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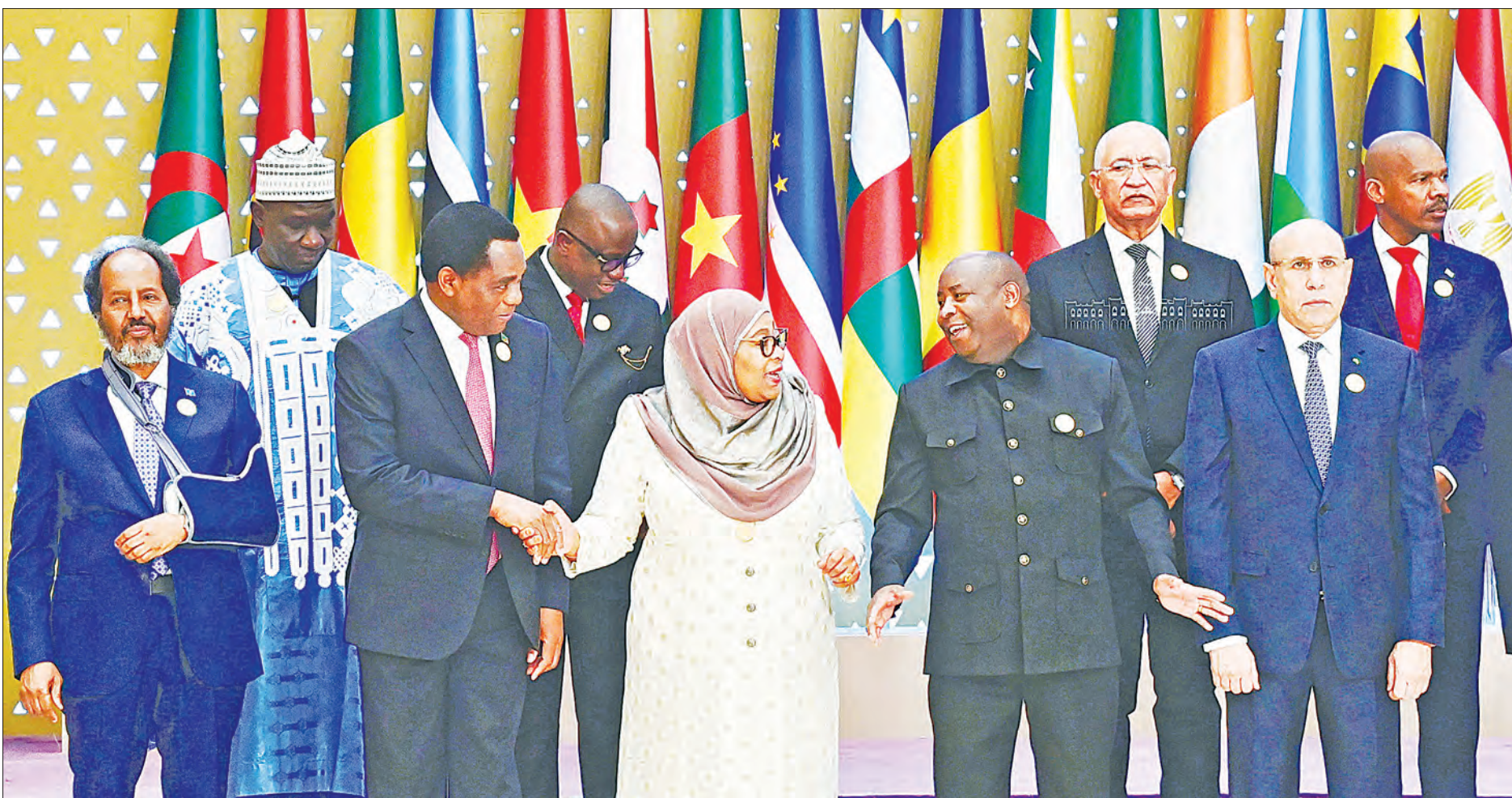
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# Govt tables bills proposing electoral, statutory reforms

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The commission will be an independent body which will make its own decisions not to be infringed or forced to follow directives from any individual, government institution or political party,



President Samia Suluhu Hassan shares a light moment with Burundi President Évariste Ndayishimiye (to her left) and Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema shortly before the start of the inaugural Saudi-Africa Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, yesterday. The summit was meant to enhance political coordination, address regional security threats, promote economic transformation through research and the local development of new energy solutions, and boost investment cooperation. Photo: State House

## 'Focus on human capital in Saudi Africa relations'

By Guardian Correspondent

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday joined other Heads of State from over 50 nations in Riyadh for the inaugural Saudi-African Summit.

In her speech President Samia said that Africa has what it takes to be a global food basket, meanwhile as there is a need for massive investment and mechanisation to modernise agriculture.

She said that Tanzania has set an agenda to boost agricultural sector growth from five to ten percent by 2030 via a budget increase from \$88m in 2020 to \$420m in 2023.

"Thus, we welcome the commitment of this summit to prioritize investment and safeguard regionally and global food security," she said, noting that for Africa and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to ensure full realisation of the outcomes of this summit, engagement, robust action and solidarity within African countries is vital.

This includes mobilisation of private and public resources for development interventions to advance the development agenda, she stated, hailing the Saudi authorities for partnership resolve with Africa on human capital development. In July, this year Tanzania hosted the continental human capital summit which underscored the importance of investment in the youth as a road map for prosperity.

"Our desire is to see that this new Africa-Saudi partnership builds on the commitment of African leaders by mobilising resources towards human capital development," the president declared.

The summit addressed shared security

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**KCB Group-sponsored driver eyes African Rally Championship title**

## Public Investments Authority to replace Treasury Registrar

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government yesterday tabled the Public Investment Bill (2023) for establishing the Public Investment Authority that will take over all the responsibilities of the office of the Treasury Registrar.

The bill was being tabled for its first reading, with National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson affirming that the bill is to be forwarded to the Public Investments Committee (PIC) of the legislature.

It will scrutinise it thoroughly and receive views from stakeholders before it is tabled in parliament for the second and third reading, respectively, before it is put to the floor for adoption.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, the Planning and Investments state minister in the President's Office, signed the bill, specifying in its purposes that it is intended to do away with specific challenges confronting the office of the Treasury Registrar.

This includes the lack of proper procedures on the selection of heads of public corporations and institutions along with members of the boards of directors of those entities.

The proposed authority, as envisaged in the bill, will include the supervision of the performance of public institutions

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## Climate funds: NEMC seeking viable projects

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has appealed to environmental institutions to prepare viable projects that can be proposed to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to submit them to the Vice President's Office (VPO) for processing and submission to the body.

Dr Selemani Jafo, the Union and Environment state minister in the Vice President's Office, said in a statement yesterday that the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) and the Zanzibar Environmental Management Authority (ZEMA) are seeking registration for credits from the fund, managed by the World Bank.

GCF is set within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as an operating entity of the financial mechanism to assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change effects.

The minister issued this appeal in the National Assembly when responding to Maryam Azani Mwinyi (Special Seats) who asked about the steps to register institutions in GCF.

The government is engaged in communication and discussions to ensure the registration of public institutions is completed, noting that six institutions have so far unsuccessfully applied.

This demands that more efforts are made, the statement noted, urging officials at the fund to accept the requests so that local institutions can access the use of the funds.

NEMC applied for registration

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# Govt tables bills proposing electoral, statutory reforms

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

**T**HE government yesterday tabled three bills to facilitate massive electoral reforms proposing the formulation of a revamped National Electoral Commission (NEC) with a special judicial panel responsible for vetting commissioners and the director of elections.

The National Electoral Commission Bill (2023), the Political Parties Affairs (Amendment) Bill (2023) and the Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Governments Elections Bill (2023), were read for the first time in the National Assembly yesterday.

The bills propose reforms in the conduct of elections and governing political activities, in the wake of promulgation of the 4Rs by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, related to perennial pressures for electoral law reform from political stakeholders.

"The commission will be an independent body which will make its own decisions not to be infringed or forced to follow directives from any individual, government institution or political party," reads section 6(1) of the National Electoral Commission Bill (2023).

The chairman and vice chairman will be Court of Appeal justices or judges of the High Court, registered as an advocate practicing for not less than 15 years.

Other members of the vetting panel will be required to be citizens of Tanzania by birth, trustworthy and competent in leadership, with the panel empowered to cite any other qualities it will consider important, the bill asserts.

The bill also restricts the modality of sailing unopposed by a candidate, as instead the candidate will be required to campaign and be voted for on a Yes or No vote.

The Political Parties Affairs, Laws (Amendment) Bill (2023) proposes to amend the Election Expenses Act (Cap. 278) and the Political Parties Act (Cap. 258) to strengthen the role of the Registrar of Political Parties in monitoring activities of political parties as well as strengthening compliance with laws and regu-

lations in political parties' activities.

Amending the law on election expenses at Section 7 seeks to remove the requirement for candidates to submit to an executive director, district administrative secretary or ward executive officer notification on the campaign team. The detail will instead be submitted to the returning officer and assistant returning officer, "to ensure that the notification is submitted to the right authority."

Political parties should include gender and social inclusion policy to increase participation of women and special groups in regular activities of each political party, the bill proposes.

Rashid Shangazi (Mlalo) said in reaction to the bill that stakeholders will issue their views on the proposals, underlining that President Samia has proved to be a reformer.

Tandahimba MP Katani Katani said the new reforms on the electoral body were overdue as political stakeholders have been calling for such changes for a long time.

Cecil Mwambe (Ndanda) said it is a great move, as activists and other concerned people have been complaining about sailing unopposed. "People were using this opening as a loophole to violate the rules of democracy, and now people will have the right to choose," he said.

Korogwe Rural MP Timotheo Mzava hailed the government for tabling the bills saying they will go a long way into expanding democratic space in the country.

"Under the current law the president was appointing commissioners but now the chairman and vice chairs who are the Union and Zanzibar chief justices, charged with recommending who is to be appointed the director of elections," he said.

Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) secretary general Fr. Dr Charles Kitima said that for the first time "Tanzania has decided to have an electoral body with its own law."

"This shows hope of what the future holds as people will have the right to choose candidates of choice contrary to what was witnessed in the 2020 general election," he added.



Guests including religious leaders and representatives of political parties are introduced in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. They were invited there to witness and follow proceedings in the Union legislative body, as various crucial draft pieces of legislation were being tabled. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Climate funds: NEMC seeking viable projects

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tion in 2021 while ZEMA was yet to submit such a proposal, the minister noted, stressing the wish that all environmental institutions apply for registration.

Obtaining registration depends on the need for environmental projects, he stated, affirming that ZEMA is working to solve the project's lacunae.

Due to environmental challenges in Zanzibar, the two governments are working together in

project design and implementation, he said, citing some of the projects as the construction of infrastructure to prevent sea waves from invading residential areas at Sipwese in Mkoani District, South Region - Pemba.

There is also an ecosys-

tem-based adaptation for rural resilience (EBARR) for North District 'A' of Zanzibar North Region and reversing land degradation trends and increasing food security in degraded ecosystems of semi-arid areas of Tanzania (LDFS), implemented

at Micheweni District, Pemba North Region.

Project criteria and indicators for registration as seen on the GCF website relate to impact potential, potential of the project or programme to contribute to achievement of GCF objectives and results ar-

There is also a paradigm shift potential, sustainable development potential, needs of the recipient, country ownership as well as efficiency and effectiveness, the statement added.



RAIN-INDUCED DANGER: A resident of Msigani in Dar es Salaam's Mbezi Luis suburb looks on helplessly yesterday at a house in clear danger of crumbling, with floodwaters courtesy of the ongoing heavy rains having burst the banks of the small river it borders. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

## Public Investments Authority to replace Treasury Registrar

FROM PAGE 1

and corporations, along with advising the government on the establishment or deregistering of such institutions.

It is also expected to facilitate ensuring that dividends from public institutions or companies in which the government owns shares are disbursed on time.

Other purposes were listed as identifying areas where the government has potential to invest, reviewing and confirming the welfare of supervisors of public institutions in collaboration with the public service ministry.

"Owing to various challenges in the administration of state entities, the government formed a team of experts to carry out an evaluation of the current system including taking current needs. The bill, if approved, strengthens the modality of issuance of dividends, aside from ensuring that loans and grants issued to the entities are repaid promptly.

# 'Focus on human capital in Saudi Africa relations'

FROM PAGE 1

concerns like regional conflicts and extremist insurgencies as one aspect of strengthening ties between Saudi Arabia and African nations. Saudi Arabia's commitment to solving African conflicts, as demonstrated by its involvement in Sudan's peace talks, indicates its role in fostering peace and development in Africa, participants noted.

Besides, the summit emphasised the need for educational programmes to drive societal transformation

in Africa, further marking Saudi Arabia's dedication to strengthening social ties.

The Saudi Fund for Development and the Islamic Development Bank, both financed by the Saudi authorities, are committed to supporting African development, showing the kingdom's recognition of Africa's economic potential and its willingness to forge stronger partnerships.

Initiatives like the iRead programme emphasise the broader cultural and educational dimensions of the summit's agenda, they said. Overall, the Saudi-African Summit

represents a critical juncture in the efforts to strengthen the ties between Saudi Arabia and African nations, emphasizing a multifaceted approach encompassing economic, political, cultural and educational parameters. Mohammed Al-Jadaan, the Saudi finance minister, said in his opening remarks that Saudi Arabia and the African continent share a "common history and destiny" while the partnership between the two sides was growing.

He said the summit is intended to enhance political coordination, address regional security threats

and boost economic transformation, fostering long-term partnerships between Saudi Arabia and the African Union.

Investment minister Khalid Al-Falih said the kingdom's euros 600bn wealth fund, the Public Investment Fund, would make some "game changing" investments in Africa. With its active engagement in development initiatives and its commitment to fostering peace and stability, Saudi Arabia is poised to shape the future of the continent and foster enduring partnerships with African nations, he stated. Separated by the narrow expanses

of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba, the geographical proximity of Saudi Arabia and the African continent means they have a long history of shared cultural and linguistic ties that pre-date the birth of Islam. Africa and Saudi Arabia largely share a common geography, common culture and common traditions. Formal ties were first established between the kingdom and several African nations in the 1960s, when they secured independence from European powers.



# Tanzania and Uganda sign agreement on construction of natural gas pipeline

By Guardian Reporter

THE governments of Tanzania and Uganda have signed an agreement to facilitate feasibility study for construction of natural gas pipeline from Tanzania to Uganda.

The agreement was signed in Dodoma on Thursday by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Energy, Dr Doto Biteko and Uganda's Minister for Energy and Mineral Development, Ruth Nankabirwa.

Biteko said that signing of the agreement was based on the preliminary agreement (Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two countries that was signed in August, 2018.

He said construction of the natural gas pipeline from Tanzania to Uganda follows large discoveries of natural gas in Tanzania's deep sea.

"We have agreed to conduct a feasibility study to facilitate project evaluation that will guide us in its implementation. The feasibility study will include the project structure, gas requirements, pipe size and other important information on the project that would help in decision making," said Biteko

Biteko said since energy is key to development of any country, the two nations have to make sure the resource is used accordingly for social and economic development of the people.

He said that, despite Tanzania discovering a large amount of natural gas, approximately 57.54 trillion cubic feet, and the demand for the resource is growing rapidly inside and outside the country, leading the government to direct efforts in search of more gas to meet the demand.

He said on-going exploration

for natural gas continues at various areas including Lake Eyasi, Wembere, Mnazi Bay, Songo Songo West, and Lake Tanganyika and in the deep sea.

He added that Tanzania continues to look for strategic partners who will be able to collaborate with the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) to research and develop sources of access to oil and gas.

Minister for Energy and Mineral Development from Uganda, Ruth Nankabirwa said Uganda recognizes the importance of the project, adding that there has been a great demand for the use of gas, hence reasons to facilitate acceleration of the project.

She asked the Joint Committee for the implementation of the project to ensure they speed up procurement processes as well as the feasibility for the project



Tanga Cement Plc managing director Reinhardt Swart (2nd-L) addresses the firm's shareholders annual general meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He is with (from-L) head of finance Pieter De Jager, board chairman Patrick Rutabanzibwa and board member Raymond Mbilinyi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

to start on time.

The Ugandan Minister noted that Tanzania and Uganda have been cooperating in various projects in the energy sector, including the Kikagati 14 Megawatt hydropower project, the project

to transport electricity from Masaka Mutukula to Mwanza and the East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline project.

The signing event was attended by various government leaders including Permanent Secretar-

ies of the specific ministries, Vice Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy and Minerals, Ugandan Ambassador to Tanzania and heads of various government institutions and agencies.

# Government outlines priorities in the 2024/2025 plan

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government has outlined priority and key areas to be integrated into the 2024/2025 development plans including artificial intelligence, gas economy and climate change opportunities specifically the area of carbon trade.

This derived from suggestions by Members of Parliament when the National Assembly sat as a committee for five consecutive days to debate the guidelines proposal for the National Development Plan and Budget for the 2024/2025 financial year.

The Minister of the State in the President's Office (Planning and Investment), Professor Kitila Mkumbo disclosed this yesterday in the General Assembly while clarifying on some of the issues which arose during the discussions.

"Through the debate, I have

learned a lot and got the chance to identify the needs of Tanzanians through their MP, and it is clear that Tanzanians have smart and keen lawmakers with a ray of expertise.

The Minister noted the establishment of a livestock and fisheries agency and a rural development agency, noting that almost every sector possesses a governing body therefore the area of livestock and fisheries also needs to keenly be looked at.

It indicates that the country's plans must take into consideration the above issues, noting that everything that the government is doing, the goal is to ensure individuals and the entire country benefits.

He also emphasized on rural development, saying the MPs have been backing the matter. The country already possesses a good foundation in the area citing the exam-

ple of the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA), whereby the rural road network of the country has rapidly expanded over the years.

Similarly, through the Rural Energy Agency (REA) majority of the villages have been electrified and water has continued to be widely accessible by rural dwellers through the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA).

