our planet," she said.

But according to Elamin, funding for the fight against climate change is not distributed fairly.

Regan acknowledged the unequal realities of working for a better planet.

"Countries should be required, in some way, shape or fashion, to ensure certain resources absolutely reach those who have been disproportionately impacted," the EPA director said.

Jamaji Nwanaji-Enwerem, a doctor and assistant public health professor of environmental health at Emory University in Atlanta, was among those in attendance.

US Vice President Kamala Harris speaks during the African and Diaspora Young Leaders Forum at the National Museum of African American History and Culture during the US-Africa Leaders Summit in Washington, DC on December 13, 2022

US Vice President Kamala Harris speaks during the African and Diaspora Young Leaders Forum at the National Museum of African Ameri-

can History and Culture during the US-Africa Leaders Summit in Washington, DC on December 13, 2022 © SAUL LOEB / AFP

"African is not a monolith," the 32-year-old said.

"So being able to just hear the stories and hear about other people's experiences goes a long way in helping to develop solutions that are meaningful for all of us," she explained.

As the attendees discussed such possible solutions, Regan announced the United States would allocate \$4 million for Peace Corps volunteers to work on projects combatting climate change in 24 Sub-Saharan African countries.

"Are we doing enough? No. Should we be doing more? Yes, but in a democracy, it's slow," he said.



# M-Pesa customers to receive a share of 3.8bn/- in interest payment from mobile money transactions

By Guardian Reporter

CHRISTMAS came early for customers of Tanzania's leading digital communication and technology company, Vodacom Tanzania by announcing that it will dish out a total of 3.8bn/- in dividends to its M-Pesa customers who have used the service up to the second quarter ending September 2022.

The dividend payment covers the months of July, August and September which is the second quarter of the company's financial year. Speaking on this, Vodacom's M-Commerce Director Epimack Mbeteni said that the profit will be paid to all individual customers, retail agents and other M-Pesa business partners who will receive payments based on transactions made via their mobile wallets.

"Our mobile money service, M-Pesa, continues to be a remarkable success story, delivering significant social and financial value to Tanzanians. We have seen substantial growth on the M-Pesa platform with more customers, agents, merchants and institutions transacting around 200bn/- each day. In line with the regulations of the Bank of Tanzania, interest earned from the deposit is periodically shared with the customers. Today we are happy to share a dividend of 3.8bn/- with our over eight million customers who used our M-Pesa services in the said



quarter," he said.

Vodacom Tanzania PLC has over 15 million customers on its M-Pesa platform commanding a market share of 39.3% according to recent TCRA figures. The company has so far paid out over 180bn/- as interest pay out since July 2015 when Bank of Tanzania enacted the regulation.

Mbeteni added that the profit share per customer is calculated as per the Bank of Tanzania circular and will depend on, among other things, the level of activity they would have had on M-Pesa for the said period.

"We have started distributing the money to customers' M-Pesa wallets. Customers can

SMS the word AMOUNT to 15300 to find out how much interest they will receive. Upon receiving the disbursed amount, M-Pesa customers can redeem the interest via cash withdrawal, airtime or bundle purchases or even transact the bonus to pay bills or purchase products" he added.

Vodacom M-Pesa was awarded the GSMA Mobile Money Certification (MMC) at the MWC event concluded in November and which was held in Rwanda. This esteemed certification demonstrates M-PESA's commitment to providing secure and reliable services.

Vodacom M-Pesa was awarded the GSMA

Mobile Money Certification (MMC) after passing by 100 percent in the following categories: safeguarding of customer funds, service security, safeguarding of customer data and privacy, and mitigation against money laundering, terrorist financing, and fraud risks. In Tanzania, M-Pesa was the very first mobile money product to enter the market in 2008.

The Vodacom M-Pesa platform is the most advanced in the country offering tailor-made products suited for the Tanzania market which have increased financial inclusion and stimulated economic activity across Tanzania. Such products include; Songesha

an overdraft facility, M-Koba a group savings account, Lipa Kwa Simu allowing C2B transactions, M-Pawa a savings and loans platform, International Money Transfer and many more.

"We will continue to lead in innovation, bringing more Tanzanians into an inclusive digital economy, increasing the number of customers using our mobile money offerings and expanding on our enterprise services, focusing on strategic partnerships and maintaining the widest range of services that make payments faster, easier and more convenient and safer for businesses and individuals alike," Mbeteni concluded.



## Accessing clean, affordable energy in Africa is key as the world moves towards energy transition—panelists

By Special Correspondent

As the world moves toward energy transition, it is important that Africa's ongoing challenges with access to clean, affordable and inclusive energy be addressed for the continent to achieve a fair and just energy transition, panelists said during the 2022 African Economic Conference (AEC).

They made these points during a dialogue of development partners on Africa's just energy transition on the sidelines of the AEC in Balacava, Mauritius. The African Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), and the United Nations Development Programme organized the three-day conference, which has the theme "Supporting Climate-Smart Development in Africa."

Friday's dialogue brought together representatives of public institutions, the private sector, and

development partners to explore pathways to a just energy transition in Africa, offer recommendations, and forge partnerships to help member states develop strategies and implementation plans for energy transition.

"When we think about just energy transitions in Africa, we must consider the fact that the continent still has 600 million people who don't have access to electricity... We need to underline that we are not talking about handouts - we're talking about justice," said Ahunna Eziakonwa, Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa.

She stressed that a just energy transition must consider environmental preservation and the impact of climate change on livelihoods.

Eziakonwa added: "Africa needs climate justice because fighting climate change is not just about emissions but also justice. We don't need to preside over yet another ex-

tractive industry in this area where countries come to Africa, extract energy sources, cause environmental damage and leave the local population in the dark."

Richard Munang, Africa Regional Climate Change Coordinator for the UN Environment Programme, called for justice, equity, inclusivity and competitive economic growth as Africa focuses on a just energy transition.

Munang said that youth in Africa should be involved in every aspect of the energy transition discussion because they are the continent's strength. "The discussion around gas, carbon, should lead to opportunities for the millions of our rural women and the youth," he added.

Hanan Morsy, Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist of ECA, stressed the need to address the energy accessibility gap in Africa as part of the transition.

She said that mobilizing financial resources is also key to addressing energy inequities, adding, "We need blended finance, guarantees, and more equity investments to crowd in the private sector and multilateral development banks must play a bigger role in expanding the tools for the private sector."

Kevin Urama, African Development Bank Acting Chief Economist and Vice President for Economic Governance and Knowledge Management, said Africa needs robust energy access that is clean and affordable before it begins to focus on a just energy transition.

He said: "We need energy before we start thinking about transitioning. Transition means going from one place to another; Africa cannot move from zero to zero. We must consider technology solutions that allow African economies to remain on carbon targets."

Victoria Kwakwa, World Bank Regional Vice President for Eastern and Southern Africa, called for a fundamental shift in Africa's approach to the energy transition. "Currently, efforts are piecemeal. We need to all come together and have a large-scale, longer-term engagement to determine how to achieve our aspirations," she said.

She urged governments to show political will and create an enabling environment for the private sector. "We need about \$200 billion to get access to people who don't have access. Public resources must be used efficiently. There is a lot Africa can do to get a lot done for itself," Kwakwa said.

Africa's energy systems face complex challenges. The continent hosts about 80% of the 733 million people in the world without access to electricity and 37% of the 2.4 billion people who lack access to clean cooking solutions.



## UK PM announces crackdown on illegal immigration

LONDON

BRITAIN on Tuesday said it planned to bring in new legislation to prevent migrants who cross the English Channel from remaining in the country, as the government tries to control a surge in people arriving in small boats on its southern coast.

The number of people arriving in England across the Channel has more than doubled in the last two years, with government figures showing Albanians account for the highest number of people arriving by this route.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced a new five-point strategy for dealing with illegal immigration, including plans to fast-track the return of Albanian asylum seekers, and clearing the initial backlog of almost 150,000 asylum cases by the end of next year by doubling the number of caseworkers.

"If you enter the UK illegally you

should not be able to remain here," Sunak told parliament. "Instead, you will be detained and swiftly returned either to your home country or to a safe country where your asylum claim will be considered."

Migrants arriving on small boats has become a major political issue for the Conservative government, particularly in working-class areas in the north and central England, where migrants are blamed for making it harder to find work and stretching public services.

Sunak said a new unit would be created to tackle crossings, and that in future migrants would be housed in disused holiday parks, former student accommodation and surplus military sites rather than hotels.

Britain's interior minister, Home Secretary Suella Braverman, recently called the wave of arrivals an "invasion" and described many of the migrants as "criminals", leading to an angry re-



Prime Minister Rishi Sunak

sponse from Albanian prime minister Edi Rama. Sunak said that over the coming months thousands of Albanians would be returned home.

### 'Right to be angry'

Successive British governments have promised to stop the arrival of small boats. Despite that, a record 44,867 people have crossed the Channel on small boats to enter Britain this year.

Concerns over the level of immigration were a driving force the vote for Brexit in a 2016 referendum, with supporters calling for Britain to "take back control" of its borders.

Sunak said the public are "right to be angry" and said the current system was unfair on those with a genuine case for asylum.

"It is not cruel or unkind to want

to break the stranglehold of criminal gangs who trade in human misery," he said. "Enough is enough."

The announcement was strongly welcomed by most Conservative members of parliament, who fear they will face defeat at the next election if the government fails to resolve the issue.

Some Conservative lawmakers, like the former minister Simon Clarke, wanted the government to go further and consider leaving the European Convention on Human Rights next year to make it easier to design new policies if the government's latest strategy failed to deter the crossings.

Opposition Labour leader Keir Starmer said the last time the government changed the immigration system they made it worse, while some charities said the problem would continue until the government allowed asylum claims outside Britain.

Britain's government earlier this year announced plans to deport migrants to Rwanda alongside other efforts, hoping it would act as a deterrent to those arriving in small boats.

The policy was the subject of a legal challenge in London's High Court in early September when a coalition of human rights groups and a trade union argued the Rwanda policy was unworkable and unethical. A decision is expected on Monday.

Sunak said the government would be restarting flights to Rwanda and announced parliament would be asked to set quotas for how many can be admitted for humanitarian reasons.

## Russia becomes leader of inter-regional partnership with India – ambassador

NEW DELHI

MOSCOW has become one of the leaders in the development of interregional partnership between Russia and India in various fields, Russian ambassador to India, Denis Alipov, told TASS yesterday, while commenting on a business forum in New Delhi, in which a delegation from the Moscow city government is taking part.

"In line with the current agenda Moscow is taking the initiative to further develop bilateral dialogue to deepen cooperation in digitalization, ICT, engineering, the pharmaceutical industry, construction, logistics and other areas, with a special focus on high technology and innovative solutions," Alipov said.

He noted that Moscow was developing ties not only with India's capital, but also with other regions of that country.

"It is important that the geographical scope of partnership between Moscow and India is not confined to New Delhi, although this is an important component.

The megapolis of Mumbai, the state of Kerala and other partners are also within the range of attention. So are various business projects and programs for developing people-to-people ties," the Russian ambassador added.

### 'Russia can supply not only oil'

In turn, Russia's trade representative in India, Alexander Rybas, told Russian media on the sidelines of the forum that the development of interregional ties was of great importance.

"Interregional ties are an additional source of increasing our trade turnover and cooperation in the investment field. It is clear what potential Moscow has - it is about 15% of Russia's total potential. Of course, we expect that this visit will produce more contracts in different areas," Rybas said. He added that Russia was able to supply not only crude oil. It has other goods and other opportunities.

"Of course, we should work in various areas. You surely know India's plans for building airfields and increasing energy capacities. India is going full steam into the future, and we should find our place in order to help India become strong and prosperous. For its part, India is certainly able to help us move along the path to prosperity as well," Rybas said.

## US announces breakthrough on nuclear fusion energy

LOS ANGELES

THE U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on Tuesday announced breakthrough on nuclear fusion energy.

The achievement of fusion ignition was made by scientists at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL).

On Dec. 5, a team at the LLNL's National Ignition Facility (NIF) conducted the first controlled fusion experiment in history to reach this milestone, also known as scientific energy break-even, meaning it produced more energy from fusion than the laser energy used to drive it.

The DOE called it a "major scientific breakthrough" decades in the making that will pave the way for advancements in national defense and the future of clean power.

The NIF, the size of a sports stadium, uses powerful laser beams to create temperatures and pressures like those in the cores of stars and giant planets, and inside exploding nuclear weapons, according to the DOE.

The achievement will provide invaluable insights into the prospects of clean fusion energy, which would be a game-changer for efforts to achieve a net-zero carbon economy, according to the DOE. "This is a landmark achievement for the researchers and staff at the National Ignition Facility who have dedicated their careers to seeing fusion ignition become a reality, and this milestone will undoubtedly spark even more discovery," said U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm in a statement. The LLNL's experiment surpassed the fusion threshold by delivering 2.05 megajoules of energy to the target, resulting in 3.15 megajoules of fusion energy output, according to the DOE. It demonstrated for the first time a most fundamental science basis for inertial fusion energy (IFE), said the DOE.

But many advanced science and technology developments are still needed to achieve simple, affordable IFE to power homes and businesses.

The DOE is currently restarting a broad-based, coordinated IFE program in the United States. Combined with private-sector investment, there is a lot of momentum to drive rapid progress toward fusion commercialization, said the DOE.

Fusion is the process by which two light nuclei combine to form a single heavier nucleus, releasing a large amount of energy. In the 1960s, a group of pioneering scientists at the LLNL hypothesized that lasers could be used to induce fusion in a laboratory setting.

This revolutionary idea later became inertial confinement fusion, kicking off more than 60 years of research and development in lasers, optics, diagnostics, target fabrication, computer modeling and simulation, and experimental design, according to the DOE. To pursue this concept, the LLNL built a series of increasingly powerful laser systems, leading to the creation of the NIF, which is the world's largest and most energetic laser system, according to the DOE.

Xinhua

## Spokesperson: China, US efforts needed to restore ties

BEIJING

CHINA has called for enhanced communication and cooperation between China and the United States to put bilateral relations back on track, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said following the latest talks between the two countries' officials.

Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Xie Feng held talks with US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Daniel Kritenbrink, and Laura Rosenberger, senior director for China affairs of the White House National Security Council, in the city of Langfang near Beijing from Dec 11 to 12.

China said both sides should take the implementation of the important consensus reached by the two heads of state in Bali, Indonesia as the main guideline for stabilizing and developing bilateral relations in the next stage, spokesperson

Wang Wenbin told a regular news briefing when asked for more information about the talks.

China called on both sides to strengthen communication, carry out mutually beneficial cooperation, and properly manage differences to put bilateral relations back on track, Wang said.

China called for a rejection of the zero-sum Cold War mentality, opposition to ideological and bloc confrontation, and an end to decoupling, severing supply chains and technological suppression, he said.

On the Taiwan question, China reiterated its solemn position on the US side's erroneous acts such as high-level exchanges with Taiwan, arms sales to Taiwan and Taiwan-related legislation, and urged the US to take concrete actions to abide by the one-China principle and the three China-US joint communiqués, Wang said.

China pointed out that it does not shy away from or fear competition. However, it opposes using competition to define China-US relations, and opposes the US containing China in the name of competition, the spokesperson said.

China is committed to upholding the UN-centered international system, the international order underpinned by international law, and the basic norms governing international re-



Photo taken on Sept 24, 2015 shows the national flags of China (right) and the United States as well as the flag of Washington DC on the Constitution Avenue in Washington, capital of the United States. XINHUA

lations built on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, Wang said.

"We do not accept the so-called 'rules' defined by individual countries or a small group of them," he said.

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## UN warns of deteriorating humanitarian situation in Somalia

MOGADISHU

THE United Nations top relief official in Somalia warned on Tuesday the humanitarian situation in Somalia remains extremely serious and called for sustained and improved assistance to avert famine.

Adam Abdelmoula, Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia said joint efforts and the scale-up of humanitarian assistance to respond to the impact of the longest and most severe drought in Somalia's recent history has prevented famine thresholds from being surpassed, for the time being.

"All indicators point to one

conclusion: humanitarian assistance must be sustained and improved to prevent further loss of life and suffering," Abdelmoula said in a statement issued in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia.