"The same applies to health care services...if our people are supported to access quality education, health care, reliable water supply as well as linked to a good road network their chance to embark on lucrative income generating opportunities is unquestionable," he said.

Prof Kitila added: "We need to make use of this as a catalyst for growing the economies for our people and the country...that is why we have been stressing on the importance of attracting trade and invest-

ment in encouraging primary processing."

He noted that having a clear focus in any country's plans was very crucial. Through its 250,000 teachers, over 48,000 health staff have made Tanzania to record very few maternal mortality cases within Sub-Saharan Africa.

Thus, stressed on the importance of strengthen-



ing the country's accountability systems, building the capacity of public servants and advocating for good morals for children.

He pointed out that the President values all Tanzania's, emphasizing that her directives have always dwelled on putting people at the centre instead of putting their needs into jeopardy.

<p>JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA MAHAKAMA KUU YA TANZANIA KANDA YA MTWARA SHAURI LA ARDHI NA. 10/2022 SAIDI MBONDE.....MLALAMIKAJI</p>	
<p>DHIDI YA</p>	
1. LINDI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.....	MLALAMIKIWA
2. DOMINICK JOHN NGOLEKA.....	MLALAMIKIWA
3. YUSUFU LIKOKO.....	MLALAMIKIWA
4. HAMISI ABDALLAH.....	MLALAMIKIWA
5. ALLY SELEMANI SIMBA.....	MLALAMIKIWA
6. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.....	MLALAMIKIWA
<p>KUITWA SHAURINI</p>	
<p>KWA: YUSUFU LIKOKO - POPOTE ULIPO TANZANIA</p>	
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**Advertisement**

**REQUEST FOR QUOTATION**

**BUL-RFQ-23-11-02 - SUPPLY OF SANDVIK LH514 UNDERGROUND LOADER**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine ("the Company"), a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Quotes from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

**Sandvik LH514 Underground Loader Specifications:**

- 1 x Sandvik LH514 Underground Loader; Powertrain Volvo TAD1340VE engine (256Kw, Euro Stage II/Tier 2) with power core air filtering, exhaust pipe with thermal insulation, catalytic purifier and muffler; Dana SOH 9000 series converter with lock-up; Dana SOH 6000 series power shift transmission with modulation and automatic gear shifting and DeClutch; Kessler axles with spring applied hydraulic operated wet disk brakes and limited slip differential; Tires 26.5x25 L5S; Operator's compartment ROPS&FOPS Certified safety canopy height 2540mm; Frame high strength structure with optimized material thickness; Hydraulic tank and cabin base welded to frame; Bucket GET abrasion system 5.4m<sup>3</sup>, width 2770mm, max density 2600kg/m<sup>3</sup>; Hydraulics door interlock for brakes, boom, bucket, and steering hydraulics; Load sensing hydraulic system with piston pumps.

**Key documents:**

- Clear and detailed Quotation.
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- BRELA detailed search document indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of dealership as required.
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner.



**Submission of Quotes:**  
Please submit your quotes via email to [bulytender@barrick.com](mailto:bulytender@barrick.com). The reference "BUL-RFQ-23-11-02 - SUPPLY OF SANDVIK LH514 UNDERGROUND LOADER" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.

**NB:** The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a quote through this advertisement.

If you do not hear from us in 21days after the deadline date, please consider your bid/quote unsuccessful.

Key Dates:  
• Last date to submit quotes: **18<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

*Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited*

**Advertisement**

**REQUEST FOR QUOTATION**

**BUL-RFQ-23-11-01 - SUPPLY OF SANDVIK DL321 UNDERGROUND LONG HOLE DRILL RIG**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine ("the Company"), a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Quotes from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

**Sandvik DL321 Underground Long Hole Specifications:**

- 1 x Sandvik DL321 Underground Long Hole Drill Rig; Deutz TCD2012 diesel engine (74Kw Tier3); NC5 carrier with hydrostatic transmission; FOPS/ROPS (ISO3449) operator's cabin; HL820ST hydraulic rock drill; LFR0700 drilling module; Front and rear stinger; ZR20 telescopic boom; TPC LH hydraulic system; TAS drilling control system; HPP875 power pack (75Kw); WBP2 water booster pump; TCR1 automatic cable reel and remote control; Trimming cameras(front, side and rear); Electric filling pump for hydraulic oil; SLU1 shank lubrication device; CTN10 air compressor for shank lubrication; Carrier jacks (rear); Cabin air conditioning system;

**Key documents:**

- Clear and detailed Quotation.
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
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- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner.

**Submission of Quotes:**  
Please submit your quotes via email to [bulytender@barrick.com](mailto:bulytender@barrick.com). The reference "BUL-RFQ-23-11-01 - SUPPLY OF SANDVIK DL321 UNDERGROUND LONG HOLE DRILL RIG" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.

**NB:** The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a quote through this advertisement.

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Key Dates:  
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*Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited*





The National Electoral Commission's Director of Elections, Ramadhani Kailima (L), and Director of the Department of Enrolment of the Permanent Register of Voters and ICT, Geoffrey Mpangala (2nd-L), pictured in Dodoma city yesterday displaying newly acquired BVR (biometric voter registration) kits. Tests on the use of the items will be held in Mara and Tabora regions from November 24 to 30. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Over 5,000 flood victims in Juba seeking assistance

By Elvince Joshua

MORE than 5,000 flood-affected people in Mangalla Payam, Juba County, are appealing for humanitarian assistance.

The people had been affected by the recent rain that caused flooding and forced them to relocate to Lado Payam.

Addressing the communities on Thursday, Charles Lado, the community leader, said several assessments have been conducted by different organisations, but no assistance has reached them yet.

"There was a lot of assessment done, but there is no outcome. This time, if there is any organisation that is willing to support the people, they should act immediately because people are suffering here in Lado Payam and need food and medicine," Charles said.

According to Charles, food and medicine are the first priority since the communities left Mangalla without anything and are currently sheltering in schools.

He said most of the people are surviving on fish since all their crops have been washed away by the recent rain.

However, the representative of women, Mary Juan, said they came all along from Te-Bari on Monday.

She said all their belongings had been destroyed by the flood.

According to Juan, they are facing a lot of challenges including a lack of access to clean drinking water.

She said despite the presence of health facilities, they do not have medicine and could be negatively affected if there is an outbreak of diseases. "We are in the rainy season and there are a lot of disease outbreaks, so we need medicine in those facilities."

"Now that we have lost everything and we are starting life afresh, what we need currently is help from the government and organizations; we need access to clean drinking water here."

"The only disease that we are suffering from here is malaria and typhoid because we are not sleeping under the mosquito nets and drinking unclean water," Juan said.

## Government receives mobile clinics from AKHS to enhance primary health care

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Aga Khan Health Service, Tanzania (AKHS, T) has delivered two fully equipped mobile clinics to the government in support of primary health care by enhancing healthcare access for underserved and remote communities.

The mobile clinics handed over to the Ministry of Health in Dodoma are aimed at playing a pivotal role in addressing health disparities, especially in areas with limited access to health care.

Dr Zeenat Sulaiman, Regional

Chief Executive Officer, Aga Khan Health Services, East Africa, stated that one of his organization's strategic objectives is to continuously improve its service in the delivery system.

Speaking at the event, Minister for Health Ummu Mwalimu directed that the mobile clinics worth 618,477,000m/- should be used in the fight against Tuberculosis (TB), AIDS and Malaria, especially to bring in new patients.

"We still have about 35 percent of TB patients in our houses, our offices, our villages and on our

streets, so I really believe these mobile vehicles will be used in the fight against TB disease by bringing new patients, the fight against Malaria and AIDS" she said.

She has also said that the vehicles (Mobile Clinic) will be providing modern health services in communities that are far from health services centers as well as walking in markets and bus stop stands to provide diagnosis services.

She directed that vehicles should also be used to provide vaccination services to children who should be vaccinated, and should also be

used in the fight against non-communicable diseases and if a person is found to be challenged then he should be told to go to a health service center for further treatment.

Minister Ummu said that Tanzania has the challenge of non-communicable diseases including Diabetes where in every 100 people aged 15 and above 9 people have Diabetes, the challenge of people with High Blood Pressure which is 25 percent and they do not know if they are sick.

She extended her sincere gratitude to President Dr Samia Suluhu

Hassan for caring about Tanzanians Health by developing collaborations with various countries that are willing to invest in our country especially in the health sector.

She has also thanked the Aga Khan - Tanzania leadership and the German Development Bank (KfW) for investing in the Health Sector and for continuing to support the efforts of the Sixth Phase Government in improving the delivery systems of Health services in the country.

On his part, the President's Office Regional Administrations and Lo-

cal Government Authorities (RALGA) Deputy Permanent Secretary Dr. Wilson Mahera has said that the vehicles (Mobile Clinic) will help access health services quickly in communities that are far from health centers.

He also said that they will manage and implement all the instructions given by the Minister of Health Ummu, including good management and the development of the project, including all the activities that will be carried out by the mobile clinic vehicles.

## Korea's Exim Bank extends 400bn/- in loan for construction of Binguni referral hospital

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar government has secured a soft loan worth \$163.6 million (400bn/-) from Korea's Exim Bank to support the construction of Binguni referral hospital in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Speaking yesterday here during the signing of the loan agreement, deputy permanent secretary in the Ministry of Finance Amina Khamis Shaaban said that the funds will greatly accelerate construction of the strategic project in Isles.

According to her, after the government saw that the project was important, it decided to seek a loan from the Korean bank where they responded positively.

She said the project has a total cost of \$190million (470bn/-) and Exim bank will finance the \$163.6 million with major focus being on the areas of construction, training and for the Isles to have a large referral hospital.

"This project is very important for Zanzibar and Tanzania in general and once completed, it will greatly help cut referral of patients abroad while

providing health professionals a place for practical training," he said.

Dr Marijani Msafiri, director of medicine at the Zanzibar's Ministry of Health said the hospital will be providing specialist and emergency services thus supporting the Mnazi Mmoja hospital which has undergone major renovations. He said the biggest problem which the Ministry of Health was facing was the high cost of transporting patients to Tanzania mainland and abroad.

"We have contracts with three hospitals which are the Muhimbili National Hospital, Muhimbili Orthopedic Institute (MOI) and the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI). We have been paying a lot of money to send our patients with others being transported to India due lack of specialist services, but with the new hospital, the situation will change," he explained.

He said that the new hospital will be equipped with 500 beds offering modern medical services in spine and brain surgery while hiring cardiologists who will be involved in heart surgeries, kidney treatment services including kidney transplant and spe-



Mara regional commissioner Said Mtanda makes remarks at a sensitisation seminar held in Musoma municipality yesterday for employees due for retirement within the next five years. It was organised by the Tanzania Teachers' Union. He is flanked by the union's Mara regional chairman, Abdallah Malima (L), and Mara regional administrative secretary Msalika Makungu. Photo: Correspondent

cialist services in children's diseases and many other services.

Dr Msafiri added that the project will

also involve construction of 30 houses for workers adding that he ministry will

continue with the process looking for a

competent contractor for the construction of the hospital next year.

## Indian consortium set to produce more coal in Mozambique

MAPUTO

INDIA'S International Coal Ventures Limited (ICVL) consortium announced on Monday plans to invest more than US\$150 million to double coal output from its concessions in Mozambique to 4 million tonnes, reports Lusa.

ICVL comprises three state-owned Indian steel manufacturers - SAIL (Steel Authority of India Ltd), NMDC (National Mineral

Development Corporation) and RINL (Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd) - which in turn own two locally incorporated companies in Mozambique to mine and transport the coal.

Minas de Benga owns an operating coal mine in the district of Moatize, in Tete Province, which is also home to one of the mining concessions held by ICVL Zambezi, along with four others in the eastern part of the province

The Benga open-cast coal mine, which began operations in late 2012, has proven reserves of 236 million tonnes and a state-of-the-art coal handling and processing plant.

Coal produced there travels east to the port of Beira, in Sofala Province, via ICVL-owned trains. The company's fleet includes 15 locomotives and 310 wagons with an average capacity of 62 tonnes, capable of moving more than 1.6 mil-

lion tonnes of coal a year.

Coal is Mozambique's largest single export, bringing in US\$2.8 billion last year. India, a frequent top buyer of Mozambican coal, accounted for US\$1.2 billion (42.86%) of the total.

Authorities have raided the forest of Quirimbas National Park, in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province, in a bid to crack down on excessive logging, according to a report in Africa Monitor.

Chinese timber companies have been granted logging rights to areas within the 6,000-square-kilometre park, but are now felling trees beyond the area originally authorised by the government, the report says.

Beijing's bans on timber extraction domestically, as well as incentive policies that include tax-exempt status for imports of unprocessed timber, have fuelled the logging trade as Chinese

companies seek to cash in on high American and European demand for China-processed wood products.

Local data reveals that Mozambique, already among the five largest suppliers of African timber to China, is exporting three to five times more than the official volume.

While not a new problem, unauthorised logging has been increasing significantly in recent years. The trade in such timber is reportedly

done in collaboration with Mozambican middlemen who store the timber until it can be exported by sea. The report alleges that forestry employees are using their logging licences to sell cut timber to foreign buyers.

An investigation in 2013 revealed that Mozambique was losing millions in revenue due to illegal logging by Chinese companies, which Africa Monitor says is also taking place in Gorongosa National Park.





Vedastus Maribe (L), the Tanzania National Roads Agency's (Tanroads) Mara regional manager, briefs journalists in Musoma yesterday on progress in the construction of a 35.048bn/- airport in the municipality. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

# Construction of Musoma airport now at 52 percent

By Guardian Correspondent, Mara

CONSTRUCTION of the 35.048bn/- Musoma airport has reached 52 percent, expected to open doors for increased tourism along with the growth of the economy and other opportunities for residents in Mara and neighbouring regions.

The airport is built in Musoma Municipal Council in Mara region by the Chinese contractor-Beijing Construction Engineering Group Ltd (BCEG) is supervised by the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS).

TANROADS Manager in Mara Region, Eng Vedastus Maribe told journalists yesterday that the construction work started on April 30th, 2021 and is expected to be completed in December 2023.

He said the contractor has already been paid more than 6.750bn/-, adding that construction of a one kilometre runway has been completed as well as expansion of the airport by 1,705 meters.

Eng. Maribe said the airport will have fire and rescue buildings, electrical houses, drainage systems to prevent water from entering the airport, aircraft parking and a fence to ensure no one enters the premises. He said that Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) is expected to launch trips to Musoma as soon as construction is completed.

pleted.

He said various economic and job opportunities will be created after completion of the airport which includes opening up the tourism sector as visitors will be able to travel in a more convenient manner.

"Some tourists coming to our national parks were using Kenya's airports to reach Mwanza and Musoma. Completion of our airport will enable them to directly land in Tanzania," said Eng Maribe adding that residents are also set to benefit with the investment as they will be able to sell their various products to tourists. Eng Maribe said they are also repairing a network of roads (1,426.92 kilometres) and 495 bridges surrounding the airport, a project which will cost 280bn/-.

He said they have started installing traffic lights, a move that is aimed at enabling entrepreneurs to do their business during the day and night. He said they have allocated 1.6bn/- in the 2023/2024 financial year to complete the project.

One of the businessmen in Musoma town, Chacha Samweli said the airport is currently used by small planes to carry tourists, noting its expansion will enable large planes to land.

He said completion of the facility will reduce transport costs as they are spending a lot of money to travel by buses from Musoma-Mwanza-Dar es Salaam.

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

## Mathuki: Somalia could join EAC this month

EAST African Community (EAC) Secretary-General Peter Mathuki says Somalia could be admitted to the bloc this month.

An Ordinary Heads of State Summit is scheduled for November 23-24 in Arusha, and the region's presidents are expected to endorse Somalia's accession.

Dr Mathuki told a panel at the Africa Investment Forum in Marrakech, Morocco, that the bloc is looking to expand to the entire Horn of Africa, with Ethiopia having expressed interest in joining it after Mogadishu.

"The East African Community is one of the building blocks of the African Union and its fast growing. We have DR Congo as the latest member, plus Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Burundi, Rwanda, and Uganda. That is a market of around 300 million people. And this November, we are likely to admit Somalia into the Community. The coastline of the East African Community will stretch almost 500,000 kilometres. And we look forward to more expansion; we are looking at Ethiopia, which has

shown interest in joining the Community. So, at the end of the day, we are looking at a market of close to 700 million people," he said.

The panel comprising leaders of African economic blocs, EAC, Comesa, Southern African Development Community and Ecowas, was discussing the quest to integrate Africa.

Dr Mathuki said the EAC is people-centred and emphasised the role of the private sector in driving intra-regional trade and integra-

tion. He said intra-EAC trade had grown twofold in the past decade, from less than 10 percent to around 20 percent currently.

Leaders who spoke at the forum extolled the role of transport corridors in integrating Africa and facilitating the implementation of the continental free trade area, AfCFTA.

Burundi's Infrastructure minister Dieudonne Dukundane said the standard gauge railway from the port of Dar es Salaam to Burundi and DR Congo was going to be a

game-changer in trade and exploitation of the rich mineral potential the three countries have, noting that once complete it would save his country about \$70 million in transport costs.

"Failing to invest in a railway has been costly to our economy. We are 1,500 kilometres from the port of Dar es Salaam. When we take a round trip this makes 3,000 kilometres. And relying on roads means that you only carry 25 or 28 tonnes. With a railway in place it will help

us save nearly \$100 per tonne. And, if we were running a business of nearly a million tonnes per year, we'd be saving not less than \$70 million. So without a railway, in 10 years, we would have lost nearly \$1 billion. This is the amount that is needed to build one," the minister said.

Dr Mathuki said he was pushing for investment in infrastructure projects on the main corridors linking the Great Lakes with the ports of Dar and Mombasa to boost trade.

"The deal is, let us invest in infrastructure. We may be late, but better late than never," he said.