He said the humanitarian assistance must be sustained over time and improved, as famine is a strong possibility from April to June 2023 and beyond if assistance is not sustained and if April to June 2023 rains underperform as current forecasts indicate.

The UN official said the collective scale-up of humanitarian assistance, including Somali capacities, has prevented food insecurity and acute malnutrition from reaching Famine. According to the UN,

earlier projections of famine between October and December among rural agro-pastoralists in Baidoa and Buur Hakaba districts and displaced people in Baidoa town in the Bay Region have not materialized, but the underlying crisis has not improved, and even more, appalling outcomes are only temporarily averted.

These same populations, it said, remain extremely vulnerable, with Mogadishu IDPs joining their ranks.

The UN said prolonged and extreme conditions have resulted in higher-than-normal deaths, and excess mortality will continue to accumulate unless assistance is further scaled up and sustained in crucial sectors.

"Together we have averted famine, albeit temporarily. We can and must make sure that this becomes a sustained reality for the people of Somalia," Abdelmoula said, adding that even without a famine declaration, the situation is extremely alarming.

Abdelmoula said the scale and severity of the emergency are expanding as displacement continues unabated, food and water prices remain high, critical gaps in the response persist and the current rains have been poor and insufficient for replenishing water sources and sustaining grazing fields for livestock.

The number of people affected by the drought in Somalia has more than doubled

this year, from 3.2 million in January to 7.8 million in October, with the severity of needs increasing proportionately.

According to the UN, displacement caused by drought increased more than fivefold to almost 1.3 million people in the same period.



**Together we have averted famine, albeit temporarily. We can and must make sure that this becomes a sustained reality**

THE first China-Arab States Summit was held in Riyadh, capital of Saudi Arabia on Dec. 9, local time. Chinese President Xi Jinping attended the summit and delivered a keynote speech.

He called on China and Arab states to carry forward the spirit of China-Arab friendship and foster a closer China-Arab community with a shared future, and said that China will work with the Arab side to advance eight major cooperation initiatives.

The top-level design for the development of the relations between China and Arab states in the new era, which conforms to the common aspiration and demands of both sides, received wide support from the leaders attending the Summit. Xi said, "China and Arab states enjoy a long history of friendly exchanges. We have come to know and be-

## China, Arab relations to usher in even brighter future

friend each other through the ancient Silk Road. We have shared weal and woe in our respective struggles for national liberation. We have conducted win-win cooperation in the tide of economic globalization. And we have upheld fairness and justice in the changing international environment. Together, China and Arab states have nurtured the spirit of friendship featuring 'solidarity and mutual assistance, equality and mutual benefit, and inclusiveness and mutual learning.'

Solidarity and mutual assistance is a distinct feature of China-Arab friendship. No matter how the international landscape evolves, China and Arab states have always

trusted and firmly supported each other on issues involving their respective core interests. The China-Arab future-oriented strategic partnership of comprehensive cooperation and common development is unbreakable. Equality and mutual benefit is a constant driver for China-Arab friendship. China and Arab states pursue mutually beneficial collaboration.

They have established 17 cooperation mechanisms under the framework of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum, reaped fruitful outcomes in economic cooperation, and benefited nearly two billion people of the two sides with Belt and Road projects, setting an example for South-South

cooperation.

Inclusiveness and mutual learning is a key value inherent in China-Arab friendship. The two sides stay true to their principles despite the clamour for "clash of civilizations," advocate together inter-civilizational dialogue, oppose discrimination against particular civilizations, and endeavor to safeguard the diversity of world civilizations.

They have made important contributions to advancing human civilizations. The spirit of China-Arab friendship is a precious spiritual treasure of the two sides, which offers important guidance for the China-Arab strategic partnership to achieve new development based on past achievements. The world

today is in a new period of turbulence and transformation. China and Arab states are seeing similar historical opportunities and challenges. The practical significance and the values of the times of enhancing solidarity and cooperation between the two sides have become more prominent.

Xi stressed in his speech that China and Arab states should stay independent and defend their common interests, focus on economic development and promote win-win cooperation, uphold regional peace and strive for common security and increase exchanges among civilizations to enhance mutual understanding and trust.

People's Daily



# Chinese-built railway in harmony with wildlife conservation in east Africa

NAIROBI

KENYA'S Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) has put in place interventions to ensure that the railway is in harmony with the wildlife.

The 480-km Mombasa-Nairobi section travels through the country's largest wildlife reserve, the Tsavo National Park, while the 120-km Nairobi-Suswa section passes through the Nairobi National park and has had minimal effects on the wildlife.

Afristar, the operator of the Chinese-built SGR, has implemented a number of noise mitigation measures on the railroad aimed at decreasing interference in wildlife habitats.

Obed Kirwa, track technical supervisor at Afristar's Nairobi-Maai Mahiu Workshop, told Xinhua in the Kenyan capital Nairobi that they have installed sound barriers along the wildlife corridors in order to reduce disturbance to the animals. "We have erected sound absorption plates on the track in the areas close to wildlife habitats," he added.

The SGR has also built a great bridge at the height of 6.5 meters above the ground where the railway passes through the Nairobi National Park for the convenience of large animals such as elephants and giraffes to pass through.

In addition, there is a 5.9-km-long, two-meter-high sound barrier on either side of the guardrail of the bridge in order to minimize the noise caused by trains as they pass through the wildlife areas.

Kirwa, who has been working on the railway since 2017, said the sound barriers have significantly reduced the amount of noise emitted from the moving SGR locomotives. "So, at this point, no animals have been affected by the noise. We have observed that when the passenger and cargo trains are passing along the park, the wildlife are walking freely, and some even relax below the bridge to shelter from the sun," he added, emphasizing that the SGR project is keen to protect Kenya's wildlife because of their importance to the national economy.

"My wish is that those who come after us continue with the same spirit and maintain the sound barriers because they reduce the stress on the wildlife," Kirwa said. Kirwa's maintenance crew of 16 personnel physically inspects the sound absorption plates at least once every month to ensure that they have not been affected by wear and tear or have been vandalized.

The SGR, inaugurated in 2017, runs from the coastal port of Mombasa through Nairobi and terminates at Suswa. It is the largest infrastructure construction project in Kenya since independence and a flagship project for the east African nation to realize its national development blueprint Vision 2030, as well as a model project for China-Africa cooperation.

Zhang Zhengyi, deputy director of Afristar Nairobi at the Track and Signal Maintenance Workshop, clarified that at least 14 large wildlife passages, 79 bridges, and 100 culverts have been set up along the railway route to ensure the free passage of animals.

"We railway builders have been seriously thinking about the problem of how to make the railway project and the natural environment co-exist in harmony. In the design of the railway, we have adopted a series of measures for animal protection, drawing on the design experience of



On-board inspector Faustine Tanui checks equipments on a Mombasa-Nairobi Railway passenger train, July 29, 2022. Xinhua

the A50 road in the Netherlands, the B38 road in Germany, and the Qinghai-Tibet Railway in China," Zhang said.

In order to accommodate the living habits of Kenya's iconic wildlife species, such as elephants, giraffes, and other large animals, the Mombasa-Nairobi Railway has set up several animal passages along the length of the railroad and increased the height of the bridges in order to facilitate the passage of animals.

Zhang observed that during the design phase of the SGR, all the train collisions with elephants that occurred between 2007 and 2012 on the old meter-gauge railway line were analyzed; based on this, appropriate elephant crossing points were put in place.

He noted that the identification of the locations of wildlife passages took into account the species' migration paths, as well as the distribution of the surrounding rivers and ditches. He revealed that as part of efforts to boost animal

welfare, the location and number of animal passageways set on the SGR were finally determined after several demonstrations and analyses with the state-owned Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS).

Zhang still remembers the first time he saw rhinos along the railway route in Nairobi National Park. "I was on duty that day, (doing) routine inspection. I was extremely excited. The baby rhino was so cute, and the rhino family was relaxing near the bridge.

And now, I am getting used to seeing those precious animals. I'm proud that the SGR maintains a good example of environmentally friendly modern construction," he revealed. Kenya is one of the most biodiverse countries and attracts tourists from all over the world.

According to Afristar, SGR is more friendly to the environment because it produces less carbon dioxide per ton of goods than road transport.