Commissioner of Insurance Dr Baghayo Saquare (R) speaks at an event held in Dar es Salaam yesterday to mark Reliance Insurance Company Ltd's 25th anniversary. Looking on (L-standing) is the firm's CEO, Ravi Shankar. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## EWURA wants to see more firms take part in bulk oil importation

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has called for more participation of private companies in the bulk oil importation through Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency (PBPA) to increase competition and ultimately lower fuel prices.

According to EWURA, there are now five companies participating in the oil importation tender despite the PBPA approving 18 companies. It said the lower participation of companies in the process continues affecting fuel prices due to low competition.

EWURA Director, James Andilile made the remarks in Dar es Salaam recently when speaking to editors and journalists on the development of the oil, water and natural gas sector.

"We have instructed PBPA to motivate owners of all the 18 companies that have been approved to participate in the tender process for oil importation as only five to eight participated in the process," he said.

He said Tanzania Petroleum De-

velopment Corporation (TPDC) has also started participating fully in the tender process, adding that TPDC has won some tenders in the bulk fuel importation tender in December this year.

"Decisions by TPDC to participate in the process have seen a positive trend as fuel prices have started to fall; we will continue to encourage more companies to participate in the tenders," he added, noting that they have changed some conditions for oil importing companies whereas those with valid licences and have not imported the liquid for three months will have their licences revoked.

He said EWURA is working on the advice of people and leaders who want the prices of fuel lowered whereas the authority has visited Zambia, Ghana, Ethiopia and Egypt to see how they operate to ensure similar fuel prices in all the regions.

In order to protect consumers from the effect of the international energy price crisis, the government implemented a subsidy on petroleum products from June 1st 2022, budgeted at 100bn/-.

## UP to 6,000 Rwandese refugees 'safely resettled' in 2023 - IOM

KIGALI

UP to 6,600 refugees from Rwanda were "safely" resettled in third countries in 2023, according to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

With the departure of 13 refugees on a flight bound for Toronto, Canada, on Wednesday, November 8, the total number of refugees resettled from Rwanda reached 30,000 since 2010, the IOM said.

They include nearly 1,300 asylum seekers who were evacuated from Libyan detention centres through an emergency transit mechanism between the Rwandan government and the United Nations refugee agency.

By the end of September, Rwanda was home to more than 135,000 refugees, mostly from DR Congo and Burundi, according to the UN. Over 90 per cent of them live in camps.

According to the IOM, the resettlement programme is one of "durable solutions" for refugees and people in need of international protection.

*Shubh Deepawali & Nutan Varshabinandhan*  
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Monica Alex (R), an official community-based organisation WAJIKI, briefs a Dar es Salaam resident who visited the agency's pavilion in the city yesterday on ways to combat sexual corruption. It was during the climax of ward-level gender festival. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

## TEC appeals to govt to hire grads from CUHAS to address gaps in health sector

By Wilhelm Mulinda, Mwanza

SECRETARY General of the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC), Father Charles Kitima has appealed to the government to also prioritize hiring doctors graduating at Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS) in order to help address experts' gap in the health sector.

Kitima made the appeal here recently when speaking to journalists on the sidelines of the commemorations of 20 years of CUHAS.

The commemorations are themed: 20 years of CUHAS collaborative research for the transformation of health services: success, challenges and prospects.

Kitima said that CUHAS produces medical doctors every year, noting that the challenge existing is lack of employment opportunities therefore the government should solve it by employing them so that they can give contribution in delivery of health services.

He said that there is a big number of doctors who have graduated from the university but have not been employed.

He pointed out that university has reduced the number of people going outside the country for medical studies, a thing that benefits the nation.

"When we commemorate the

20th anniversary of CUHAS we remember efforts by the Catholic Church and the government to produce medical doctors," he said.

According to him, the university does not only produce doctors but also conducts research on different diseases affecting people.

Director General of Bugando Medical Centre (BMC), Dr Fabian Massaga said that research has helped to improve the health of people.

"Researches have helped to get various vaccines and therefore the government should set aside funding for conducting research with a view to improve the health of people," he said.

He also praised the Parliament for passing the bill on the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) saying that this will help people to access quality and affordable medical services.

CUHAS is located at Bugando Hill, within Bugando Medical Centre premises in Mwanza city.



**Researches have helped to get various vaccines and therefore the government should set aside funding for conducting**

## Call for students to change classroom theories into practice and discover new technologies

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIA needs innovative youth who will be able to change classroom theories into practice and discover new technologies to bring positive changes in the society.

Stella Kahwa, the chief executive officer of the Weight Measurement Agency (WMA) made the remarks recently in Dar es Salaam during the College of Business Education (CBE) 58th Convocation.

"I have visited your exhibitions and seen various innovations of stu-

dents and even entrepreneurs who have gone through the incubation programme have been able to package their products so professionally. For sure I was very surprised to see such good standards," she said.

She praised the college for introducing an incubation and apprenticeship programme that has enabled students to study in practice and break the boundaries of theory by doing research projects in practice.

She said at the beginning of the college had a few tutors with Masters Degrees but now they have doubled

and have helped the college to produce excellent graduates who can be employed even abroad.

"I was a student of this college in the metrology programme at that time, the college was not like this. When I arrived here, I was very surprised to see great changes. I remember I was the only girl in a class of 25 metrology students," said Stella who graduated in the 23rd graduation of the college 35 years ago.

CBE Rector, Professor Edda Lwoga said that from next year they will start teaching some of its courses online to enable more people to

study those business courses.

She said CBE has been collaborating with various institutions to ensure they provide the best graduates and they have signed a contract with the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), WMA and (e-Government) in order to run apprenticeship and internship programmes.

She said CBE has continued to strengthen relations with foreign colleges and currently eight employees of the college are studying Doctorate Degrees (PhD) in China on business informatics and ac-

counting.

She also said that the college has a good relationship with the Eastern University of Finland where they have been producing professionals in the field of business and five teachers have already graduated at PhD level.

The Rector further said the official guest at the business conference is expected to be the former President of the fourth phase government Jakaya Kikwete.

She said that CBE has been improving the curricula and in the past five years they have succeeded to introduce 10 programmes to

the market from Diploma level to Bachelor's degree.

Director of the Tanzania Business Development Authority (Tantrade), Latifa Khamis said the success that the college has recorded, makes her proud to be one of the alumni.

"With this speed of reform within CBE, the future is exciting. We at Tantrade have spoken with the rector of the college and there are many things we will cooperate with the college to promote various areas in the country and abroad," she added.

## AfDB President calls for investment in special agro-industrial processing zones

MARRAKECH

AKINWUMI Adesina, President of the African Development Bank (AfDB) has called for investment in Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAPZs) at the Africa Investment Forum in Marrakech, Morocco.

"We must end the export of raw agricultural commodities," Adesina said. "Africa must process its own cashew, cotton, coffee, tea, cocoa, cassava, fruits, and vegetables."

Africa has a comparative advantage in agriculture, with 65% of the world's uncultivated arable land. The continent's population is expected to reach 2.5 billion by 2050, creating a huge consumption market for food.

"The size of Africa's food and agriculture market will be worth \$1 trillion by 2030," Adesina said. "So, think differently, and invest differently. The new millionaires and billionaires of Africa will not come from the oil and gas industry, they will be from food and agriculture."

The AfDB has provided financing of \$853m to support the establishment of SAPZs and has

mobilized over \$661m from other development partners.

"The momentum of transformative change is in Africa's favour," Adesina said. "It's time for Africa to be a player in global food and agricultural value chains. It's time for Africa to fill aeroplanes and ships with processed and value-added foods and agricultural commodities."

The AfDB has launched the Alliance for Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones with founding partners Afreximbank, Islamic Development Bank, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and Arise Integrated Industrial Platforms.

The Alliance has the goal of mobilizing at least \$2bn in financing and investment commitments from Alliance members and partners over the next five years.

"I call on you, the investment community here today, to take advantage of unprecedented opportunities in Africa's increasingly dynamic and profitable food and agricultural sector," AfDB President said. "Invest in the Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAPZs) and be part of the new wealth of Africa."



A College of Business Education student (with microphone) briefs Weights and Measures Agency CEO Stella Kahwa (L) on home security systems she said they have devised. It was during the college's convocation held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## WHO unveils framework for climate-resilient and low-carbon health systems

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Health Organization (WHO) has unveiled a new operational framework for building climate resilient and low carbon health systems.

Released in the lead up to the upcoming United Nations Framework Convention on Climate (COP-28), the framework is designed to enhance the resilience of health systems while simultaneously reducing greenhouse gas emissions to help safeguard the health of communities world-

wide.

Building climate resilient and low carbon health systems contributes to WHO's commitment to providing safe, quality healthcare services while helping combat the root causes of climate change.

Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General said: "Around the world, health systems are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, but they also contribute to it. "We therefore have a dual responsibility to build health systems that can withstand climate-related shocks, while at the same

time reducing their carbon footprint. This framework gives countries a roadmap for doing just that."

Dr Ghebreyesus said the benefits of implementing the framework extend far beyond the realm of health care.

"By reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing the resilience of health systems, we are contributing to the broader objectives of universal health coverage (UHC), global health security, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," he said.

As global temperatures rise and extreme weather events become increasingly common, the need for climate resilient health systems has never been more critical.

The WHO framework provides a visionary path to addressing this challenge, with a core mission to protect and improve the health of populations in the face of an unstable and changing climate.

It emphasizes the optimization of resource use and the implementation of strategies to curtail greenhouse gas emissions while continuing to prioritize cli-

mate resilience.

The framework presents an opportunity for the health sector to lead by example by reducing its own greenhouse gas emissions - which are now responsible for almost 5 percent of the global total - while continuing to enhance quality of care.

It presents different pathways for health systems to strengthen their climate resilience and decarbonize depending on their overall performance, levels of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change and health capacity.



## Russian varsities showcase educational, scholarship chances to Tanzanian youth

By Getrude Mbago

MORE than 200 young Tanzanians wishing to enter Russian universities have gathered in Dar es Salaam for three days in a special education exhibition organized to enable the group explore the educational opportunities.

Commenced on Thursday and expected to end today, the exhibition attracted over 15 best universities in Russia to speak with the Tanzania students seeking admission to higher education programmes abroad.

It has been organised collaboratively by the Russian Cultural Centre in the country, Rosotrudnichestvo and International Institute of Education and Development.

Speaking during the opening of the exhibition, Shievstvov Pavel, deputy head of Rosotrudnichestvo of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federal said that the exhibition has been conducted every year with an aim to showcase the quality of education systems in Russia, universities and various opportunities.

"Russia will continue improving its systems to ensure that it caters to the educational and skills

needs of various nations, we have a number of courses which aligns with the current development changes, so this guarantees foreigners graduate with required knowledge to help them make positive changes in their societies back home," he said.

He commended the government of Tanzania for its continued efforts to cement the existing relations between the two countries in various fields of development.

Vladimir Nechaev, rector at Sevastopol State University said that the varsity offers courses ranging from engineering, environment, humanities, medicines, nuclear physics and many other exceptional courses.

He said the university is located near black Sea in Southern Russia and has favourable warm weather to enable students from any nation to stay and study well.

He noted that Russian universities are getting tremendously popular among the African students for their affordability, quality, and global reputation.

Director of the Russian Culture Centre in the country, Alexey Bondaruk said the exhibition has



Michael Muhoja, Tanzania Revenue Authority's Commissioner for Large Taxpayers, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday opening a meeting on tax policies jointly organised by the agency and UNDP. Second left is the UNDP's Resident Representative in Tanzania, Shigeki Komatsubara. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

been organized to bridge the gap and help the students identify their desired university for their dream- becoming a doctor, engineer, pilot, language expert and others in a single space.

He said during the three days, applicants will be able to get acquainted with educational programmes and rules for entering

universities in Moscow, Sevastopol, Tver, Tula and others.

"Russian specialists will introduce the audience to educational programmes and areas of training, scientific work carried out at the universities as well as scholarship programmes, opportunities provided universities, study and extracurricular

life of students," he said.

Bondaruk emphasized the forum's role in showcasing the high quality of Russian education, continuing the Soviet higher school traditions responding to any personnel demands of the national economies of friends across Africa.

ENDS/sm

## Geologists' conference paves way for collaboration with foreign experts

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has underscored the need for cooperation between local and international geologists in natural gas and oil explorations.

He made the remarks when speaking at the opening of the Tanzania Geological Society (TGS) conference held in the Isles on Thursday.

In his speech that was read by Zanzibar Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals, Shaibu Hassan Kaduwara, Mwinyi said such cooperation would enable the experts to share and exchange knowledge.

He however noted that most of the institutions in Tanzania mainland have gone an extra mile in the oil and gas exploration, adding the Isle government plans to use the experts for its exploration activities.

He said the government aims to ensure 85 percent availability of clean and safe water by 2025, a move that requires concerted efforts of experts from both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.

The President urged the Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA) to work closely with the experts from TGS to ensure availability of water services to the people, es-

pecially those in rural areas.

President of the Tanzania Geological Society, Dr Elisante Mshiu said geologists from Tanzania mainland are expected in Zanzibar this month to start preparations which include developing a map that will provide guidelines in the exploration process.

Dr Mshiu called upon girls students to opt for geologist courses when joining higher learning institutions. He said by joining the studies they position themselves better in the job market within and outside the country.

He said the courses are important because students are equipped with various knowledge and can be able to work in gas, oil and other related activities including exploration for water.

He said in the past five years, the number of students enrolling for the courses has increased tremendously.

One of the graduates from the University of Dar es Salaam, Aziza Amour Juma called upon fellow girls to join the geologist courses since it is among the areas with a number of employment opportunities.

TGS Chairman of the Advisory Board, Prof Abdulkareem Mruma, called upon the experts from both sides of the Union to work together in ensuring the government achieves its targeted goals.



MEDIA COUNCIL OF TANZANIA

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### Background

The Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) is an independent, voluntary, self-regulatory body with the objective of promoting freedom of the media and ensuring the highest professional standards and media accountability in the United Republic of Tanzania.

MCT is implementing a five-year Programme Strategy (2023 - 2027) that aims at expanding the perimeters of freedom of expression and of the media as well as promoting professionalism and accountability in order to ensure that the Tanzania media contributes effectively to the country's development and democratic processes.

As part of implementation of its Strategy, MCT would like to recruit a competent Tanzanian to fill the vacancy of SENIOR FINANCE OFFICER as elaborated below:

**Position:** Senior Finance Officer

**Reports to:** Executive Secretary

**Overall Responsibility:** To ensure that accounting and financial management of MCT's operations are in strict compliance with MCT financial policies, regulations, procedures, donor agreements, IFRS/ IPSAs and best practices. Provide quality and timely advice on matters of finance and financial management and provide timely and accurate financial and management reports.

#### Job descriptions:

- Supervises the day-to-day function of the finance unit;
- Provide technical advice to the team on the preparation of the plans and budgets for optimal use of resources;
- Assist to develop project budgets and fundraising;
- Oversee preparations of financial reports and submit to Executive Secretary-;
- Review and prepare Financial Management Reports which include but are not limited to, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual financial reports;
- Ensure compliance of MCT with laws and regulations relating to tax as well as other statutory authorities;
- Periodically review operations of the accounting package and ensure all information is input accurately on daily basis;
- Ensure all financial documents are aligned to practice, market completeness, and compliance with applicable policies and laws;
- Ensure financial documents are kept and are in compliance with MCT's financial policies;
- Communicate financial policies and procedures to all staff and ensure they are properly implemented and adhered to;
- Interpret the Programme Strategy and link it to the Strategic Budget as well linking Annual Work Plans to Annual Budgets and provide strategic advice on the implementation that will enhance value for money;
- Prepare quarterly reports on the implementation of the resource mobilization work plans for consideration by the management;
- Liaise with tax and other authorities wherever necessary;
- Review donor reports and ensure submission of the same is done within the context of the Memorandum of Understanding and Bilateral Agreements;
- Review and approve bank reconciliation statements;
- Liaise with external auditors and work with auditors to ensure smooth Audits on MCT Finances; and
- Any other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Secretary.

#### Job Specifications

##### Education:

- CPA(T) holder or its equivalent,
- Degree in Accounting or Finance from a recognized university, Master degree in Business Administration will be an added advantage.

##### Experience:

- Minimum of four (4) years' experience in senior accounting/finance level.
- Proven experience in managing donor funds.

##### Competencies:

- Strong English language skills, both written and spoken;
- Experience and ability to use various Accounting soft-wares;
- Ability to support and direct the implementation of ideas, projects and plans once adopted by the organization;
- Ability to manage multiple priorities while working as part of a team;
- Excellent financial analytical skills;
- Energetic, independent, self-motivated personality.

##### MODE OF APPLICATION

To apply, submit an application letter explaining your suitability for the job, a detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) with email address, telephone number, copies of relevant certificates/testimonials, and names of three professional referees to the address below:

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PO Box 10160,  
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OR recruitment@mct.or.tz**

**Closing date is November 24, 2023 Close of Business.** Only short-listed applicants will be contacted.

MCT is an equal opportunity employer therefore all people are encouraged to apply.



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### REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

### BUL-RFQ-23-11-03 - SUPPLY OF SANDVIK DS421 UNDERGROUND CABLE BOLTER

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#### Key documents

- Clear and detailed Quotation
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- A written statement indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018;
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SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2023

**Taking A New Look  
At The News**  
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## 'Strengthening of private sector' should not be an indefinite issue

AWK-EYED observers would understandably be excused if they were to suggest that there is no news in Tanzania being advised to strengthen the private sector in order to uplift its economy.

This was all the same tangible goodwill counsel from a top-level diplomat - none other than the US Ambassador to Tanzania, Michael Battle Sr. He floated it during inter-regional talks he had in Dar es Salaam earlier this week with members of the Confederation of Tanzania Industries and business councils.

The event came in the midst of some soul searching on US-Africa economic relations, with a trademark concessional trade regime expiring in two years' time.