Hence the SGR has been hailed by environmental experts for its role in combating climate change.

Nancy Githaiga, country director of the Africa Wildlife Foundation, a leading international conservation organization, said measures have been implemented to make a difference in the balance between the SGR and wildlife.

"I think during the construction of the SGR, there were a lot of discussions about the SGR going through wildlife corridor areas, and what we saw is that the bridges and underpasses aided wildlife movement. Probably a bit more would have been better, but what is currently available, I think, has aided and has reduced the fatalities we would expect," Githaiga said.

## Paris' rhetoric on Ukraine resembles split on two chairs, says diplomat

MOSCOW

THE rhetoric of Paris, comprised of peaceful statements by President Emmanuel Macron and belligerent statements by the Foreign Ministry, looks like a split performed on two chairs, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said on her Telegram channel Tuesday.

The diplomat pointed to the statement made by Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna, who said that Paris will soon ship a new batch of air defense systems to Kiev.

"Is Paris roleplaying a good President that advocates peace and a bad Foreign Ministry that exacerbates hostilities? On the other hand, it looks more like a split on two chairs," Zakharova said.

Previously, Macron said in an interview for TFI after his visit to the US that the future security architecture must include guarantees for Russia.

According to Macron, this issue will be a part of peace discussions, so it is necessary to think how France and the EU can defend its allies and at the same time provide Russia with guarantees of security when the sides return to the negotiation table.

At the same time, Macron underscored that he sees no military options to resolve the Ukrainian conflict and said that the only way out of the situation is through negotiations.



## China promotes sharing of scientific facilities, instruments

MAJOR basic research facilities and large research instruments are important tools that advance sci-tech innovation and expand scientific knowledge.

At present, China is promoting the sharing of such facilities and instruments owned by centrally administered universities and scientific institutions to further improve utilization and optimize the distribution of innovative resources.

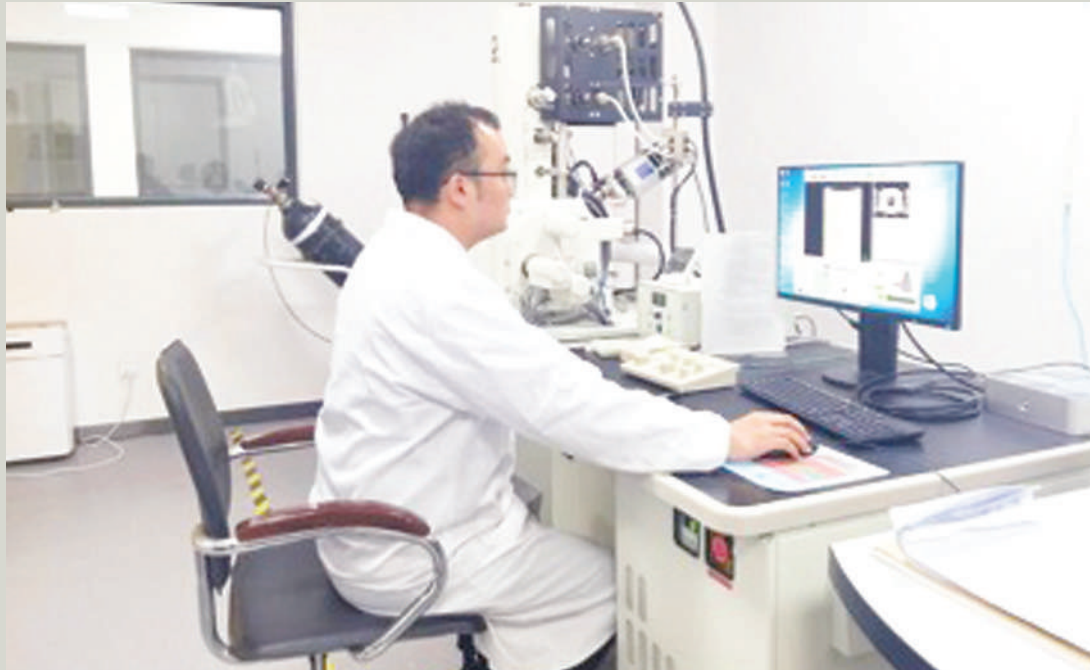
In recent years, the country has constantly improved its capacity in scientific research and enhanced investment in large research instruments.

According to incomplete statistics, centrally administered universities and scientific institutions across the country own around 130,000 sets of research instruments worth over 500,000 yuan (\$71.635) each.

In 2014, China's State Council issued relevant documents which raised specific requirements and tasks on the sharing of major basic research facilities and large research instruments and set up trans-department, trans-field, and multi-level online management platforms for the sharing. Since 2018, centrally administered universities have been required to conduct an annual assessment of the sharing.

The 2022 assessment covered 345 organizations from 24 departments, which involved 86 major basic research facilities such as synchrotron light source, accelerator and wind tunnel, as well as 47,000 large research instruments worth over 500,000 yuan each, including electron microscopes, high-definition mass spectrometers, DNA sequencing machines, and terahertz power meters.

The assessment is a method that aims to improve sharing and utilization and better help China build



A researcher operates a field emission scanning electron microscopy in a testing center of Southwest Jiaotong University. (Photo from scol.com.cn)

itself into a science and technology giant, said Zheng Jian, an official with the China's Ministry of Science and Technology, adding that the assessment has lifted universities' awareness and positivity of sharing their sci-tech instruments.

According to Zheng, less than 50 percent of instruments owned by Chinese universities were shared in 2014, and the figure now stands at over 90 percent. In the same period, the average annual machine-hour of their instruments surged from 500 to more than 1,300, and each machine was put into external services for over 200 hours on average each year, up from less than 50, Zheng added.

He told People's Daily that instrument sharing has avoided unnecessary purchases of 4,900 sets of devices over the past seven years, which saved 13.9 billion

yuan. It also optimized the distribution of high-end instruments worth over 10 million yuan each, such as high-frequency nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometers, high-performance liquid chromatography mass spectrometry and extreme ultraviolet spectrometer systems.

The Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) has developed a management system for the sharing of large instruments, which enables scientists to check the availability of shared instruments and make reservations.

The CAS Institute of Biophysics has already integrated its available instruments and established a platform for the studies of protein science back in 2003. Over the past years, the institute has become a leader in the country in terms of the sharing of sci-tech instruments.

Han Yugang, the director of the platform, told People's Daily that instruments shall be purchased according to actual need, and irrational purchases must be avoided. It would be a waste of money if expensive devices were used for simple experiments, he added.

The sharing of scientific instruments is not merely offering instruments to others. It is indeed a type of external technological service.

Over the years, the platform for the studies of protein science has established support teams consisting of 130 members. In particular, the cryogenic electron microscopy team has independently developed application software that significantly improves the utilization and efficiency of cryogenic electron microscopy (Cryo-EM), setting a good example for Chinese universities to build their own Cryo-EM platforms.

People's Daily

## Pakistan to brief UN, international community on India-backed terrorism

ISLAMABAD

PAKISTAN would raise the issue of Indian-supported terrorism activities in the country at the United Nations as well as at the international level, Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah Khan has said.

The Pakistani security agencies had arrested an organized group of terrorists who were trained, financed and handled by India's main spy agency Research and Analysis Wing, he told a press conference on Tuesday evening.

"The group conducted a bomb blast in Lahore city of eastern Punjab province on June 23, 2021, and was planning for several other attacks," said the minister, adding that the undeniable proof of Indian involvement will help Pakistan raise the issue at the international level.

"We have decided to put it before the international community as it will have its weight and impact. We are now capable of taking the matter to the United Nations," he

added.

At least three people were killed and 23 others injured when a car bomb went off in a residential-commercial area in Lahore on June 23, 2021.

During the press briefing, Additional Inspector General of the Counter Terrorism Department of Punjab Police Imran Mahmood talked about the success of arresting the terrorists, including the mastermind, and tracing the foreign hands in the attack.

"Red warrants for three Indian nationals working for India's spy agency have been issued for their direct involvement, and more will be issued for other Indian spies involved in the terrorist activities in Pakistan," said the police official.

India's Ministry of External Affairs could not be reached for comment.

Agencies

## Uganda military says 11 rebels killed, 8 captured in western region

KAMPALA

UGANDAN military on Tuesday said it killed 11 Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels and captured eight others in an ongoing operation in the western part of the country bordering the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (ADF).

The military spokesperson's office in a tweet on Tuesday said the operation followed a group of about 30 ADF rebels crossing into the country from neighboring DRC on Monday

night.

The office said results from the combat at Kyapa village, Bweramure Sub County, Ntoroko district indicate that 10 sub-machine guns and one PK gun were captured from the ADF.

The military said one soldier was lost on its side while in battle with the rebels.

ADF, which is also a branch of the Islamic State in Central Africa, is a Ugandan rebel group that is holed up in the jungles of eastern DRC.

The rebel outfit is blamed for the suicide

bomb attacks in the Ugandan capital Kampala in November last year. Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni in a Dec. 2 national address blamed part of the recent attacks on police stations in the central region on the ADF.

The Ugandan military together with the Congolese troops launched joint attacks on the rebel group in November last year.

The rebel group is also blamed for causing havoc in villages in eastern DRC.

Xinhua





Sebastian Nkoma

## Nkoma vows to win women's league with Yanga Princesses

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE new coach of Yanga Princesses, Sebastian Nkoma, has vowed to win the Tanzania Women's Mainland Premier League for the first time with the club after leaving arch-rivals Simba Queens.

Nkoma has said that he agreed to lead Yanga Princesses after finding out that they have a good and excellent squad that he can lead to win the championship.

The former Simba Queens coach said since joining Yanga Princesses he has been asking himself why the team has failed to win the title in four consecutive seasons with such a tremendous squad.

"It is too early to say anything, but I have joined Yanga Princesses to win titles. I need to stay with the team for at least five games so that I can be in a good position to know the shortcomings and qualities of every player," said Nkoma.

"There are some players I have worked with when I was with Simba, it is easy for me to start working with them. There are also others I have met with the national team. I need to see them playing together, but I believe

with this squad we can achieve our goals," he added.

He said that he has seen a good sign in the club and he believes that the commitment of the leadership is great, so he is expecting the same from his players.

"I believe if we have committed players then will be able to do what we want, including winning the title of the women's league for the first time with Yanga," he added.

Nkoma said he will work hard to achieve his goals, asking Yanga fans to give him co-operation so that they can build a better and more competitive team.

"I want to make clear, Yanga have registered good players and they are expecting good results, otherwise I must have something to explain to them. People must know where we are improving the most and where we have gone wrong," he said.

Yanga Princess started the WPL season on the wrong foot after being beaten 1-0 by Fountain Gate Princess, who last season finished second in the standings behind Simba Queens, while the Jangwani Street girls finished third.

## PUNDITS AND EXIT OF CEO GONZALEZ: The good, the bad or even the ugly

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

TALK is boiling over concerning the reasons for the exit from club duty of youthful soccer administrator Barbara Gonzalez, who is leaving the Msimbazi Street outfit for other career pursuits.

That essentially is the key explanation, and for all intents and purposes, it is sufficient as an explanation, the proof of the pudding being the fact that she is staying on in a caretaker position until the board of directors selects a new chief executive officer.

People who leave amid chaos offer 24-hour notices, especially when this doesn't involve any demands for payment for such departure.

Plenty has been discussed in that direction that merits going over, at least in part, for the fun of it, as an argument isn't just an affirmation about the subject matter at issue, but also a window to the character of the contributor.

In that case, an intense debate about Barbara actually becomes a psychoanalytic exercise as to what tempts or motivates pundits and fans in how they look at clubs, or at such events.

In that case, interventions would be multifaceted, showing a modicum of expertise on the one hand, and also a breadth of cut-and-dried formulas being applied on the matter.

The crucial aspect was sniffing problems in the running of the team and this being at the heart of the CEO's departure, while there wasn't the slightest hint on that situation in her fairly elaborate statement as to tendering the resignation.

Worse, situations where disputes that compel a CEO to walk out of office precipitously can scarcely be hidden from the public view, such that the final step comes as a complete surprise.

Often enough there are tell-tale signs, as in the case of Senzo 'Mbatha' Mazingiza, who is noticeably older at 43 unlike Barbara, aged just 32.

What this age discrepancy suggests is open to dispute, but one line of interpretation will be favoured here, namely that as an experienced executive from South Africa he would already be aware of the parameters of his authority or mandate.

On the contrary, Barbara was by comparison an upstart or at best up-and-coming, having excellent academic qualifications and the confidence of



Barbara Gonzalez

key power holders in the club.

Chances are that her stewardship would be more inclined to teamwork than personal strategy, and management formulas; it seems to be reflected in the statement.

Putting it differently, the talk among pundits as to the departure reasons for Barbara wasn't entirely divorced from earlier discussion about 'Mbatha,' despite that there is perceptibly nothing to attach in the departure statement to a semblance of conflict.

This affirmation can easily be gleaned from the fact that there will only be a handover later next month when the board will have met and perused over a number of candidates for nomination or appointment, and the winner be handed over the office by Barbara.

An actually angry person would scarcely ever accept or otherwise be expected to stay on for a month to hand over to another professional.

What can also be gleaned from the departing administrator's overly friendly mood on the eve of her departure is that she is quite likely a pos-

sible future CEO at the club, after gaining further experience - and let's face it, put her affairs on a more assured route.

This could even be gleaned from social media comments by at least one noticeable outsider, who has some experience in leaving office and coming back, actually in a hostile environment.

He didn't see Barbara as a quitter, really and even put up the view that the board could decide to disagree with her proposal.

Talking from this point of view, the visible impression that Barbara isn't a quitter was perfectly on the high, as it is a sense we also have of the tone of the letter.

But the idea that the board may opt to refuse the proposal to resign is tied to the feeling that there are conflicts in the club that are pushing the young executive to leave, even if presumably to greener pastures.

The view that the board has an option of refusing the letter of resignation presumes she is leaving somewhat unwillingly, pushed to that po-

sition by circumstances, as if greener pastures per se don't suffice.

Good-natured as that position might be, there is no reason to suppose that the dreams of the youthful executive are fully met by her Simba SC top level assignment, nor is there a lack of reasons for why she would opt for a new environment, even if she wasn't visibly under pressure at the club.

There is a lack of realism on the part of commentators that being Simba SC's CEO isn't the highest that a youthful CEO can think of, as precisely the talents that made the club pick her as CEO at age 29 can easily be noticed elsewhere.

And as a member of an organizing committee for tournaments in the continental federation, it is altogether safe to say that the sky is the limit for her.

For starters, let it be said that brilliant young lady professionals improve the image of a firm when they are given top executive positions. So, seek out no witches, absolutely.

## Warriors' Green says Bucks fan 'threatened' him; fan tossed

MILWAUKEE

A FAN was ejected following a complaint by Golden State Warriors star Draymond Green during a game at Milwaukee on Tuesday night, and the Bucks said they were investigating the incident and consulting with the NBA.

The fan said "some threatening stuff to my life," Green said.

Golden State's Stephen Curry was shooting free throws with 5:19 left in the third quarter when Green spoke with a game official, repeatedly pointing toward a man sitting a few rows off the opposite baseline.

The official conferred with security personnel at Fiserv Forum, and the fan was escorted out. Earlier in the period, the fan and Green had exchanged words.

"I was this close to really going back and diving all the way in, but just went back and told the official. And when I told the official, he said, he's got to get out of here," Green said.

"You just hope it gets to the point to where these leagues can work with legislators to implement laws, because that's the only thing that's going to ultimately correct the issue, is if you know something real is going to happen to you," he said.

After Milwaukee's 128-111 win, the Bucks said in a statement: "Under the referee's discretion, we are investigating the situation and we are conferring with the NBA."

The 32-year-old Green scored two points and had six rebounds and seven assists in the loss. He is averaging nine points, six rebounds and seven assists for the reigning NBA champions.

Two weeks ago, Green was fined \$25,000 by the NBA "for directing obscene language toward a fan." The situation occurred during the fourth quarter of Golden State's loss at Dallas on Nov. 29.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, Jayson Tatum scored 44 points, Jaylen Brown added five of his 25 in overtime, and the Boston Celtics blew a 20-point lead in the second half before rallying from a late 13-point deficit for a thrilling 122-118 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

Marcus Smart hit four 3-pointers and scored 18 points for the NBA-leading Celtics, who wrapped up their six-game trip by avoiding their first three-game losing streak of the season.