The envoy was emphatic that Tanzania needs to ensure that its private sector grows stronger as it is a vital link in building the economy and more efficiently creating employment opportunities for the people.

Even within the ambit of the formulation in its limitation, it is clear that there is a clash of expectations locally and among diplomatic missions on employment or on how to uplift the economy. It has for decades stood as very real problem of growth strategy.

At times government thinking is gleaned upon by analysis of statements and key sentiments, but it is vital to keep in mind the premise of policy making in the wider socio-economic context.

This includes the country's political and ideological traditions, factors setting the stage at what is convincing as well as what derives pleasure and satisfaction at wider policy making platforms, especially the legislature.

One fact is that our traditions and mode of representation have a deeper support level for agriculture. Indeed, one could dare say that the idea of strengthening the private sector has been on every-

one's lips since the late 1985, and to a certain extent the country's political milestones have been marked by changing perceptions on this matter.

Many will recall the huge re-primations arising from soft-term loans some businesspersons landed for setting up what in later years would be known as 'big results now' in the private sector.

Those in authority were in a position to grasp that these were credible business deals involving a revolving fund where money was loaned and returned for onward issuance to others, but it was politically expedient to suspect that it was all fraud.

Much the same thing happened towards the middle of the past decade, when a court agreed that the government pay enormous amounts of money to a power firm after its ownership dispute was settled - and approved by the High Court.

What appears to have been the big problem is that the government paid two bona fide citizens upwards of 300bn/- contrary to public expectations.

The current authorities in the Union and Zanzibar governments have gone an extra mile in bringing a measure of acceptance of the broad function of the private sector as a strategic partner with public agencies.

This has been done at a cost of resentment at various levels, where efforts to reassure doubters seldom elicit much goodwill.

In that sense, there are indeed some fundamental requirements to enable the private sector to take a firm role in the country, but our imagination is still tied to the need to uplift the rural areas.

Whatever the argument, though, it would make economic sense if we continued opening up the public sector to buyers of large shares, multiply business openings in most sectors, and create more and more jobs.

## New 'Professor Jay' initiative for assisting kidney patients laudable

PARLIAMENTARIANS must have had a heart-rending moment just the other when being introduced to a new initiative by former MP Joseph Haule alias Professor J (47) - that of setting up a foundation to assist people with kidney disorders.

Until recent months, Haule was himself in the news battling disease, and being hospitalised in India for close observation and thereafter having started a medical foundation provided evidence that he was inching towards taking on a number of notable roles.

The first role was politics, which came when he was at a youthful middle age and was followed by a musical career. Thus it was from entertainment to politics and onward to philanthropy. This new occupation points to both maturity and retirement. The former legislator is one among a handful of public personalities who have set out foundations of one sort or another, with different levels of being known to the public.

There is also the problem of being eclipsed by public agencies or facilities after initially noticing a gap in that direction and initiating charitable entities to offset some of the pain parts of society may be experiencing merely for lack of help.

It is not easy to say how much of a treatment gap there is at present in relation to kidney failure, confirmed or anticipated, as it leads to a systematic breakdown of several body functions. The condition is often tied up with blood pressure or diabetes, in which case a charitable entity can take up a specific role, say, choosing to focus on cases involving children and often not receiving the

attention they deserve. The former legislator is among public figures with a footprint that is vastly larger than their life experiences since he is just approaching the upper levels of middle age. At the same time, the way this initiative was received in the National Assembly in Dodoma city is a glowing tribute to parliamentary conduct, as the House receives all manner of guests at the suggestion of the Speaker or any legislator.

This time it was the Speaker herself who invited the former legislator and ex-musician, answering to the wishes of so many members of the public wishing to know how well he is, and indeed wishing him well in his new vocation, to touch the hearts and minds of so many other people in distress. The sums being promised by the MPs are in the range of 100,000/- and above, depending on one's feelings on the matter, were admittedly not likely to bring the new entity to brisk activity.

However, there are plenty of small things one can do with upwards of 50m/- or thereabouts: there are organising "tailor-made" medical clinics, supplying medical equipment and supplies in outlying areas normally taking time to receive such assistance, or enabling needy patients in a particular environment to land crucial support for diagnosis or drugs.

The start normally induces more and more well-wishers to similarly contribute, as it remains clear that even as we draw closer to more substantial medical cover for the majority, we should not throw caution to the winds on private care and assistance.

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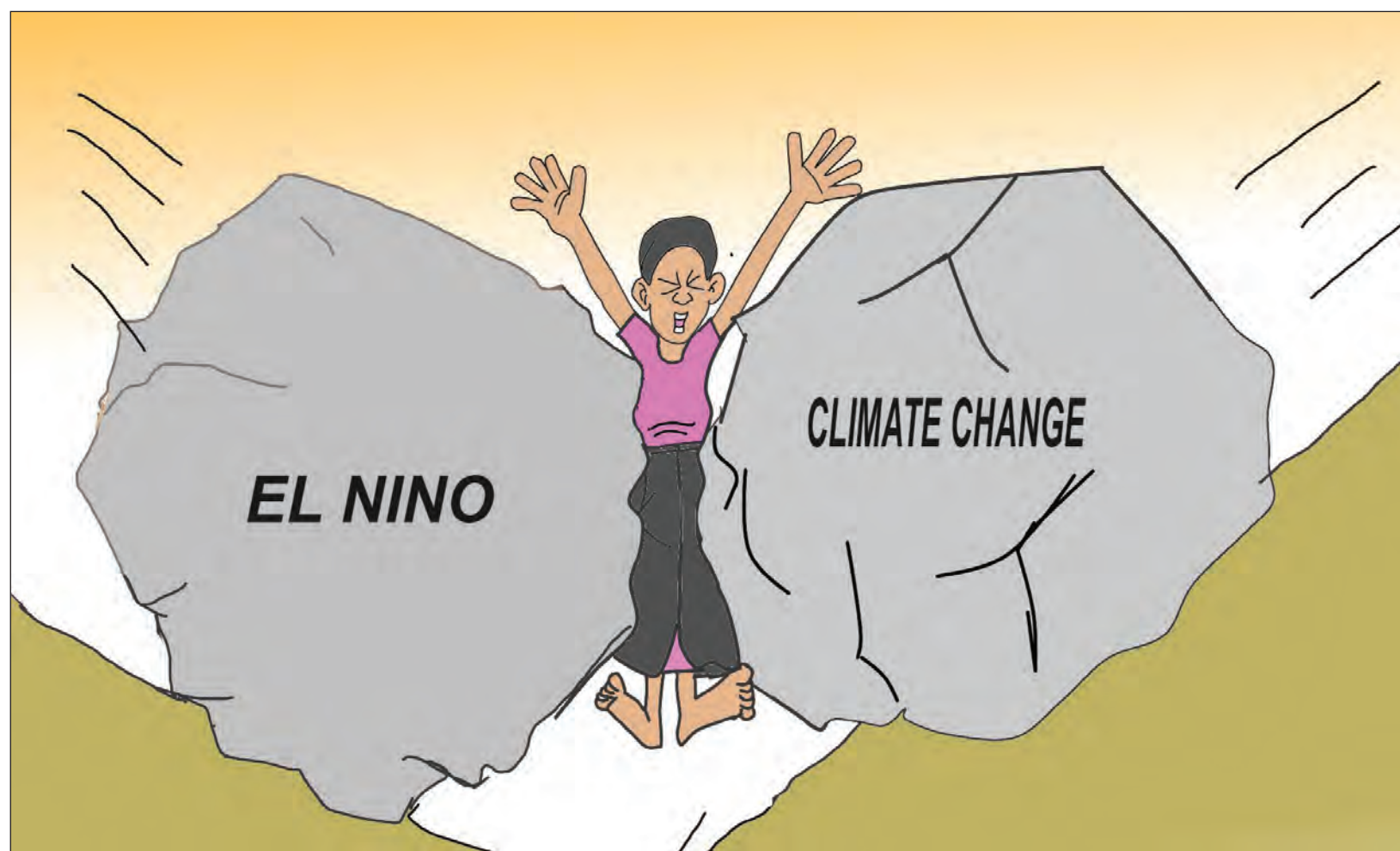
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## How to make a profit in the modern media landscape

By Aurora Martinez

WHEN it comes to running a media outlet, understanding business strategies is just as important as producing high-quality journalism.

Informing, educating and holding the powerful accountable may be at the core of the profession, but profitability is what ensures its continued existence.

In today's rapidly evolving media landscape, too, innovation is decisive in developing a robust revenue portfolio, according to Jeremy Caplan.

Caplan, director of teaching and learning at the CUNY Newmark Graduate School of Journalism in New York City, said this at a recent ICFJ Global Crisis Reporting session held in partnership with ICFJ's news business hub, Elevate. "We should aim to thrive, not just survive," he urged.

Here are key tips and insights from Caplan for media organisations to keep in mind to better sustain themselves, one being the need to diversify revenue streams.

Media revenue streams can be direct or indirect, Caplan explained. Direct streams include, but are not limited to, subscriptions, e-commerce, memberships and educational offerings like training. Support from philanthropic sources and advertisement revenue are examples of indirect streams.

A dual approach to revenue generation, taking into account both direct and indirect funding, provides media organisations with versatility to sustain their operations and serve their audiences effectively.

Learning what other organisations may be implementing successfully already is helpful, too. "We need a mindset that's about experimentation and exploration," Caplan said.

He further noted that providing services to other organisations can serve as an additional revenue stream. He gave the example of podcast studio Multitude which, he said, supplements the funding it already generates through advertising by offering coaching, training and production services for businesses interested in producing podcasts of their own.

"A diversified revenue stream means that you are not putting all your eggs in one basket and you have all sorts of different ways to build more revenue as the years progress," Caplan said.

Two: Assess viability. Before implementing a new revenue stream, media organisations should assess their profitability through a comprehensive development plan, said Caplan.

Consider the following factors: Desirability: Do people want this? Feasibility: Can your team execute



Journalists at work

this? Viability: Can you make money from this? Compatibility: Does this align with your organisation's goals?

Map out best-case, conservative and worst-case scenarios when it comes to investment and revenue. This can help you identify future challenges and how to counteract them to increase your odds of success, Caplan said.

Once you visualise the revenue outcomes and challenges, you can develop a prototype, an event, a membership offer, a service or other revenue stream ideas.

Once you develop the prototype, test it: invite people to evaluate how the idea is being perceived. Once interest is gauged, pilot the prototype.

A pilot will enable your organisation to evaluate the strategy's effectiveness and determine whether it is worth adding as a revenue stream.

Three: Learn from others. It is smart to learn from the mistakes and successes of other media organisations to find innovative approaches that work.

Avoid seeking to reinvent the wheel; instead, get in touch with people who have adopted innovative revenue streams in the past and be open to adopting ideas that were effective for them.

"Take this global village that we are living in as an opportunity to reach out to people," Caplan said.

Reaching out to other media organisations to expand your network can also lead you to

new opportunities and growth. Caplan highlighted this revenue database as one helpful resource.

Four: Don't do too many things at once. Organise, prioritise and focus on one objective at a time, advised Caplan. He said that, otherwise, you'll spread yourself too thin and fail to effectively execute your ideas.

Don't jump to conclusions or rush solutions, either, he continued. When organisations encounter a problem, it is best to step past initial assumptions, solicit feedback from different perspectives and take into account stakeholders before coming up with a quick fix.

Five: Tap into philanthropic support. Partnering with philanthropic organisations can have a significant impact on the sustainability of media organisations and how they continue serving their communities, Caplan said.

Daniel Lopera, co-founder of FOCO Panamá and an Elevate alumnus, shared during the session how his organisation has partnered with the anti-corruption initiative Movin which at the same time gave them access to their donors.

Lopera said organisations like Free Press Unlimited and UNESCO can provide support and monetary aid to journalists in distress around the world. He said his team, for instance, has turned to Free Press Unlimited in the past to replace stolen equipment and to pay lawyers.

Caplan and Lopera both

stressed the importance of prioritising the business aspects of journalism. They said understanding revenue generation and adapting strategies to meet market needs are all keys to success for a media outlet.

"If you want to expand, if you want your stories to have more impact, you're going to need more hands, you're going to need more tools," Lopera said.

He added: "You need to plan, and you need to understand or partner with someone that understands the business side of it."

*\* A dispatch by the International Journalists' Network (IJNet), a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists (ICFJ). Originally from Nicaragua, University of Florida student Aurora Martinez is a former communications intern at ICFJ.*



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# Tanga Yetu: Innovative projects that prepare youths for self-employment

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

**T**RENDS of rural-to-urban migration by young people in search of better means of livelihood are recorded across the country. High population of jobless young people in towns and cities is linked to high rates of crime. That is why authorities are duty-bound to come up with ways of creating sustainable employment opportunities.

Tanga city which was incorporated in July 2005 is rapidly growing and plans are underway to make it an engine of economic growth in Tanzania with to help curb the challenge of youth unemployment.

Statistics shows that Tanga is Tanzania's fourth largest city with a population of 393,429 residents according to national population and housing census 2022. Administratively, Tanga Region is divided into seven districts with a total population of 2,615,597 residents.

The city's main development initiatives are governed by the Tanga City Council under the "Tanga Yetu" programme which among others, leverages on digital technology to create economic opportunities for young people. The programme also addresses the urbanization challenges by building a city ecosystem that supports the health and wellbeing of young people.

Abdulrahman Shiloo, Tanga City Mayor, said the aim of the programme is to expand economic activities and scale them up so as to curb unemployment exacerbated by increasing population. The city is located close to the Kenyan border that lies on the Indian Ocean far to the east.

Programmes being implemented within the city and on its outskirts currently aim to empower youth with technical skills designed to make them business-oriented with the view to promoting self-employment.

In the Tanga Yetu programme, the Switzerland-based Fondation Botnar collaborates with the Tanga City Council to encourage an enabling environment for young people's participation in the economy establishing development projects.

Since May 2018, the organization has funded a total of 17 projects. The organization chose Tanga Yetu programme because its activities are similar to what it does at a global level, namely activities that empower young people as agents of change.

The projects the Swiss organization is engaged in are related with poultry, farming and fisheries to help equip youth with skills and experiences in developing their business skills to become self-employed.

Another project the organization is currently funding for Tanga Yetu is the Jamhuri Park which is under construction at a cost of 1.8bn/-. The facility which faces the Indian Ocean is meant for recreational purposes. This is an open space that covers about 100 meters long and 50 meters wide.

Zur Oren, Fondation Botnar Partnership Coordinator told the writer in an interview recently that since



A fish pond for seaweed and sea cucumber farming and crab fattening alongside a section for sardine drying used to train youths in Tanga Region. Photo/Emmanuel Onyango

the organisation's engagement with Tanga City Council five years ago, it has so far injected about US\$ 14 million (35.1bn/-) to fund social projects conducted under Tanga Yetu programme.

According to him, the foundation has gained popularity by improving the delivery of innovative city services for the wellbeing of young people from all walks of life living in cities around the world and also improving their health under its flagship initiative dubbed 'Our City Project'.

"Apart from Tanzania, other countries where we work in selected cities are Ecuador, Romania, Columbia, Ghana, Kenya and France", he said.

Among the projects sites the or-

ganization is proud of in Tanga city is the learning laboratory centre of Science, Technology on Engineering and Mathematics known in short as STEM Park.

This is an initiative aimed to inspire and encourage young people who are trained free of charge on how to operate various devices used in ICT technologies such as computers by coming up with different innovations so as to solve challenges facing their daily lives in the city.

Max George, the head teacher at the centre told delegates who visited the park that youth are equipped with hands-on skills on how to apply various sciences by using technology.

According to him, since the cen-

tre started in November 2020, it has produced more than 30,000 youth who have acquired in-house training and attained skills on different technologies.

Going through learning devices, young people use STEM innovations to solve challenges in the city. Within the centre, there are various learning materials set in different stages whereby youth are taught how to practise and gain experiences that help in life.

Among the stages set are simple ICT room whereby application of computers and use of software, solar system wall which displays how to restore solar energy systems as well as hydro-energy models run by solar power.

The programme's main farming

project is located along the main road to Pangani District that supports agri-business training and manufacturing of robotics billed to make Tanga a key digital city.

Dr. Elizabeth Swai, the founder of the project told this writer that the agribusiness project is led by Sokoine University Graduates Entrepreneurship Cooperatives (SUGECO) and aims to promote organic farming in Tanga to strengthen entrepreneurship capacities of young people.

"The poultry project is implemented by AKM Glitters Company Limited and the fisheries project is undertaken by Tanga City Council and it includes seaweed and sea cucumber farming, sardine drying and crab fattening" she said.

All the projects seek to strengthen young people's capacities so that they employ themselves. It is in this centre where 60 youth aged between 16 and 30 are taught modern farming practices.

## Plastic menace: Decades of talking moving much closer to global action

By Tony Carnie

**P**EOPLE have been talking for decades about doing "something" to curb the tide of plastic pollution fouling the land and the sea worldwide. Finally, it seems, the talking phase has moved a step closer to action. Next week, governments are meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, to craft a new global treaty before the end of next year.

With an estimated 11 million tonnes of plastic waste pouring into the sea every year, most people recognise that there is a serious problem.

Yet plastic products are now so ubiquitous in our homes and offices that governments (and the billions of people who have come to depend on their convenience) will struggle to find a magic wand powerful enough to banish the problem overnight.

Trade statistics show that the market for plastic continues to grow rapidly. Studies commissioned by the WWF conservation group suggest that global plastic production has almost doubled over the past two decades and is expected to more than triple by 2050.

Several countries have already banned or restricted the use of throwaway plastic shopping bags, one of the most visible manifestations of this crisis. But a cursory look at the piles of synthetic rubbish lining the beaches or floating in the oceans makes it clear that plastic shopping bags are not the only problem.

Sitting at my desk, I am surrounded by plastic. My pen is made of plastic, along with my phone, printer, computer, electrical plugs, a paperweight, the lid on a bottle of eyedrops...

If there was such a thing as a giant plastic-attracting magnet, there would be very little left in kitchens

and fridges across the world.

You know... things like the cling film draped over the dinner leftovers, the milk sachets, the margarine tub, the wrapping used to keep vegies fresh. The list goes on and on.

So, what is to be done?

### Emerging treaty

Early last year, at a meeting in the Kenyan capital, members of the United Nations Environment Assembly passed Resolution 5/14 to "end plastic pollution".

It aims to develop an international legally binding treaty on plastic pollution by the end of 2024, with an emphasis on reducing plastic pollution of the sea and promoting a new "comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic".

The initial wish list covers more than 20 items, including a focus on "sustainable production and consumption of plastics". This could extend to better product design and environmentally sound waste management, including a circular economy (where plastic is reused continuously rather than being discarded).

The proposed treaty would also promote national and international efforts to reduce plastic pollution in the marine environment and clean up decades of existing plastic pollution.

Some of the potential low-hanging victories include tougher action on single-use, throwaway plastic products, but even that is not guaranteed considering their low prices and convenience to consumers.

The emerging treaty also envisages new compulsory reporting schemes to measure action on a country-to-country basis and - perhaps most crucially - major drives to raise public awareness about the causes and impacts of plastic pollution.

This is because the problem goes much further than being simply a lit-

ter eyesore.

According to a WWF special report prepared by the Geneva-based Dalberg consultancy group, certain forms of plastic pollution now pose growing threats to both human health and natural ecosystems.

Last year, a research journal reported the results of a pioneering biomedical study demonstrating that tiny particles of plastic polymers are bioavailable for uptake into the human bloodstream.

While the authors stressed that further research is needed to understand the potential health hazards to people, other studies have demonstrated a wide variety of negative impacts on marine species exposed to plastic pollution.

For example, as these synthetic products break down in the sea, tiny particles of plastic are eaten or absorbed by plankton and other small organisms that form the base of the seafood chain.

Quite apart from sea creatures becoming entangled in plastic ropes, fishing gear or other plastic debris, fish also ingest plastic fragments that can block their digestive tracts or limit their food uptake by creating a false sense of satiation.

Despite widespread perceptions that they are benign, several common plastic products still contain toxic or other synthetic chemicals that can mimic or antagonise the actions of natural animal or human hormones such as estrogens - raising concern around fertility and harm to developing foetuses.

Many of the chemicals used in the manufacture of plastic food packaging or food contact materials have also not been tested for hazardous properties at all, or the available toxicity data are limited.

It's also worth remembering that the vast majority of virgin plastics are derived from petrochemical feedstock such as natural gas or



Following a major clean-up effort by local volunteers, turtles returned to nest on Versova Beach in Mumbai, India, in 2018. This image was taken at the start of a massive clean-up, which lasted for 136 weeks. (Photo: UNEP)

crude oil - so the rapid growth of the industry is a significant source of greenhouse gases that drive global heating.

According to the Dalberg report, plastic production will account for up to 20% of the entire global carbon budget by 2040, accelerating the climate crisis.

So, there is a lot at stake for the vested interests of plastics and fossil fuel industries during the negotiations in Nairobi from November 13-19.

### Balanced foundation

The Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (Gaia), one of several civil society watchdog groups monitoring the progress of the plastic treaty negotiations, suggests that the draft negotiating text (known as the Zero Draft) provides a useful starting point.

Durban-based Merrisa Naidoo, who leads Gaia's Africa Plastics campaign, says that while it is not as ambitious as many parties would like it to be, the Zero Draft is a "balanced" document that provides a foundation to gradually strengthen the proposed treaty over time.

Speaking during a webinar on 7 November, Environment Minister Barbara Creecy stressed the need for more transparent disclosure of hazardous chemicals in plastic polymer products.

Speaking on behalf of Gaia and other local civil society groups, Naidoo advocated a policy of "no data - no market access" (where the failure to provide health impact studies by plastic makers would trigger a ban on untested products).

Gaia is worried that there is already strong pushback from several plastics lobby groups, similar to that seen in the abysmally slow climate treaty negotiations.

The organisation noted that during the last plastic ne-

gotiation meeting in Paris earlier this year, the first two days were mostly taken up by objections from large oil and plastic-producing countries, who raised procedural issues that delayed discussions on the substance of the treaty.

According to Gaia, some countries (including Saudi Arabia and Russia) wanted to have veto power over the treaty text by advocating for consensus only, with no opportunity for voting if consensus could not be reached.

"This bucks the standard set in other international negotiations like the successful Minamata Convention on mercury, and essentially allows a single country to further delay or even completely block the international community's ability to get a strong treaty over the finish line."

Eventually, after lengthy debates, a provisional agreement was reached to proceed on the basis of a two-thirds majority if consensus could not be reached - but because this procedural can had been kicked down the road, it was likely that the same objections would re-emerge in Nairobi next week.

Gaia states that there were at least 190 industry lobbyists at the last meeting who used their power to undermine calls for plastic reduction by promoting tech fixes. "We've all seen how slow and ineffective global climate controls have been, including the noted failures of the Paris (Climate) Agreement, and we don't have the time to waste on the same mistake," Gaia cautions.

There are also concerns that the global plastic industry is promoting quick-fix approaches by simply burning plastic waste for energy or using controversial chemical recycling processes to produce new fuel additives or other new forms of plastics.



# Recognising food and land-use systems as contributors to climate change

By Vibha Dhawan

FOR a long time, the agriculture sector has been heralded as a success story for India. Spurred by the Green Revolution, it provided a path-breaking solution to feed the country's burgeoning population starting in the 1960s.

However, in recent decades, intensive land use and inequitable water resource management, compounded by a swelling population, prevailing poverty, depletion of natural resources, and a rapidly changing climate have put tremendous pressure on the country's agricultural output.

The 2023 Global Hunger Index ranked India 111th out of 125 countries, indicating a serious level of hunger, with concerns growing about the possibility of long-term food scarcity. And earlier this year, The Women and Child Development Ministry found that nearly 8% of the country's children were malnourished.

A similar situation pervades in various parts of the world: 139 million people plunged into acute food insecurity in 2021, and in 2022, an estimated 2.4 billion people worldwide did not have regular access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food.

The Famine Early Warning Systems Network has projected approximately 100 million people worldwide will need food assistance through early 2024, in large part because of the El Niño.

The food crisis continued to worsen last year, as the tremors of the Russo-Ukrainian War and its trade policies and the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic were felt across the globe. As of October 30, 2023, 19 countries have implemented 27 food export bans, and seven have implemented 15 export-limiting measures.

At the upcoming COP28 (30 November- 12 December in Dubai), governments must commit to taking serious action to curb the impacts of our food and land use systems on our climate. This includes: (1) urging nations to include emissions from food systems in their climate commitments; (2) addressing poor water management; and (3) adopting climate-resilient agriculture practices.

## Agriculture and GHG emissions

A lack of sustainable agriculture production has made the food and land use sector a major contributor to total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Global food systems account for 31% of global emissions and could become a major factor in exceeding 1.5°C of warming between 2051 and 2063.

Moreover, agricultural land today takes up 38 percent of the global land surface. Nearly one-third of this is used as cropland, while the remaining two-thirds consist of meadows and pastures for grazing livestock. This comes at the cost of extensive deforestation and biodiversity loss. Agriculture accounts on average for 70% of all freshwater withdrawals globally.

The challenge is even more acute for India, which accounts for about 17% of the world's population but only 4% of the world's freshwater resources. In fact, nearly 55% of Indians are dependent on agriculture. With the Indian population estimated to reach 1.67 billion by 2050, the demand on water, food and energy is only expected to increase.

## Addressing poor water management

Climate change has substantially impacted agricultural productivity, making better water management a necessity. India's chief crop produce—rice, wheat, and sugarcane—consume the most water. Indian agriculture accounts for 90% water use due to fast-track groundwater depletion and poor irrigation systems. Due to an inept water resource management system and persistent climate change, the country faces regular water shortages.

Distorted water pricing has compounded the issue and is chiefly responsible for the over-extraction of India's groundwater. Furthermore, subsidized electricity to farmers for pumping water for agricultural activities has led to instances of increased groundwater extraction, and shifting cropping pattern towards more water-intensive crops, like the rice paddy.

Efficient irrigation systems should be developed and implemented to economize water and reduce crop vulnerabilities. The use of water-saving technologies and conservation agriculture technologies, such



The 2023 Global Hunger Index ranked India 111th out of 125 countries, indicating a serious level of hunger, with concerns growing about the possibility of long-term food scarcity. Credit: UNICEF/Safidy Andriananten

as drip sprinkler irrigation and sub-soil irrigation, have proven extremely effective in both water conservation and increasing crop yields.

Alternate wetting and drying (AWD) and Direct Seeded Rice have also demonstrated success as water management techniques for rice plantations, whereas efforts to expand the use of millets, a highly nutritious crop that can grow on arid lands and is resilient to climate changes, in emerging economies should also be accelerated.

## Climate resilient agriculture

It is well established that climate

change is a threat to agriculture, and resilient agriculture practices forged through efficient technologies, innovations, and circular economy practices must be incentivized and scaled.

Despite being the world's leading producer in jute, milk, wheat sugarcane, vegetable, and rice, India continues to face post-harvest losses. A 2022 study revealed that between harvesting and consumption, the country lost 5-13% of its fruits and vegetables and around 3-7% of crops that included oil, seeds, and spices.

In particular, the significant use of chemical fertilizers by Indian farmers

due to huge subsidies given by the government is a major contributor not only to emissions and environmental pollution, but to the degradation of soil.

Sustainable alternatives, such as nanofertilizers and bioinoculants like mycorrhizae should be explored to both reduce burdens on the government as well as curb the environmental impacts of traditional fertilizers. Combined agro-waste (crop-residue and livestock manure) management and increasing the use of biogas plants can also help to reduce carbon emissions and produce more resilient crops.

The world is ready to make a transi-

tion towards sustainable food and land use practices, and national leaders should seize this opportunity to intensify their fight against climate change. COP28 offers an important platform to accelerate the transformation of our food and land-use systems towards a better, progressive future.

**Vibha Dhawan is Chair of SDSN South Asia and Director General of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**

IPS UN Bureau



Spurred by the green revolution, agriculture has provided a path-breaking solution to feed India's burgeoning population since the 1960s. Credit: WFP

# 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 UMUJAVYO 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



## IGAD comes up with alerts on effects of climate change

ADDIS ABABA

THE Inter-Government Authority and Development (IGAD) has warned about the adverse effects of climate change in the East and the Horn of Africa, calling on governments to take action to solve the menace before it gets out of control.

For this to happen, it said, regional governments must embrace disaster preparedness and emergency response, following heavy rains in the region. So far, over 30 people have died in Kenya and Somalia following heavy floods in the two countries.

Through IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Center, the organization has warned that very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall is expected in parts of northern Kenya, southern Ethiopia, northern Somalia, parts of Burundi Rwanda, and northern Tanzania.

According to the regional forecast covering Wednesday, November 8 to Wednesday next week, heavy rainfall [greater than 200mm] is expected in Western, Central, and Northern Kenya, northern Burundi, south-western Rwanda, and isolated areas in southern Somalia.

"This is likely to exacerbate the current flooding conditions occurring across the region. In the past week, widespread flooding was recorded over Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Burundi," ICPAC said.

"Landslides have also been experienced and the heavy to extremely heavy rainfall that is predicted in some of these areas could make the situation worse," it added.

Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Somalia, Rwanda, and parts of South Sudan are experiencing heavy rains due to suspected climate change, which has triggered flash floods, displacing thousands of people in the process.

ICPAC says moderate rainfall (50-200mm) is expected over most parts of Kenya, southern Somalia, Uganda, Rwanda, northern and western Tanzania, and western and southern South Sudan.

"Wetter than usual conditions expected over most parts of Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and parts of southern Sudan, southern Ethiopia, northern Tanzania, and central to southern Somalia," it warns.



## Experts explore ways for Africa to leverage its strategic minerals

By Guardian Reporter

EXPERTS gathered at the Africa Investment Forum (AIF) have explored ways to harness Africa's strategic mineral wealth for the continent's development, particularly by adding value by processing minerals before export.

They were speaking at a panel session 'Strategic Minerals: Financing a New Era of Global Prosperity' in Marrakesh, Morocco, during the Africa Investment Forum Market Days, held from November 8 to 10, 2023.

AIF is Africa's principal investment marketplace, organized by the African Development Bank

and seven partners to mobilize strategic project investments by involving the private sector.

"Our natural resources are certain to create prosperity, so governments need to create the conditions to facilitate this prosperity," said Georgette Sakyi Barnes Addo, Executive Director of Georgette Barnes Limited and President of the Ghana Women in Mining Association.

The other panellists were Swazi Tshabalala, Senior Vice-President of the African Development Bank Group, and Amina Benkhadra, CEO of ONHYM in Morocco.

The three panellists agreed that Africa is rich in strategic

minerals, including rare-earths, including lithium, graphite, bauxite, manganese and cobalt, all essential for modern technologies. However, harnessing the value of these minerals requires investment in infrastructure, innovation and sustainable practices and developing the local industrial fabric. Africa's strategic minerals need to be processed before they are exported. This is how value chains and jobs are created for local populations, they said.

The panellists cited the examples of Tanzania, which banned the export of non-value-added strategic minerals and Indonesia, which banned the export of

nickel, allowing it to establish 13 domestic nickel ore refineries.

Benkhadra said that before African countries exported them, they should process their strategic minerals to produce metals close to their final value.

"Restrictions on exports must be imposed. We must take advantage of our minerals," agreed Tshabalala.

At the opening of the Africa Investment Forum, African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina cited a Bloomberg NEF study that noted the cost of manufacturing lithium-ion battery precursors is three times lower in Africa than in the United States, China

or Poland.

The panellists called on African countries to do more to share experiences and good practices and to strengthen regional integration. They also called for risk reductions, to ensure that the private sector was able to invest with acceptable political risk.

"We have to truly unleash the value chains and see what the local content plans are to determine which enterprise can provide which service. Some work in manganese, gold or diamonds: we need to identify companies with the capacities and products that can be manufactured on the continent," said

Tshabalala.

Barnes Addo said inter-African trade encountered huge barriers and there was a need to harmonize customs duties and set up common platforms for countries to attract investment. Access to finance, especially for women, was another challenge.

"I have thirty or so years' experience in my sector and a dozen as a CEO, but it's difficult to access credit; they always ask you about your husband," she explained.

By showing imagination, the financing obstacles for companies, especially women-led enterprises, can be lowered by the use of innovative measures.

"The African Development Bank has an ever-increasing number of agreements with banks to ask them to finance women-led companies at concessional rates. You just need the right financial instruments to enable women to have the finance they need to develop their businesses. We need to be bolder: \$40 billion does not go to women every year in Africa, but women are starting businesses from scratch and making them work," said Tshabalala.

Benkhadra concurred, adding, "We are optimistic, without losing sight of the difficulties we face."

## African countries urged to facilitate visas for each other's nationals to boost tourism

KIGALI

THE governments of African countries have been urged to ease visa application procedures in an effort to improve tourism and, thus, the economy of the continent.

In a report, the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) has advised governments to undertake such measures, claiming that the travel and tourism sector could add US\$168 billion to the continent's economy and create over 18 million new jobs.

The report named "Unlocking Opportunities for Travel and Tourism Growth in Africa" was presented during the Global Summit held in Kigali, which was jointly held by the WTTC and VFS Global, VisaGuide.

It contains suggestions aiming to improve Africa's growth in terms of air infrastructure, visa facilitation and tourism marketing.

"Africa needs simplified visa processes, better air connectivity within the continent, and marketing campaigns to highlight the wealth of destinations in this breath-taking continent", said Julia Simpson, President and CEO of WTTC, throughout the summit.

While the founder and CEO of VFS Global, Zubin Karkaria, mentioned that they remain deeply committed to



fostering the growth of travel and tourism to and from Africa. VFS Global has been present in Africa since 2005 and now provides services across 55 cities in 35 countries of the continent.

"This report not only highlights the diverse prospects for economic growth, sustainable tourism, and cross-cultural collaboration but also provides valuable insights for governments to formulate policies and offers businesses a well-defined roadmap for expansion in this thriving market," said Karkaria.

Recently, Rwanda has launched a visa-free entry for the entire continent, thus allowing all African citizens to enter the country without the need to obtain a visa first. Rwanda is now the fourth African country to offer visa-free entry for all Afri-

cans, after Benin, The Gambia and Seychelles.

Previously, in January 2020, Rwanda removed visa fees for about 90 countries worldwide, aiming to attract more tourists and boost its economy through the tourism sector.

Whereas, last month, Kenyan President William Ruto announced plans to eliminate visa restrictions for African tourists and travelers, by the end of this year.

"Our children from this continent should not be locked in borders in Europe and also be locked in borders in Africa," Ruto said. Different countries in Africa may have different visa policies. For example, to enter South Africa as a tourist and stay for a short period, applicants should apply first for an e-visa. Until now, this type of visa was launched for 14 different

that its citizens can travel visa-free only to 72 countries.

On the other hand, Rwanda's passport is ranked 152nd, and its citizens can enjoy travel with an ordinary passport to only 31 countries.

In general, the passports of African countries have the lowest rank according to this Passport Index. The last one on this list is Somalia, ranked 199th, and its citizens can travel visa-free to only ten countries.

## UNESCO launches project to support culture-related vocational education

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in cooperation with a Saudi Arabi-

an non-governmental organization (NGO) have launched a project aimed at supporting culture-related vocational education and training in the country.

The project aims to foster

community-based development through culture-related technical and vocational education and training and employment in Tanzania, a UNESCO statement said.

The project, which will be

implemented between 2023 and 2025, will foster inclusive and sustainable development of the cultural and creative sector of Tanzania through enhanced access to culture-related education

and training. "This project is important to us because it promotes first and foremost the human dimension, the encounter of communities and generations, and the process of learning and advanc-

ing together," said Princess Lamia Bint Majid Al Saud, the secretary general of Alwaleed Philanthropies, the Saudi Arabian NGO.