The old rivals played a wild second half in which the Lakers rallied from an 81-61 deficit midway through the third quarter with a 45-12 surge. Boston then erased Los Angeles' 106-93 lead in the final 3:40 with a 17-4 run capped by Tatum's tying jumper with 17.8 seconds left.

"That game just says a lot about our experience and mental toughness," said Brown, who also had 15 rebounds. "That's a tough and perfect way to close out our road trip."

Anthony Davis had 37 points and 12 rebounds, but he also missed two free throws with 28 seconds left, creating an opportunity for Tatum to send it to overtime.

LeBron James scored 33 points in a memorable chapter of the famed rivalry between the 17-time champion teams dubbed "the two pillars of our league" by new Lakers coach Darvin Ham.

AP

## Zanzibar to have Africa's 1st integrated sports and leisure complex

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

ZANZIBAR is gearing up to have Africa's 1st integrated sports, tourism, cultural and leisure complex that will attract more local and international visitors.

Indian-based firm -JHIL Enterprises' director, Jilesh Babla, said recently that the continent's first Multi-Utility Global Standards Project will be aiming at enhancing its infrastructure to boost sports and tourism.

Babla said so far, JHIL Enterprises, which is owned by a Tanzanian citizen, has already sought necessary permissions for setting up the 37-acre project in Fumba Uptown.

According to Babla, land for the project was allotted by ZIPA in June and a foundation stone laying ceremony - with a highly impressive delegation including legendary cricketer Sunil Gavaskar, theatre & film personality Kunal Kapoor, founder of Dubai-based Visa Facilitation Services Zubin Karkaria and 15 other Investors, planners and operations partners from India, Ireland & Norway - was performed on June 3, this year.

"The project, which is currently in the designing stage, includes; a Sports Zone with 12 sports facilities, including five centres of sports excellence to be managed by a Norway-based sports management company, a Tourism Zone to enhance Zanzibar's tourism offerings, a Theatre and Cultural Arcade, a Shopping Vil-



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi along with cricket legend Sunil Gavaskar at the foundation stone laying ceremony for the JHIL World Sports Complex in Fumba Uptown, Zanzibar recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

lage, including global eateries, and a Leisure Zone for exclusive accommodation facilities.

"The project, the first of its kind in Africa, apart from the sports, tourism and cultural initiatives, is aiming to create jobs and opportunities for the people of Zanzibar as well as provide training in tourism and hospitality education by a renowned global academy, which will help people in securing jobs

in other countries," he said.

He added that the project promises to take Zanzibar to an international level in sports and provide an enriching tourism experience to visitors.

Indian cricket legend Sunil Gavaskar is the Brand Ambassador Partner for Sports, while Kunal Kapoor is the Brand Ambassador Partner for the Global Theatre and Cultural Centre and VFS Global is the Partner

for Tourism and Hospitality Education.

According to Babla, construction is scheduled to begin once all the statutory permissions have been received.

"Zanzibar will be the first African country to have such an offering while the project is part of President Mwinyi's vision to take Zanzibar at a global level of sports and tourism," he said.



## Modric shares World Cup stage with Messi in loss

LUSAIL, Qatar

LUKA Modric pulled his shirt up over his face as he trudged over to the sideline.

Croatia's red-and-white-clad fans recognized the sorrowful significance of the moment and rose up to applaud the diminutive midfielder who is probably their nation's greatest ever player.

Argentina's boisterous supporters soon followed suit at Lusail Stadium, honoring an opponent who is likely appearing at his last World Cup.

Substituted in the 81st minute on Tuesday, with his team trailing by three goals, it effectively marked the end of Modric's World Cup era. Croatia ended up losing to Argentina 3-0 in the semifinals, four years after the team lost to France in the final.

Modric was somber as he was replaced by Lovro Majer before calmly taking his seat in the dugout. There was no grand gesture to the crowd or outpouring of emotion for a man whose understated brilliance can still be overlooked despite everything he has achieved.

"We just wanted to be again in the final," Modric said, "but unfortunately we are not."

The second most famous 37-year-old at the World Cup is going home, a few days after the other one.

Modric is the same age as former Real Madrid teammate Cristiano Ronaldo, but as both men approach the twilight of their trophy-laden careers, the contrast is stark. That was particularly evident leading up to and during the World Cup.

While Ronaldo hogged the limelight with his explosive eve-of-the-tournament interview with Piers Morgan, Modric expressed himself on the field.

After leading Croatia to the final in Russia, he was again the inspiration as a nation with a population of about 4 million made it to semifinals for the second straight World Cup.

Meanwhile, Ronaldo, amid the distraction of his exit from Manchester United and possible transfer to a club in Saudi Arabia, ended up benched and in tears as Portugal's hopes were ended by Morocco in the quarterfinals.

In Croatia's quarterfinal match, Modric played his part in eliminating Brazil - and Neymar. But he couldn't do anything to stop Lionel Messi on his personal mission to finally win soccer's biggest trophy. Messi scored the opening goal from the penalty spot on Tuesday, and then produced a piece of magic to set up the second of Julian Alvarez's two goals.

But Messi wasn't the only iconic figure on display at Lusail Stadium.

AP

## Messi World Cup magic: Pakistani neighbourhood goes mad for Argentina

KARACHI

THOUSANDS of Pakistanis in a Karachi neighbourhood once synonymous with gang violence and poverty will mass together to roar on Argentina in the World Cup final on Sunday.

People poured through the labyrinth streets of Lyari in the early hours of Wednesday to watch Lionel Messi and his Argentina side on a giant screen beat Croatia 3-0 in the semi-final.

Wearing Argentina shirts, some broke into song and dance after the South Americans sealed their spot in the decider in Qatar against France or Morocco. Fireworks lit up the night sky.

"Most of the youth are inspired by them," Tahir Khan, a 40-year-old football coach, told AFP of Argentina's World Cup stars.

Messi is inevitably the favourite -- but they also like his Paris Saint-Germain team-mate Neymar of Brazil.

"I see most of the youth wearing Messi or Neymar jerseys. Even at Eid they wear their jerseys... instead of traditional dress," said Khan.

Residents have brought the World Cup to Lyari, painting life-size murals of their favourite players, hanging flags and bunting, and keeping track of progress on bracket boards marked on walls.

The appreciation of Argentina -- but also of fierce rivals Brazil -- is not purely about their football skills.

"The Latin American countries are not as (developed) as the European countries but their players are acknowledged all over the world," Khan said.

- Argentina or Morocco? -

In one battle for Lyari years ago, gangs infamously used rocket-propelled grenades and assault rifles to fight security forces, with the crossfire shutting schools and businesses.

But the worst of the violence has abated and an increase in security has led to flowering creativity.

The neighbourhood now clings fiercely to its reputation for producing footballers, iron-chinned boxers, and, most recently, socially conscious rappers.

There is good-natured banter between adopted Argentina and Brazil fans.

"We relate to the Brazilians' (skin) colour and style, that is why we like Brazil the most," said 45-year-old Shahid Saleem.

"My own favourite team is Argentina but my two sons are staunch supporters of Brazil. Quarrels between father and sons is a daily routine."

Now a fresh argument looms over Lyari: whether to back Argentina or Morocco if the underdogs stun holders France to reach Sunday's final.

AFP

# Messi has chance to match Maradona as Argentina reach World Cup final

LUSAIL, Qatar

LIONEL Messi will get his date with World Cup destiny, and the chance to emulate Diego Maradona, after Argentina's emphatic 3-0 win over Croatia on Tuesday took them through to the final in Qatar.

It is 36 years since Maradona dragged Argentina to their second and most recent World Cup triumph in Mexico, the crowning moment of his dazzling but often troubled career.

Messi came to this World Cup admitting it would surely be his last at the age of 35 and therefore his final opportunity to lift the trophy that escaped him in 2014, when Argentina were defeated by Germany in Brazil.

The sense that Messi was building up to this moment was apparent in his displays for Paris Saint-Germain in the months before the tournament and he has performed at this World Cup like a player with no more time to waste.