"Through culture-centred education and vocational

training, we are setting forth on a path that leads to job creation, poverty alleviation, and community development," said Tabia Maulid Mwitwa, Zanzibar Minister of Information, Youth, Culture and Sports.



# Learning from the head, heart and hand – school of its kind in SA

By Mark Potterton

**A**CROSS the road from Zoo Lake, you will find the Kairos School of Inquiry. This small school was founded by Marc Loon, a progressive Johannesburg teacher.

Loon originally trained as an engineer but found himself increasingly drawn to education. He studied Steiner education in England and later completed a teaching degree at Wits University. The Kairos School is unique in South Africa and sees itself as a place where each child is seen and heard. In a sense, the school can be an example of nurturing an alternative primary school system in South Africa.

Belonging is an important aspect of the school, and it sets out to build a community that includes families. The theoretical framework speaks of “an educational birthing clinic for bringing to life a sense of purpose for any kind of child”.

“Belonging” was evident in the morning check, which happens every day. Here each child and teacher shares what’s alive for him or her at the time or in life in general. This is a core part of keeping the school a happy place to be. Here unhappy feelings can be expressed and met with empathy – and dealt with.

The first lesson of the day is the main lesson, and it’s in these lessons that concepts are fully explored and developed. The teacher guides the students and builds concepts together with them. The teacher encourages the child to think more deeply and takes them to a level that they may not have reached on their own.

The theoretical framework says the school sets out to be “a joyful, nurturing, empowering eight-year experience of schooling that builds children into empathic, creative and resilient young participants in society”. Loon points out that they set out to achieve primary school academic mastery and mainstream high school readiness.

“We align our teaching with a child’s innate desire for deep, meaningful learning, especially when it is part of a journey of self-discovery. We take joy in bearing witness to a child’s discovery of their emerging sense of mission in life, arranging opportunities for their playful exploration of and disciplined practice in their passions,” he says.

Loon is deeply influenced by the methods and ideals of Marshall Rosenberg, who founded the Center for Nonviolent Communication. These methods foster a culture of transparent communication. They are an open invitation to challenge a person who is, in their opinion, being prejudiced in their words or actions.

“We feel confident that listening to an honest sharing of what is truthfully alive in each person at the time is a community-building feature of our school, however uncomfortable it is to express or to listen to. This can be very uncomfortable for some, especially when prejudices such as racism and sexism can be so painful.”

Everyone at the school is invited to converse with one another, even if it feels risky and requires courage and vulnerability. They believe that having difficult conversations brings them towards one another and makes Kairos a stronger and more loving community. The teachers kept saying “we’re all learners at Kairos”.

Teachers believe every child has the power to be kind, competent, creative and resilient. They set out to create an atmosphere of thoughtful attentiveness and sincere inquiry, and to build trust. This can clearly be seen in the way in which teachers work with children, and in the attention they give to make sure that they understand the children.

**No rules, but agreements**

Teachers practise what they preach with integrity, and this was evident in the staff meeting at the end of the day.



Pupils in class at Kairos School of Inquiry. Photo: Mark Potterton

Here they grappled with issues parents had with their children and shared how best to deal with certain classroom situations. The children don’t wear a school uniform and there seem to be very few dress requirements.

There are no school rules. Instead, at the start of each year teachers and pupils make agreements with one another and their teachers. This year parents also signed agreements.

If an agreement is broken, there is a conversation about the thoughts and feelings that led to the agreement being broken, and pupils can acquire greater self-awareness, emotional literacy and understanding of one another. These conversations form a backbone of authenticity within the school ethos.

The teachers see themselves as growing with their pupils as they grow together in self-awareness and emotional literacy.

Nonviolent communication (NVC) practitioners aspire to listen with their whole being, speaking

from their deepest authenticity. Teachers working from the NVC perspective teach beyond reward and punishment, connecting heart to heart with each pupil and helping all children connect in this way with one another.

The work of Rudolf Steiner and the Waldorf schooling system that developed from his thinking is a strong influence on the school’s curriculum. According to their theoretical framework: “Because our children feel seen, in their fullness and wholeness, they feel encouraged to inquire into their own multifaceted selves.”

Self-discovery engenders curiosity in others, and this lays the field for curiosity in our own individual inner worlds and those of others.”

The school uses inquiry and project-based teaching methods to ambitiously stretch children beyond the textbook to deeper learning and genuine understanding.

While students learn the same skills in each school subject that conventional schools do, there

is a difference, says Loon: “The Kairos system enables them to acquire these skills without losing their love of learning.”

The school encourages oral storytelling and learning playground games as an introductory route towards more rigidly defined competitive sports; they incorporate handcraft and wide-ranging artistic expression as an integral part of academic development.

In summary, Loon believes that the Kairos School of Inquiry balances the head (cognitive), heart (affective) and hand (cognitive) aspects of the child’s learning needs through a learning journey that has three sets of parallel values: Aspiration for all-rounded mastery by practising diligence and initiative, and by loving the experience of learning.

Modelling personal integrity through practising inquiry and honesty, and honouring diversity. Teaching social and emotional intelligence by modelling empathy, self-awareness and a passion for collaboration. DM



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05.00 MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One





Bank of England

## UK steers clear of threat of recession

LONDON

The UK economy flatlined in the third quarter, defying forecasts of a small contraction and ensuring a recession is avoided this year, as strong trade came to the rescue of poor domestic activity.

Gross domestic product was unchanged from the second quarter, the Office for National Statistics said Friday. Economists surveyed by Bloomberg had forecast a 0.1 percent decline on average. In September alone, GDP rose 0.2 percent.

A quarter of stagnation had been predicted by the Bank of England, which expects the economy to register no growth at all next year. Consumer spending, business investment and government spending all fell in the third quarter, leaving the economy underpinned by a better trade performance as exports rose and imports declined.

That's a bleak prospect for Prime Minister Rishi Sunak as he gears up for an election expected next year. Polls put the ruling Conservatives on track to lose power to the opposition Labour Party.

The figures come less than two weeks before Chancellor Jeremy Hunt delivers his autumn statement to Parliament, which is expected to unveil measures to boost growth.

"Britain is a stagnation nation that has struggled to secure sustained economic growth since the financial crisis," said James Smith, research director of the Resolution Foundation think tank. "Addressing this is the central task we face as a country, and must be at the heart of the Chancellor's Autumn Statement in 10 days' time."

The contraction in the domestic economy may also help to convince BOE policymakers they have done enough to bring inflation under control after raising interest rates from 0.1 percent to 5.25 percent in less than two years. Resolution said that the growth slowdown is being caused in part by high rates.

Chief Economist Huw Pill signalled as much in an address on Thursday after the central bank downgraded its growth outlook last week. However, both he and Governor Andrew Bailey have stressed the need to keep borrowing costs in "restrictive" territory for an extended period to bear down on underlying price pressures.

Traders are betting that rates have peaked with the BOE expected to be-

gin cutting rates from August next year. The path for BOE interest rates remained broadly unchanged on Friday with a 15 percent chance of a 25-basis-point increase next month and almost three quarter-point cuts by the end of next year.

"High inflation is the single greatest barrier to economic growth. The best way to sustainably grow our economy right now is stick to our plan and knock inflation on its head," Hunt said in a statement. "The Autumn Statement will focus on how we get the economy growing healthily again by unlocking investment, getting people back into work and reforming our public services so we can deliver the growth our country needs."

The economy faced headwinds on several fronts in the third quarter. Public-sector strikes hit schools and the health service while retailers suffered from wet weather in July and unseasonably warm temperatures in September that led consumers to put off buying autumn and winter clothes. Hanging over everything was the squeeze of higher borrowing costs.

Over the quarter, consumer spending fell 0.4 percent, business investment plunged 4.2 percent, and government consumption declined 0.5 percent, partly reflecting strikes by doctors. Net trade contributed 0.43 percentage points to GDP.

The total trade balance improved by £7.1 billion (\$8.7 billion) to £6 billion, dropping back to levels seen before the UK formally left the European Union in January 2021, and before the pandemic. The improvement was driven by a steep fall in imports and a small rise in exports - as more sales of UK services just offset a fall in sales of UK goods.

On the output side, construction and manufacturing both rose 0.1 percent, helping to offset a 0.1 percent contraction in services. Within the services sector, transport and real estate posted the largest declines, with the latter reflecting the downturn in the housing market. Consumer-facing services overall fell 0.7 percent as households cut back.

Over the month, services rose 0.2 percent, with health services boosted by the roll-out of the latest Covid-19 vaccination campaign. However, consumer-facing services declined for a second month, while construction and industrial production barely contributed to growth.

## Broking firm expects slowed activity at the equity market

By Guardian Reporter

Market activity at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) is expected to lower following the completion of corporate financial reporting and due to the ending of the year.

"Stock prices are currently experiencing fluctuations due to ex-dividends, company performance and economic status. These factors are likely to contribute to increase trading and overall market dynamics," says the monthly capital markets report by Exodus Advisory, member of DSE.

In October, the report says, the stock market saw a decline in activity, dropped by a 40.43 percent to 12.36bn/- in market turnover, mainly driven by low demands in the stocks and the decrease in the block trades.

Overall market capitalization showed a downfall of 1.14 percent, indicating a fall in the total value of market assets whereas,

domestic market capitalization, representing the value of local companies' stocks, exhibited a positive trend, with a 1.26 percent increase, showing that local businesses likely performed well during the month and is due to companies' perfor-



DSE brokers participate in online trading

mance and the financials released.

"The local market has recently shown an upward trend due to the release of the quarter financials of domestic companies. Also, local stocks like TICL Plc have demonstrated a great upward movement, driven partly by positive corporate actions such as issuing of rights issue," the report says.

However, companies like NICO have decline to the ex-dividend period.

Most of the cross listed stocks prices are still falling due to their country's economy and political status.

During the reported month, CRDB bank an-

nounced the results of the Kijani bond issued in September of which it aimed at raise 40bn/- which will be used for environmental conservation.

The bond was oversubscribed by over 327.6 percent of which they got 171bn/-. Total investors were 1,754 of which 98 percent are local investors, thus this shows an increase in investment in the country.

Also, CMSA has approved the TICL issuing of the right issue, which opened yesterday until December 1st.

During the period, the all share index decreased from 1,782.75 points to 1,762.38 points, while the

Tanzania share index increased by 1.26 percent to 4,334.05 points, suggesting positive performance of the local counters in the market.

Both Banks, Finance & Investment and the Industrial & Allied indices showed a growth, increasing by 3.19 percent to 4,675.03 points and 0.63 percent to 5,153.62 respectively.

On the other hand, the Commercial Services index saw a decline, dropping 0.51 percent from 5,121.60 to 5,153.62 points.

Locally, TICL recorded the highest appreciation of 27.27 percent followed by TCCL (16.28 percent), CRDB (4.55 percent) and

NMB (2.61 percent).

On the other hand, SWIS recorded the lowest performance falling by 19.72 percent followed by MCB (3.13 percent) and NICO by (2 percent).

On government bond market, the government issued the 5-year and 10-year treasury bonds. The 10-year Bond was under-subscribed by 46 percent. The under subscription may be due to low rates of the bond.

In the secondary market, volume traded in the October declined by 6.55 percent from 246.04 billion to 229.92 billion. Consecutively, the most liquid papers were 20-year and 25-year Treasury bond.

## EU, CMSA all out to promote finance taxonomy in Tanzania

By Guardian Correspondent

A key workshop on the Development of a Sustainable Finance Taxonomy in Tanzania has been conducted on Thursday in Dar es Salaam, spearheaded by the European Union and the Capital Markets and Securities Authority Tanzania (CMSA).

The workshop served as a platform to disseminate the findings of a comprehensive report by an international team and to lay down an action plan for development of a Sustainable Finance Taxonomy for Tanzania.

The initiative is part of the EU's commitment to supporting the development of sustainable financial systems within the country.

"Key among the objectives was to acquaint Tanzanian stakeholders with the uses and advantages of a localized sustainable taxonomy" said Cedric Merel Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Tanzania.

"This tool is intended to define what constitutes 'sustainable' economic activities and to guide investment towards environmentally and socially beneficial projects."

"The development of a Sustainable Finance Taxonomy provides a clear framework for investors and companies to contribute positively to our nation's environmental and social targets. CMSA is proud to be at the forefront of this initiative, ensuring that our financial practices pave the way for a sustainable future for Tanzania, reflective of our unique challenges and opportunities," said Alfred Mkombo, the Director of Research and Policy, CMSA.

The workshop addressed the process and benefits of such taxonomy, including supporting the achievement of na-



Cedric Merel, snHead of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Tanzania

tional environmental and social policy goals, provide science-based, clear criteria for green investment decisions, and facilitating sustainable finance products like Green Bonds.

Set against a background of global movement towards sustainable financial practices, the report underscored Tanzania's alignment with over 30 nations actively developing similar

frameworks.

It emphasized the need for a taxonomy that not only aligns with global standards such as those set by the EU but also reflects Tanzania's unique environmental and socio-economic contexts.

The agenda invited participants to strategic discussions on the proposed taxonomy's scope, including priority sec-

tors like agriculture, energy, and water services, and stressed the importance of a science-based, practical, and regularly updated taxonomy.

The workshop marks the beginning of a series of engagements aimed at fostering sustainable development in Tanzania's financial sector and contributing to the country's broader sustainability goals.

## Safaricom stock jumps 6.8 pc on Kenya unit profit growth

NAIROBI

Safaricom's share price jumped 6.8 percent on Thursday after the company reported a growth in earnings from the mainstay Kenyan operation.

The share price hit Sh13.30 from Sh12.45 on Thursday, rising from a 52-week low of Sh11.50 on Monday this week.

The company topped trades at the Nai-

robi Securities Exchange (NSE), posting a turnover of Sh230.2 million with 17.3 million shares traded.

On Thursday, the telecoms operator provided more impetus for the return of investor interest to the stock, having also affirmed the retention of its dividend policy, with an interim dividend announcement lined up in the first quarter of 2024.

Despite being a darling of investors, Sa-

faricom's share price has taken a beating all year, largely from sell-downs by foreign participants who have shunned the NSE for comparatively higher returns from assets in advanced economies in the face of rising interest rates.

Safaricom's share price closed as the second top gainer yesterday after Williamson Tea Kenya and with a foreign participation rate of 85.6 percent.

The telco's share price nevertheless remains below its 52-week high of Sh29 and with returns remaining in loss territory on a year-to-date basis.

Safaricom revised its full-year guidance on earnings before interest and tax, pointing to better-than-expected earnings in the first six months of its financial year to the end of September.

Kenya carried the weight of the group's

Sh27.1 billion net profit in the half-year that marked a slight decline from Sh30.2 billion a year earlier.

The group's service revenues in the period grew by 9.3 percent to Sh159.1 billion. Resilience in Kenyan operations has enabled Safaricom to partly offset losses from capital expenditure on its Ethiopia expansion operations.



# CEOt, IUCN partner to promote sustainable business

By Guardian Reporter

The CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOt) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at establishing a significant collaboration aimed at cultivating sustainable business practices in Tanzania.

Under CEOt's Business and Sustainability Agenda and the IUCN's Sustainability and Inclusion Strategy for Growth Corridors in Africa (SUSTAIN) priority areas, both organisations will focus on enhancing sustainable practices within Tanzanian businesses and support the government's climate goal of attaining its commitment to reducing National Determined Contributions (NDCs) from 10-20 percent to 30-35 percent by 2030, it was said in Dar es Salaam during the signing ceremony in Dar es Salaam.

Santina Benson, who is the Executive Director of CEOt said that the signing of the MoU was part of the continued long lasted partnership between the two parties.

"We are working with different stakeholders in the private sector to implement various goals in various economic sectors," said Benson.

"We have this time come into an agreement with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to work together and create awareness to the value chain of different business sectors, including agriculture on best opportunities that are available for the growth of business."

The collaboration will also contribute to the development of an inclusive green economy.

She further highlighted, "SDG 17 emphasises on partnership and collaboration to drive impact."

"Our partnership with IUCN began in 2019, and we are excited to have the opportunity to collaborate once again and contribute to our shared vision."



CEOt executive director Santina Benson (L) exchanges documents with IUCN zonal director Luther Anuku, after signing the agreement. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

"We recognise the private sector's pivotal role in delivering on Tanzania's Climate Change aspirations. Through this partnership, we are committed to building on the unique contributions of each organisation in order to support businesses to transition to sustainable practices."

The partnership is well-timed as the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) recently launched the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) that will require all businesses to disclose information on climate-related risks and opportunities.

Additionally, as the world continues to mitigate the impact of Climate Change, businesses serve as the catalysts for this change by shifting from commitment to action in order to achieve sustainable growth that combines economic efficiency with meaningful, substantive measures to resolve these challenges.

The private sector is an important ally in combating climate change promoting net zero and nature positive development in Tanzania.

By utilising their resources, expertise, and market-oriented approach,

private sector entities can drive climate action, enhance resilience, and contribute to sustainable food systems.

"Our partnership with CEOt aims to promote sound business models and a holistic approach, including support for the enabling policy environment. Together, we aim to actively contribute to the climate and environmental agenda and promote innovative Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for these pressing challenges," said Luther Anuku, Regional Director for IUCN Eastern and Southern

Africa.

CEOt and IUCN will leverage their expertise and resources to equip business leaders and stakeholders to understand different ways to adapt, mitigate, and transition to more sustainable business practices.

This will be achieved through tailored workshop sessions, communication campaigns, facilitation, and knowledge-sharing, as well as building a business case that will showcase how sustainable business practices improve business performance.

## African fintechs to reach \$20 bn turnover come 2028

NEW YORK

While a high proportion of their populations remain unbanked or underbanked, emerging and developing countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America will be the main drivers of fintech sector growth in the coming years.