Sixteen years after making his World Cup debut as a teenager, Qatar has witnessed Messi finally score in the knockout stages of the tournament, and he has done so in three straight games.

On Tuesday he scored his 11th World Cup goal, overtaking compatriot Gabriel Batistuta, who previously held the Argentine record.

He has now equalled former German player Lothar Matthaeus' record of 25 World Cup appearances.

Messi's performance

against Croatia at Lusail Stadium was typical of his late career -- a player who saves energy and spends long periods on the fringes of the game.

Yet for his country he is a captain who can still inspire and who always looks capable of creating something when the ball comes to his feet.

Goalkeeper Dominik Livakovic, who had been the hero in shoot-outs in the previous two rounds, had no chance of stopping Messi's first-half penalty.

Messi then sent Julian Alvarez away to make it 2-0 late in the first half with a first-time ball on a counterattack.

But he saved the best moment for midway through the second half with a magnificent assist, twisting and turning to make a fool of Croatia's Josko Gvardiol before teeing up Alvarez to score again.

"In the past 15 years he's probably been the best player in the world and today he was very good again," admitted the Croatia coach, Zlatko Dalic.

- 'The greatest' -

Messi is now level with Kylian Mbappe as the Qatar World Cup's leading scorer, with five goals, but his assist was further confirmation of how the former Barcelona player has evolved with age.

The PSG version spends much of his time creating goals for Mbappe, and now for Argentina he is doing the same for the exciting young striker Alvarez.

"Sometimes it seems like we say Messi is the greatest just because we are Argentine, but I think there is no doubt about it," said coach Li-



Lionel Messi of Argentina scores a goal from a penalty during the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 semi final match between Argentina and Croatia at Lusail Stadium - Getty Images

nel Scaloni.

"I am privileged to coach him and be able to watch him. It's thrilling."

Argentina's run to the final has not been entirely down to Messi -- their vast and passionate support turned the semi-final effectively into a home game, with fans filling Lusail with the sound of their anthem "Muchachos".

Scaloni has built a capable team around their one true great, taking Argentina into the final of the first World Cup since the death of Maradona.

Argentines may feel that it was meant to be, and Qatar will surely be delighted too.

Just over a year after he ended his long association with Barcelona and signed for Qatar-owned PSG, Messi's presence will light up the final in Doha.

But, depending on the outcome of Wednesday's second semi-final between France and Morocco, it could be his club teammate Mbappe blocking his path to glory.

Meanwhile, Nicolas Montez could tell from the roar coming from inside the Lusail Stadium that Lionel Messi had scored the opening goal in Argentina's World Cup semi-final triumph on Tuesday.

One of thousands of ticketless fans stood outside, the Argentinian said it would never have been so loud for anyone else.

"If it was Croatia, there would have been silence. Everyone in there is for Messi," added the 29-year-old who wore the number 10 Messi shirt in Argentina's sky blue and white colours that is seen everywhere in Doha.

"This is the first Argentina game I could not get a ticket for," said Santino Rosa, another Albiceleste fanatic.

"I am miserable not to be inside. But at least being here I know before the others that goals have been scored -- and it is even better if Messi has one."

More than 35,000 Argentina fans are report-

ed to have been in Qatar for the World Cup and many have stayed to see out the campaign and be in the city if Messi does finally win the trophy.

Many could not get tickets for the semi-final. Messi fanatics -- from his home country and South Asian migrant workers -- gathered at big screens across Doha.

- Ticket solidarity - Argentinian fans have set up WhatsApp groups to track available tickets and even find accommodation for those in need.

"If we hear of a ticket we try to help others," said Montez.

"But it was difficult for today, there were many disappointed fans and it will be even worse for the final."

The crowd outside the stadium grew as the match wore on.

Local families with children, all wearing the blue and white shirts or Argentine flags painted on their cheeks, also stared up at the stadium with the hard core who travelled from South America. Some watched

the game on mobile phones.

Street traders started to gather selling Argentina and Croatia scarves for 50 riyals (\$13), but struggled to find buyers.

Fifteen year-olds Aisha and Haya carried sky blue and white pom-poms to go with their shirts and waved their arms furiously as Julian Alvarez's goals were announced by further eruptions inside the stadium.

"We only really discovered football with the World Cup but we know Messi is special," said Aisha.

"It is impossible to get tickets now but we will be out again for the final," added Haya.

Thousands of people walked past the stadium to go and watch the match on a giant screen on Lusail Boulevard.

The FIFA Fan Festival near the Doha seafont closed its gates before the game started when it reached its 40,000 capacity.

Tens of thousands of migrant workers gathered at more than 10 fan zones set up for them around the edge of Doha.

Argentina are firm favourites with the foreign labourers whose treatment by Qatar has been in the spotlight in the runup to the World Cup.

And Argentina shirts have become the most popular fashion accessory of the World Cup whether in Doha's up-scale shopping malls or the industrial zone.

While official shirts can cost \$90 or more, fakes can be bought for as little as three dollars in some backstreet stores.

AFP

## Alvarez arrives as Messi's partner in crime

LUSAIL, Qatar

THE bad news for whoever faces Argentina in Sunday's World Cup final is that Lionel Messi now has a partner in crime.

Holders France were to face Morocco in the other semi-final later yesterday and as they watched from their hotels as Julian Alvarez scored twice in Tuesday's 3-0 semi-final win over Croatia, they must have had a sinking feeling.

Having earned the penalty which allowed Messi to open the scoring, Alvarez then exposed Croatia's defence, running with the ball from inside his own half to make it 2-0.

The number nine then wrapped up the win, in the second half, with a clinical finish from inside the box after being set up by some genius wing-play from Messi.

The 22-year-old Manchester City forward now has four goals in this tournament, placing him just one behind joint top scorers Messi and France's Kylian Mbappe.

"We deserved this. We played a great game today. We're in the final, which is what we wanted and now we need to rest and hope for a great

game on Sunday," said Alvarez after his greatest night in the famous light blue and white striped shirt.

"I'm happy on a personal level and for the group. We are happy with the way we are playing. We deserve to be in the final. That's what we wanted," he added.

Alvarez has had to fight his way into the starting line-up at this tournament with coach Lionel Scaloni initially preferring Inter Milan's Lautaro Martinez.

The forward started on the bench in the shock 2-1 defeat to Saudi Arabia that opened Argentina's group matches and the 2-0 win over Mexico that steadied Argentina's campaign.

- 'Conquer the world' - He made a first start in the 2-0 win over Poland that secured passage to the last 16 -- scoring the second goal -- and has been in the starting line-up since.

He scored the crucial second goal in the 2-1 victory over Australia in the round of 16 and then caused the Netherlands plenty of problems in the quarter-final.

Aside from the two goals on Tuesday, both taken in ice-cool fashion, Alvarez stretched the Croatian defence with



Argentina's Julian Alvarez scores his side's second goal during the World Cup semifinal soccer match between Argentina and Croatia at the Lusail Stadium in Lusail, Qatar, Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022. (AP Photo)

his constant running -- from deep with the ball and across the line without it.

It was a performance

that left Argentina coach Scaloni purring.

"Julian played very well, not just because of his goals but also

because he worked so hard to help against their three midfielders," Scaloni said.

"At his age it is normal

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Messi has chance to match Maradona as Argentina reach World Cup final

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**5** NIRVANA  
EATV THURSDAY

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

NIRVANA

NIRVANA is hip and edgy. It explores the latest trends in fashion, art, style and recreational activities. NIRVANA speaks to the trend makers, shapers and observers. Its a one stop shop for everything trendy.

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 WEEKEND MOVIE (r)  
13:30 Kafi za Wana  
14:00 Bongo Hits  
14:30 Ujenzi (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Ubongo Kids (r)  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:30 #HSHTAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Bongo Hits  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 NIRVANA  
21:30 TOP 10  
22:00 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa (r)  
23:05 EATV SAA 1

**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

## Spanish agents jet into Tanzania to recruit young players

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

FOOTBALL talent scouts from Spain are jostling each other in Arusha, searching for future soccer players in Tanzania.

So far the national Spanish League (La Liga), which showed interest first, and the Spanish Football Institute (SFI) are in Arusha to recruit new young players for their entities at the ongoing Chipkizi Cup, the youth soccer tourney.