The combined revenue of startups specializing in financial technology (fintechs) operating in Africa is projected to reach \$15 to \$40 billion in 2028, up from \$3 to \$4 billion in 2022. This growth signifies an average annual growth rate of 30 percent during the period, according to a report published on October 24 by the consulting firm McKinsey & Company, entitled "Fintechs: A new paradigm of growth."

The report specifies that the revenue of African startups disrupting the finance world is expected to have the second-highest growth rate globally after fintechs operating in the Middle East (35 percent on average per year between 2023 and 2028).

In Latin America, fintech revenue is expected to grow at an average rate of 27 percent per year by 2028, compared to 18 percent in Europe and 12 percent in North America and the Asia-Pacific region. The global average is anticipated to be 15 percent per year.

On a global scale, the total revenue of fintechs stood at \$150 to \$205 billion in 2022, accounting for 5 percent of the total revenue in the banking sector. However, it is expected to more than double in the coming years, reaching \$325 to \$463 billion by 2028.

Emerging and developing countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America will be the main drivers of this growth, considering their largely unbanked or underbanked populations.

The report also highlights that the fintech sector has experienced significant growth worldwide over the last decade. As of July 2023, publicly traded fintechs represented a total market capitalization of \$550 billion, a figure twice the amount recorded in 2019.

Additionally, over 272 fintech companies achieved unicorn status in 2023, with a combined valuation of \$936 billion, compared to only 39 financial startups valued at over a billion dollars five years ago.

Fintech companies raised record capital in the latter half of the last decade. Capital funding from venture capital funds for this category of tech companies increased from \$19.4 billion in 2015 to \$33.3 billion in 2020.

Moreover, the sector benefitted from the acceleration of digitization triggered by the coronavirus pandemic. Fundraising peaked at \$92.3 billion in 2021, and the number of transactions increased by 19 percent.

# Oil set for third weekly drop as demand fears outweigh war risk

RIYADH

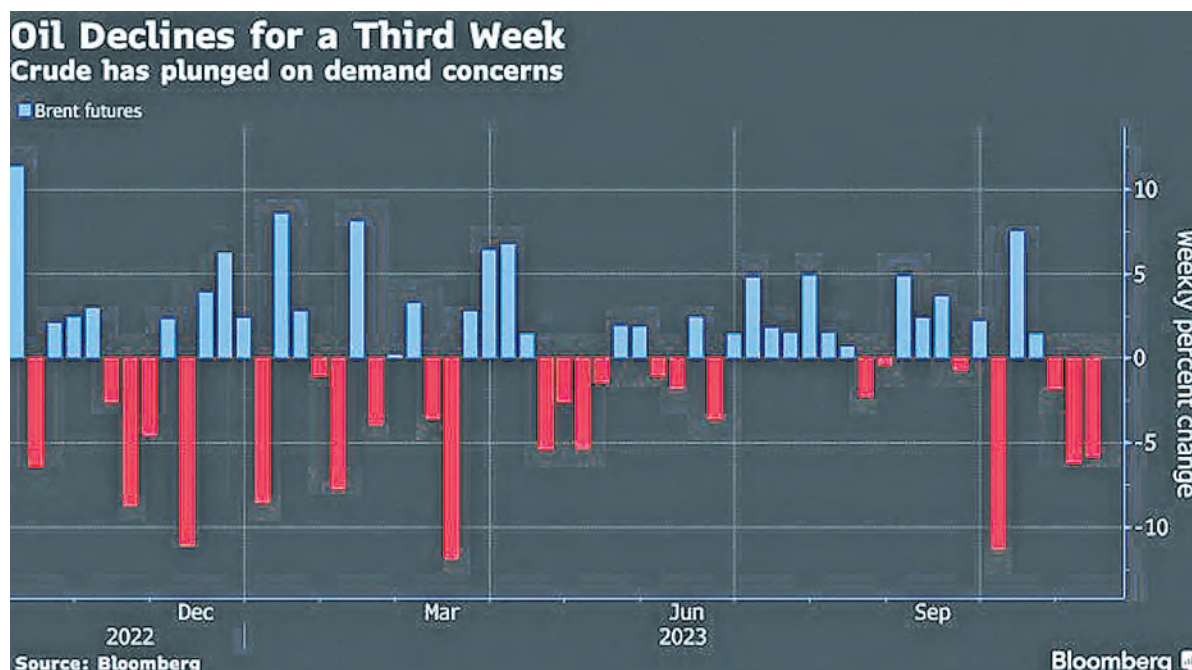
Oil headed for a third straight weekly drop on growing concerns over global demand and the unwinding of the war-risk premium, while Saudi Arabia blamed speculators for the decline.

World's Largest Bank Hit By Ransomware Gang Linked to Boeing, Ion Attacks

Global benchmark Brent crude climbed above \$80 a barrel on Friday, but is down around 5 percent this week.

West Texas Intermediate was close to \$76. Prices rose Thursday after comments by Saudi Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman that were similar to his criticism of speculators in May, weeks before the kingdom cut output.

Brent has plummeted around 13 percent over the past three weeks on bearish demand signals from China, the US and Europe, while flows from the Middle East remained unaffected by the Israel-Hamas war. Hedge fund manager Pierre Andurand also



pointed to larger-than-expected supplies – citing high production in the US and Iran – as a catalyst for the recent retreat.

It's a sharp reversal from late September, when Brent flirted with

\$100 a barrel and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries projected an unprecedented decline in inventories amid record fuel demand and the Saudi cuts. Attention

has now shifted to a refining downturn in China and stubbornly high interest rates in the US.

"Investors are wary of a global economic slowdown possibly denting demand for fuel, and that's completely negating the fear of conflict

escalation in the Middle East," said Priyanka Sachdeva, a market analyst at Phillip Nova Pte. The recent plunge is unwarranted and "prices are likely to find support on reduced supply and potential bottlenecks in the Persian Gulf," she said.

Diesel – a key fuel powering the economy – is becoming the latest drag on oil, with US futures slumping about 8 percent this week. That echoes softness in Europe, where declines in industrial and economic activity in Germany, France and Spain have driven a sharper retreat of fuel consumption.

The rapidly souring sentiment has caused WTI's prompt spread to flip to a bearish contango structure, where near-term prices are below longer-dates ones, for the first time since July. The turnaround comes as American production rises to a record and stockpiles at the nation's top storage hub come off critically low levels.

Terminal users can click here for more on the Israel-Hamas War.

# Gold council members contributed \$57bln to host economies in 2022



LONDON

World Gold Council (WGC) member companies directly contributed \$57-billion to host economies in 2022, as well as \$570-million to local communities and indigenous groups in 34 countries, which shows that gold mining can contribute greatly to socioeconomic development, the industry body says.

Notably, the local community contributions grew by \$118-million compared with 2021, on the back of revenue growing by \$3.9-billion across WGC members globally in the year.

The host country contributions include \$38-billion of payments to

in-country suppliers, \$10-billion in salaries and \$9.3-billion in payments to governments.

The WGC finds in a social and economic contribution report that every job in the gold mining industry supports six more jobs indirectly in the supply chain.

It quantified the direct social and economic contributions of 30 member companies in 2022, comprising 242 operational mines and 111 non-producing sites, including head offices.

Recent efforts by WGC members to train and develop local skills as opposed to bringing in expatriates have led to 95 percent of employees coming from the host country of

operation.

WGC members now employ a combined 207 000 people and 156 000 contractors.

In terms of gender diversity, the WGC finds that the boards of its member companies comprise, on average, 31 percent women and 69 percent men, while women hold 17 percent of executive leadership positions, compared with 83 percent held by men. Women make up 16 percent of the total workforce in the gold mining industry among WGC members.

WGC members include Agnico Eagle, Alamos Gold, AngloGold Ashanti, B2Gold, Barrick Gold, Centerra Gold, China Gold,

Endeavour Mining, IAMGOLD, Kinross, Newcrest Mining, Gold Fields, Resolute, Sibanye-Stillwater, Wheaton Precious Metals and Zijin.

The WGC explains that gold mining operations are geographically diverse and often located in areas with little existing infrastructure or alternative economic activity.

Gold mining is a complex multi-year business that involves high capital outlays up front, long lead times and uncertain returns, however, when undertaken responsibly, gold mining can play an important role in contributing to socioeconomic development in its host nations, the WGC states.







## WORLD

## Russia says to pave way for early ceasefire in Gaza

MOSCOW/CAIRO/TEHRAN

MOSCOW is making efforts to help pave the way for a diplomatic solution and an early ceasefire in Gaza, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Thursday.

"We are undertaking intensive efforts to deescalate the conflict, to achieve an early ceasefire," Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Maria Zakharova said at a press briefing.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov remain in constant contact with officials from the region, said Zakharova.

"A single message is being conveyed to all sides on the urgent need for a ceasefire," she said.

Zakharova also recalled that Russia's draft resolution on a humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza had previously been rejected by the United States and its allies at the United Nations Security Council.

"We were truly shocked to hear the statement made by the Israeli Ambassador to Moscow that the evacuation process could take up to two weeks," she said, adding that this logic was unacceptable.

"For us, the issue of rescuing Russian citizens, compatriots, and all those that have contacted us from there, is a priority," she said.

**'Beyond legitimate self-defense'**

Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry said on Thursday that Israel's ongoing strikes on the Gaza Strip had gone beyond the legitimate right to self-defense, labeling such attacks as serious "violations of international humanitarian law."

Shoukry made the remarks during an international conference in Paris on the deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Gaza, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

The Egyptian top diplomat reiterated Egypt's call for "an immediate and sustainable ceasefire."

"We denounce all practices that aim to impose a new fait accompli to forcibly displace, transfer, and deport Palestinians from their land, as the number of displaced people in



This photo taken on Nov 9, 2023 from a position along the border with the Gaza Strip in southern Israel, shows a view of destroyed buildings in Gaza. (PHOTO / AFP)

Gaza has reached two-thirds of its population," he was quoted as saying.

Israel struck Gaza in retaliation for a cross-border Hamas attack on southern Israel on Oct 7, during which Hamas militants took about 240 hostages. The bloody conflict has so far led to the deaths of at least 10,569 Palestinians in Gaza and killed more than 1,400 people in Israel.

Ground operations by the Israeli military and continued bombardment are hitting civilians in Gaza, which has been under a tight siege for over a month now, with lack of shelter, food, water, fuel, electricity, and health facilities.

Shoukry said that even providing a safe corridor for Gaza's civilians to move from the north to the south of the enclave "is not a positive development, but rather a continuation of displacement in violation of international humanitarian law."

He also expressed his country's rejection of the double-standard policies of "some countries" biased toward Israel.

Since Oct 21, after Israel's approval, Egypt has sent hundreds of humanitarian aid trucks to the besieged enclave via the Rafah border crossing, donated by Egyptian institutions and NGOs as well as other countries and organizations.

The Palestine Red Crescent Society said on Thursday that it had received a total of 756 relief trucks so far.

Shoukry noted that Egypt alone donated about 5,400 tons of aid supplies to Gaza despite the country's economic challenges, urging the international community for more contributions.

Moreover, he stressed "the settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will only be achieved on the basis of the two-state solution and the international legitimacy resolutions."

Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979 and has for many years been a key peace mediator in the decades-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

**Iran, Türkiye urge end to Israeli attacks**

Meanwhile in Uzbekistan, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan called for an immediate end to the bombardments and siege on the Gaza Strip, Iran's official news agency IRNA reported.

The two presidents made the appeal in a meeting on the sidelines of the 16th Summit of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the Uzbek capital Tashkent, during which they also held comprehensive negotiations on the latest developments in Gaza, the report said.

Raisi and Erdogan also highlighted the necessity to make "practical and effective" decisions in an extraordinary summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) scheduled for the Saudi capital Riyadh on Sunday, according to IRNA.

Raisi is expected to visit Riyadh for the upcoming emergency meeting of the OIC's heads of state on Palestine's issue, the semi-official Tasnim news agency reported on Monday.

The trip will be the first visit by Iran's president to Saudi Arabia since the two countries reached a landmark deal to normalize relations in March.

Xinhua

## Recent statements by Israeli minister confirm Israel has nuclear weapons – Russian MFA

MOSCOW

RECENT statements by Israel's Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu definitively confirm that Israel possesses nuclear weapons, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said in a statement.

"Against the background of Israel's historical policy of uncertainty regarding its possession of nuclear weapons, these statements not only clearly confirm the presence of such weapons in this country, but also demonstrate the readiness to seriously consider the possibility to use them in completely inappropriate scenarios," the diplomat said.

"This is a serious reason to think about where the extremist-minded representatives of Israel may end up as they realize they can do anything in the condi-

tions of virtually unlimited patronage from the West," she continued.

According to Zakharova, Russia regards the minister's remarks about the possibility of using nuclear weapons against the residents of the Gaza Strip as "provocative and absolutely unacceptable."

"Such statements mean that the entire civilian population of the Gaza Strip is being threatened with nuclear weapons. Is this a threat of genocide?"

There is and can be no justification for such statements, especially since they come from the official of a state that positions itself and is proclaimed by the collective West as 'the only democracy in the Middle East,' which, apparently, should imply its complete and unconditional righteousness in any situation," she added.

The diplomat said the



issue of establishing an area that's free of weapons of mass destruction and means of their delivery in the Middle East is becoming ever more relevant and urgent.

"As a reminder, any progress in this area is systematically 'torpedoed' by Israel with the active support and connivance of the US," the spokeswoman said.

**Remarks by the Israeli minister**

Israel's Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu was asked in an interview with Kol Berama Radio on November 5 whether a nuclear bomb

should be dropped on Gaza and responded that it was one of the possibilities. The official later said that the nuclear bomb statement was metaphorical, but Israel definitely needs a powerful and disproportionate response to terrorism. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu suspended Eliyahu from government meetings and criticized his remarks about the possibility of using nuclear weapons in Gaza.

Eliyahu's remarks were condemned by several Middle Eastern countries, including Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

A statement released by the Saudi foreign ministry said that "the failure to immediately dismiss the minister or suspend him from office reflects the height of the Israeli government's contempt for all human, moral, religious and legal norms and values."

## Do you know gut bacteria protects against diarrhoeal disease? Study finds

ENGLAND

ACCORDING to recent research from the University of East Anglia, the bacteria in your stomach may have an impact on how severe a diarrhoeal illness is.

Every year, cryptosporidiosis causes over 100,000 deaths, most of which are in children under five.

It also affects animals, and a recent study that was published in the journal *Science* indicates that the more severely affected are large species, such as primates, whose guts contain fewer varieties of bacteria.

It reveals that introducing more diverse gut bacteria can improve outcomes - including reducing diarrhoea and potential for the disease to spread.

The team, led by Prof Kevin Tyler at UEA's Norwich Medical School, say that diet, probiotics and faecal transplant therapy could help target the disease by improving gut bacteria in people and animals.

Prof Tyler said: "The vast majority of infections and deaths happen in low-income countries, but outbreaks also occur in the UK and elsewhere in Europe.

"In the UK, the disease is currently re-emerging and cases this year are increasing dramatically, suggesting the disease is currently epidemic. There are no human vaccines and only one drug licensed for human use, which is not effective for many who are affected.

"So, understanding what that can improve outcomes is critical to tackling outbreaks.

"We wanted to know whether some of the variation in symptoms might relate to the make-up of an infected person or animal's gut bacteria and whether that composition was in turn affected by having cryptosporidiosis."

The team collected all studies that had looked at the composition of gut bacteria in mammals which were infected by cryptosporidium and for which the data had been made publicly available.

They compared these to answer questions about the significance of gut bacterial diversity and the effect of cryptosporidium infection.

Lead researcher Georgina Hurler, also from UEA's Norwich Medical School, said: "The Cryptosporidium parasite is one of several microorganisms that cause diarrhoeal disease. It affects both babies and new-born livestock and it can be contracted either from animals or from people.

"Most people contracting cryptosporidiosis will recover naturally, but some people and animals will require treatment, suffer long term consequences from the infection, and may even die.

"The severity of the disease is known to be affected by prior exposure, so adults are generally less severely infected and recover better.

"We found that more severely affected large animals such as cows, sheep and primates, have less different kinds of bacteria in their gut.

"We also found that having and even introducing more diverse gut bacteria can improve outcomes, reducing diarrhoea and potential for disease transmission.

"Gut bacteria composition can be affected by diet, by consumption of probiotics and pre-biotics and by therapies like faecal transplant therapy.

"Understanding the changes that accompany infections and outcomes provides an opportunity for such relatively affordable but novel therapies in targeting a disease for which very few interventions are currently available.

ANI



Defence Secretary Girdhar Aramane

## India-US dialogue amid volatile global scenario holds 'great significance', says Defence Secy

NEW DELHI

THE India-US 2+2 Dialogue holds "great significance" against the backdrop of a "volatile" global scenario, said Defence Secretary, Girdhar Aramane, while emphasising the critical role of the meeting in exploring avenues for "upholding international law" and providing "humanitarian assistance".

He also said that the India-US partnership is of utmost importance to peace and stability in the immediate neighbourhood, but also to the connected regions.

The India-US defence cooperation has become a "rock solid support" to the bilateral relations between the two countries, Aramane added.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, along with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin, addressed the India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue at the Hyderabad House in the national capital.

At the dialogue, Austin said the India-US Defence partnership has made tremendous forward strides in the past year, including the US-India Defence Industrial Cooperation Roadmap.

The Defence Secretary of India, while addressing a media briefing following the dialogue, underscored the "potential collaboration" in emerging domains for civilian commercial use as well as for strategic use, which was also a topic of common interest.

"In essence, the defence cooperation has become a rock-solid support for the bilateral relations between the two countries. The potential collaboration in emerging domains for the civilian commercial... How the defence industries can interact each other's interests and promote each other in this particular context of strong bilateral ties was also a matter of great focus," he said.