Spanish Football Institute, through Director Pablo Verdejo, reveals that their presence in Tanzania, attending Chipkizi Cup, is to mainly recruit new young players who will be taken for sports trials in Spain.

"We are here to get some ideas and explain how we work in Spain. We shall combine that and try to find something good, promising young players that may get an opportunity to come to Spain and play with some teams. We glad to be here, the event is fantastic and the complex looks amazing," Verdejo said.

His partner, Daniel Hidalgo, says he will be participating in the tourney throughout the feat.

It is all happening here as the 13th season of East African Youth Soccer Tourney, Chipkizi Cup, kicks off in the city with aplomb.

The regional soccer event runs between December 12 and 18 at various venues in Arusha City.

More than 300 teams from across the globe, with over 4,000 personalities, between them are currently painting Arusha with soccer balls as the annual football event captures the city.

Alfred Itaeli, the Director of Future Stars Academy (FSA), which organizes the East African Youth Soccer Tourney, admits that there are many agents from various clubs coming to identify potential young footballers.

"We have 302 soccer teams participating in the tournament, from all the seven East African member states, as well as Africa and from overseas," he said.

Participating countries include Kenya, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Zanzibar, as well as others from abroad.

## Moshi Khalsa outfit triumphs in 2022 Uhuru Cup hockey tourney



Kilimanjaro's Moshi Khalsa hockey side's skipper Varinderpal Singh Bhamra (R) gets this year's Uhuru Cup tournament's trophy from one of directors of Yadav & Sons Ltd, Mayanta Yadav, whose company sponsored the showdown which was held in Arusha last week. Moshi Khalsa emerged as the showdown's champions with victory over Arusha's Black Mambaz in the final. PHOTO: COURTESY OF THA

By Guardian Reporter

**K**ILIMANJARO's Moshi Khalsa hockey side has lifted the 2022 Uhuru Cup tournament's title following the outfit's victory over Arusha's Black Mambaz by penalties in the final in Arusha last Sunday.

The showdown was organized by Sikh Union Club of Arusha in conjunction with Tanzania Hockey Association (THA).

Kaushik Doshi, THA spokesperson, noted that eight teams took part in the prestigious Uhuru hockey tournament.

The participants are Arusha Twigas, Dar es Salaam's TPDF squad, Kili Vijana, Arusha Legends, Moshi Khalsa, Tanga Stars, Zanzibar Nyuki, and defending champions Black Mambaz.

The preliminary phase ties which got underway on December 7 had seen Arusha Twigas walloping Arusha Legends 5-1, Moshi Khalsa clobbering Zanzibar Nyuki 3-0, and army squad TPDF went down 1-0 to Arusha Twigas in the first day.

In the following day Kili Vijana managed 1-1 draw with TPDF, Zanzibar Nyuki hammered Tanga Stars 2-0, while

Black Mambaz succumbed to 4-0 defeat to Moshi Khalsa.

TPDF later reorganized and thrashed Arusha Legends 7-0, while, Kili Vijana managed 1-1 draw with Arusha Twigas.

In other ties, Moshi Khalsa stretched their winning run with an emphatic 3-1 demolition of Tanga Stars, Kili Vijana knuckled down to a 1-1 draw with Arusha Legends, and Black Mambaz commanded 2-0 win over Zanzibar Nyuki.

Arusha Twigas walloped Arusha Legends 5-1, Moshi Khalsa commanded 3-0 win over Zanzibar Nyuki, army squad TPDF went down 1-0 to Arusha Twigas in the first day.

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The Uhuru Cup showdown was, according to the THA spokesperson, sponsored by Yadav & Sons Ltd.

All matches, the official revealed, were played at the Sikh Union Club's sports complex.

In the semi-finals, the tournament hosts Arusha Twigas drew with defending champions Black Mambaz during the normal time and they had to go for penalty shootout.

Black Mambaz calmed their nerves, commanding narrow 5-4 victory and making it to the final.

In the last four round's other clash Moshi Khalsa were lucky to get a slim one-goal victory over TPDF who played their hearts out and also put up lots of pressure in the Kilimanjaro squad's goal area.

Much as they showcased spirited showing, TPDF outfit's players were not fortunate enough to level matters given Moshi Khalsa held on to their 1-0 lead right up to the final whistle.

The showdown's final that took place on Sunday saw both Moshi Khalsa and Black Mambaz start making forays into each other's goal mouth with near misses on several occasions, with goalkeepers of both teams showcasing some daring saving skills.

All four quarters of 15 minutes each were played without any team conceding a goal.

The final whistle blew after 60 minutes with the scoreboard reading 0-0.

Earlier the same day, both teams had played their tough semi-final games in the morning and after resting for a couple of hours, defending champion Black Mambaz and Moshi Khalsa played final with little time for rest.

But all in all, both teams

displayed classic stick work and impressed the sport's fans who turned up making it difficult for the spectators to predict who was to garner victory.

A very big turnout of public was present along with the supporters of Moshi Khalsa who travelled all the way from Moshi to Arusha to cheer their team.

In the penalty shootout, Moshi Khalsa scored their goals through Varinder Singh Bhamra, Sultan Kondo, and Rashid Kondo, while Black Mambaz scored their only goal through Mark Fernandes, thus the scoreboard read 3 - 1 in favour of Moshi Khalsa.

As the tournament was sponsored by Yadav & Sons Ltd, one of the company's directors Mayanta Yadav presented various tokens of appreciation to all U-12 players besides other youths.

All of the tournament's technical officials as well as Tanzania Hockey Association officials were equally presented with tokens of appreciation.

The oldest player of the tournament was Onkar Singh, aged 62, the veteran played actively for Arusha Legends. He was also presented with an award.

Mayanta also presented the runners-up trophies to Black Mambaz players and winners' trophy to Moshi Khalsa players amid cheers from the supporters of both teams.

Meanwhile, Arusha Sikh Union Club Chairman, Monu Singh also appreciated the support rendered by sponsors of the tournament namely Yadav & Sons Ltd, Tanzania Hockey Association, technical officials and all participating teams without whom the tourna-

## KMC aim to turn things around at home against Coastal Union

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

KMC and Coastal Union square off in the afternoon looking for a much-improved second period of the 2022/23 NBC Premier League season.

Hosts KMC are looking to put an end to a miserable seven-match sequence without a win in the league.

During this period, KMC have also slipped to four defeats while also picking up points in three draws, sharing the spoils with Mbeya City, Geita Gold and Tanzania Prisons respectively.

Head coach Thierry Hitima knows that he is under pressure to deliver at the Uhuru Stadium. The KMC hierarchy is likely to provide the coach more time to change their fortunes, but the club currently sit just one point clear of the relegation zone.

Just six points separate 5th placed Geita Gold and 10th placed KMC, highlighting

that there is potential for KMC's season to go in either direction when they are resuming their schedule with a game of this magnitude.

Coastal Union make the trip to Dar having collected just seven points from eight games on their travels, but they managed a 2-1 win in their last away game.

Having overseen four straight defeats, it was a victory that was needed ahead of the start of the second period of the season as Coastal Union looked to move away from the relegation zone.

Coach Yusuf Chipo's troop will take inspiration from the record books that shows they have not lost to KMC in the NBC Premier League since January 2019 when they succumbed to a 5-2 loss.

They will enter this match off the back of a win, meanwhile, having beaten lower-tier side Tanga Middle 3-1 in the Federation Cup on Saturday afternoon to progress to the next round of the competition.



Yusuf Chipo

That said, only Mtibwa Sugar (25), Polisi Tanzania (23) and Ruvu Shooting (20) have conceded more times than

Coastal Union in the league this term, with the Tanga club shipping 19 goals in their 15 matches, and KMC's

attack will be looking to exploit that area of weakness this afternoon.

In head-to-head stats, KMC and Coastal Union have met in nine league matches since the 2017/18 season.

Coastal Union have claimed three wins compared to one for KMC, while five games have been drawn.

The Kinondoni side has claimed a single victory from four home matches in the rivalry, suffering one defeat in the process.

When the teams met earlier this season, at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in August, Coastal Union claimed a 1-0 home win thanks to a goal from Moubarak Amza from the spot kick.

'Wagosi wa kaya' are unbeaten in their last seven league matches against KMC.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