"This 2+2 is a continuation of the important steps taken during that visit... Especially in the regional and global scenario, when the situation is very volatile, the visit of the dignitaries from the US is of great significance. It affords an opportunity to review the security and see how the upholding of international law and humanitarian assistance can be looked at very closely and in a mutually comfortable fashion," stated Defence Secretary Aramane.

He also recalled PM Modi's visit to

US in June earlier this year, which led to new initiatives between the two countries and called the 2+2 dialogue, a "continuation of important steps" taken during that visit.

"We had a very successful visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June this year in which many new initiatives were struck. This 2+2 is, in a way, continuation of the important steps taken during that visit. We, in the two plus two meeting, shared our common and convergent interests and shared our mutual goals," he added.

During the dialogue, EAM Jaishankar also said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the US had opened a new chapter in the India-US relationship.

"The highlight this year was the PM's state visit to the United States in June; it has opened a new chapter in our relationship. President Biden's visit to Delhi in September contributed immensely to the positive trajectory of our ties. His support was key to ensuring productive outcomes at the G20 summit. The dialogue today will be an opportunity to advance the vision of our respective leaders. Building a forward-looking partnership while we construct a shared global agenda," Jaishankar said at the 2+2 dialogue.

The Defence Secretary also said that the investor meeting between the US and India held on Thursday held a "very deep dialogue".

"The innovative ecosystem had a very deep dialogue. The investors and the innovators had heart-to-heart talks. Under the direction of the DIU from the US and the DiO of the Ministry of Defence India, this partnership will give the necessary dynamism for Indian industry, enabling them to become parts of the global supply chain," he said, addressing the media.

"This meeting will contribute to giving momentum to the defence industry roadmap, which was recently finalised. We have a common vision of free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific and a rule-based global order throughout the seas in this world. Our partnership is of critical importance to peace and stability in our immediate neighbourhood, but also in other regions connected to us," said Aramane as he concluded his address.

The India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue is a diplomatic summit held every year since 2018, with the Minister of External Affairs and the Defence Minister representing India while the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defence representing the United States.

ANI

THE economic growth of the Asia-Pacific region is expected to reach 4.6 percent this year, up from 3.9 percent in 2022, according to the Regional Economic Outlook for Asia and Pacific recently released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The report said that "economic activity in Asia and the Pacific remains on track to contribute about two-thirds of global growth in 2023."

In a recent Asian Development Outlook report, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) forecasted that the region's devel-

## Asia-Pacific sees bright prospects for economic growth

oping economies will grow 4.7 percent this year.

Against the backdrop of a sluggish recovery of the world economy this year, the Asia-Pacific region has shown resilience and vitality, with continuous progress made in regional cooperation.

The Asia-Pacific region accounts for one-third of the world's population, over 60 percent of the world's economy, and nearly half of global trade. Experts said that the Asia-Pacific region boasts rich

production factors, a huge market size, diverse resources, and strong economic complementarity.

Currently, market demand in the region is gradually recovering, the tourism industry is rebounding rapidly, and consumption is showing resilience. Inflationary pressures in some countries in the region are decreasing.

The Pacific Asia Travel Association recently estimated that by the end of 2023, the number of international tourists

visiting the Asia-Pacific region is expected to exceed 516 million, reaching approximately 76 percent of the pre-pandemic level in 2019. By 2024 and 2025, the number is projected to increase to 107 percent and 116 percent of the pre-pandemic level, respectively.

The Asia-Pacific region is a pioneer and a demonstration area for promoting digitalization and developing the digital economy. According to a recent forecast by International Data Corporation (IDC), the

digital economy is expected to contribute 65 percent of the overall economic output of the Asia-Pacific region in 2023, and businesses in the region are anticipated to generate 43 percent of their revenues from the digital economy chain.

Experts believe that digitalization is reshaping the Asia-Pacific economy, and the region is facing opportunities for digital transformation.

In addition, the IMF predicted that inflation for most Asia-Pacific economies would fall

within central bank targets by the end of 2024, earlier than the rest of the world.

In June this year, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement came into effect for all its 15 members, entering a new phase of comprehensive implementation. According to the agreement, over 90 percent of trade in goods within the region will eventually be tariff-free.

This will make trade relations smoother and closer

among member countries, further promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation in the Asia-Pacific region, and enhance the region's intrinsic momentum for economic growth.

With the signing of the RCEP, the dividends are gradually released. As the construction of the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area advances, the industrial and supply chain cooperation between the two sides, based on complementary advantages, has continuously been strengthened.

People's Daily



# Five jurists elected judges of International Court of Justice

## UNITED NATIONS

FIVE jurists were elected on Thursday by the Security Council and the General Assembly as judges of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to replace five outgoing judges.

The elected include Bogdan-Lucian Aurescu of Romania, Hilary Charlesworth of Australia, Sarah Hull Cleveland of the United States, Juan Manuel Gomez Robledo Verdusco of Mexico, and Dire Tladi of South Africa.

They will serve a nine-year term of office beginning on Feb. 6, 2024. Among the five, Charlesworth of Australia was re-elected. Kirill Gevorgian of Russia, who also sought re-election, failed in his bid.

This year, there were nine candidates for five positions. Apart from Gevorgian of Russia, three other contenders - Chaloka Beyani of Zambia, Ahmed Amin Fathalla of Egypt, and Antoine Kesia-Mbe Mindua of the Democratic Republic of the Congo -



In this file photo dated Nov 13, 2017, United Nations Security Council members cast their vote during a meeting on the election of five members of the International Court of Justice, at the UN headquarters in New York. (PHOTO / AFP)

failed to obtain enough votes. Under the Statute of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, the election of

ICJ judges is through secret balloting at the Security Council and the General Assembly.

A candidate has to obtain an absolute majority in both chambers to get elected. Voting in the two chambers must be held concurrently but separately. This year, the General Assembly obtained a conclusive result in its first round of voting.

The Security Council, however, had to run five rounds to get a conclusive result, which mirrors the voting result of the General Assembly.

The Hague-based ICJ has 15 judges elected to nine-year terms of office. To ensure a degree of continuity, five judges are elected every three years. Judges are eligible for re-election.

Should a judge die or resign during his or her term of office, a special election is held to choose a judge to fill the unexpired part of the term.

The 15 judges must come from 15 different countries. The court as a whole must represent the main forms of civilization and the principal legal systems of the world.

## Russia may downgrade diplomatic relations with US, senior diplomat says

### MOSCOW

WASHINGTON'S behaviour may compel Moscow to downgrade diplomatic relations or even cut ties, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov said.

"We are indeed going through an acute crisis in relations, the likes of which we have never seen before. We need to carefully calibrate and verify the steps we are taking to prevent further escalation.

Our leadership encourages the Foreign Ministry and other federal government agencies to act this way, which is what we are guided by. However, we have seen the Americans take a series of irresponsible and escalatory steps with regard to Ukraine, and not only there," the senior diplomat said in an interview with RTVI.

"That is why, if we look at Washington's current behavior model from this perspective, I don't rule out anything at all. The level [of diplomatic ties] may be lowered; and the severance of diplomatic relations is also possible," he added.

Still, the deputy foreign minister stressed that Russia did not plan to initiate the severance of diplomatic relations with the US. "We believe that diplomatic relations are an element of international affairs that need to be taken care of because otherwise we will lose all that's left of civilized channels for sending messages to each other," Ryabkov said.

In this regard, he pointed out that November 16 would mark 90 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the United States.

"Our relations have been through various phases; there was even a period of allied ties and brotherhood in arms in the fight against a common enemy, Hitlerite Germany, that was waging a war against us and our allies, which included the US back then.

Later, there were the Cold War, the Cuban Missile Crisis and a period of detente. We've seen many things," the Russian deputy foreign minister noted.

The senior diplomat also pointed out that Russia would always respond to any US challenges and provocations. "I think the Americans know us by now, watching how firmly and consistently we defend our interests in all areas," Ryabkov emphasized.



# Half million more Palestinians to fall in poverty if Gaza war continues for another month - UN report

## UNITED NATIONS

THE poverty rate in Palestine will soar by 34 percent, thrusting nearly half a million additional people into poverty, if the war in Gaza continues for a second month, warns a UN report.

In such a scenario, Palestine's gross domestic product (GDP) will plummet by 8.4 percent - a loss of 1.7 billion U.S. dollars, according to initial estimates by the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

It is estimated that, as the war hit the one-month mark, poverty had risen by 20 percent and economic growth had declined by 4.2 percent, said the two agencies in their report on the socio-economic impacts of the Gaza war on Palestine, which was released on Thursday.

The assessment also underscores that the International Labour Organization estimates that 390,000 jobs have already been lost in the first month of war.

According to projections, a third month of war would see poverty increase by almost 45 percent, raising the number of additional people pushed into poverty to more than 660,000, while the GDP will fall by 12.2 percent with total losses of 2.5

billion dollars. Currently, 1.8 million Palestinians are living in poverty, said Rola Dashti, executive secretary of ESCWA.

The poverty rate in Gaza was 61 percent before the latest escalation on Oct. 7. The poverty rate in the West Bank was 30 percent, said Abdallah Al Dardari, UN assistant secretary-general and director of UNDP's regional bureau for Arab states.

The assessment warns of a sharp decline in the Human Development Index, the UNDP's summary measure of well-being, setting development in Palestine back by between 11 to 16 years, and in Gaza by 16 to 19 years, depending on the intensity of the conflict, according to the report.

"The unprecedented loss of life, human suffering, and destruction in the Gaza Strip is unacceptable," said UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner in a press release. "This assessment alerts us that the impacts of this war will also have long-lasting effects and will not be confined to Gaza.

On top of the humanitarian catastrophe we see unfolding, there is also a development crisis. The war is rapidly accelerating poverty in a population already vulnerable before this crisis hit."



Palestinians crowded together as they wait for food distribution in Rafah, southern Gaza Strip on Thursday. AP

Dashti, who launched the report together with Al Dardari, warned that economic recovery in Gaza following a cease-fire will not be immediate, considering the large-scale displacement of the population, the massive levels of destruction and uncertain access to resources, including materials and equipment owing to the siege on Gaza. She also warned that the consequences of the war are even more severe given the fact that the projected poverty

increase is about income only.

"It's not only the money-metric poverty. It is the multidimensional poverty that is more important," she said, noting that almost all Gazans (96 percent) are currently multidimensionally poor.

Multidimensional poverty means the deprivation of essential services for livelihood, including health, utilities, transport and freedom of movement, she said. Even if there is a cease-fire today, the mul-

tidimensional poverty situation will not improve quickly, she said. With almost 1.5 million people in Gaza internally displaced since the beginning of the war and the massive destruction of houses reportedly destroyed or damaged, the assessment predicts that the economic downturn will further exacerbate the catastrophic humanitarian situation and will make recovery prospects challenging and slow, according to the report.

## NAIROBI

THE Court of Appeal has overturned a High Court decision nullifying a KRA tender for provision of an excisable goods management system awarded to a company called SICPA in 2013.

SICPA, an international provider of security inks as well as secured identification, traceability and authentication services, had originally been awarded a contract by Kenya's taxman in 2013, to produce secure new generation excise stamps.

In 2017, following the enact-

## Kenya's Appellate Court upholds SICPA stamps contract

ment of legal notice by the government increasing the number of goods to be covered under the excise stamps regime, it was realized that the original contract to SICPA could not cover the expanded scope of work and had to be cancelled and reissued again; this time under direct award.

The direct award was defended on the basis that SICPA had already set up the systems and software having been legally awarded the original tender, and that issuing a parallel con-

tract would be costly and inconveniencing to manufacturers already using the system.

The award of the tender to provide the system as well as the production of excise duty stamps had been challenged by public litigation specialist, Okiyah Omtatah, on the grounds that it contravened the laws of Kenya including lack of public participation, denying access to socio-economic rights, and violating the public procurement rules.

Concurring, the High Court in 2018 nullified the tender finding

that it was awarded irregularly contrary to the procurement law in place, that public participation was inadequate, and that it curtailed access to basic rights such as access to water.

A three-judge bench of the Court of Appeal however, has now overturned that decision finding that the trial judge misapplied the law by relying on the procurement law that came into place in 2015, rather than the older Act of 2005 which was in place at the time the original tender was awarded.

The Appellate Court also found that it was not feasible to expect a fresh tender award to be issued when already SICPA had been awarded the tender in 2013 and the procuring entity was merely expanding the scope of goods to be covered under the system.

The judges also found that the lower Court erred in shifting the burden of proof to the procuring entity, KRA, to prove that tendering was done procedurally, whereas the accuser, Omtatah, ought to have proved his allegations having averred them in the first place.

Agencies

## By Felix Kaiza

OCTOBER 29, 2023, represents 100 years since the proclamation of the Republic of Turkey by the Grand National Assembly. A century is just like a drop of water in the history ocean of nations and our multi-millennia-year-old planet. It is said that history repeats itself. Indeed it does; but a closer scrutiny of related events and reigning circumstances reveals that it is not always in the same way. And this is what really makes the difference. Thus in 1923, the occasion was on the 302nd day of the Gregorian calendar, 63 days to the end of that year. One hundred years later, everything read the same except the day of the week. Monday was it then. This time round it was a Sunday. On a critical light note, did this year's centenary Sunday reflect a day before or six days after the 1923 Monday? That is question.

By tradition, for 35 hours running, more than 85 million Turkish people (according to 24 October 2023, Worldometer elaboration of the latest United Nations data) starting from 1:00 pm on 28th October, celebrated their national day. But what sort of day? This is where those who have read James Bond (007) secret service novel series by Ian Lancaster Fleming have an extra ex-

# Has Turkey celebrated centenary under 'stroke'?

perience delight from the coincidence perspective. October 29 of every year is also the World Stroke Day. Could there or this be a symbolic coincidence to the effect that Turkey actually marked the republic centenary under stroke?

A coincidence is a remarkable concurrence of events or circumstances without apparent causal connection. From the medical point of view, the World Stroke Day is to raise public awareness of stroke prevention, detection, and treatment. It seeks to educate the masses about the cause of this second leading cause of death globally. It further highlights the importance of timely intervention, access to appropriate healthcare services and the role that individuals and institutions can play in recognizing stroke symptoms and taking preventive measures.

Doesn't this apply to social, political, educational, governance, ethical, faith and religious aspects of the Turkish people, a hundred years down the republic line? Consider the following perceptions pertaining to centenary Republic of Turkey, land of the father of Turkey, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and renowned people like Beduizzaman Said Nursi and Islamic scholar-cum-

theologian Fethullah Gülen. While Nursi held that a nation's ruler is a public servant obliged to serve the people rather than practice domination and despotism, Gülen, has had a lot to do with moral values. Where does one find the trace of Nursi's great life characterized by dedication, pious efforts and selflessness in the lives of most current leaders? What has happened to Gülen's advocacy for access to universal education, tolerance and peace?

Instead, within one month to the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Turkey celebrations, the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) Grand Chamber made a decision pointing to a serious violation of rights by deliberately equating non-criminal acts, which were not crimes according to the interpretations of national courts, with knowingly and willingly joining an armed terrorist organization. Centenary Turkish legal system stands accused of being filled with uncertainties, arbitrariness and systematic obstruction of the right to a fair trial which seriously tarnishes the integrity of its judicial system and exposes the country to a clear accusation of failing to uphold the most basic principles of justice.

The court also reveals attack on the freedom of association protected under the Convention through the Turkish government suppression of dissent, and its classification of the freedom of association as a terrorist offense thus obliterating the right to freely assemble and engage in peaceful and legitimate activities with like-minded individuals, which forms the foundation of democratic societies.

The ECtHR decision clearly indicates that the results of this violation go beyond the directly affected individuals, deeply undermining the right to participate in civil life without unwarranted interference, translating into about 8,500 ap-

plications involving similar complaints and more than 100,000 cases with similar allegations being heard in Turkey. All in all, according to the court's findings and records obtainable from the Ministry of Justice, it can be said that there is a systematic and serious problem affecting more than 1,000,000 individuals with a multiplier effect when considering family and household dimensions.

Turkey practically threw the ECtHR's decision out of the window as Justice Minister Yılmaz Tunç called it "inadmissible" and President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan told Parliament it was "the last straw ... and impossible for us to respect the decisions of institutions aligned with terrorist organizations just like us." This has two serious implications, the more important of which is a government that is not ready to be held accountable for its deeds.

With due respect, many issues stick their neck out. The Kurds question turns out as the right-marker. When the Republic of Turkey was founded on October 29, 1923, after a war of independence against the Allied occupiers who had crushed the Ottoman Empire at the end of World War I, founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, a general in the defeated Ottoman army, rode on ideas of French elites. A nation-building process took place making life difficult for ethnic minorities, prompting the majority among them, the Kurds (20% of the population), to rebel. The effect has been an armed insurrection since 1984 and which has claimed more than 40,000 lives and outlawing the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) which is taken as a terrorist organization.

One hundred years on, the Turkish government has failed to resolve this question

- the reason for which former president Abdullah Gül said has assumed the level of a regional problem that is open to manipulation by international powers. If the Kurds had been granted more extensive democratic and fundamental rights and freedoms, Gül is convinced, Kurdish citizens' loyalty and feeling of belonging would have been strengthened and the story would be reading differently. Why doesn't Erdoğan see it this way?

The second is the Gülen issue. Why, why, has the Turkish government been arresting, prosecuting and persecuting members and perceived members of the Gülen movement? The number of Kurds being ill-treated by the Erdoğan regime is roughly known. But how about those of the Gülen movement?

I put the second question to one of the victims living in exile and this is what I got: "A really difficult question. There are Turks, Kurds and all other ethnicities in the movement. I don't think (there is) any person in Turkey who did not read the newspaper Zaman (1 million circulation, once from 5 million); did not go to centers of the movement; did not go to coaching centers, schools and universities they run; did not read magazines Sızıntı (750,000 circulation) and Fountain Aksiyon (75,000 most circulated magazine).

## Global investors should eye opportunities in China, says Citadel founder

### HONG KONG

GLOBAL investors have to "be watching and investing" in China in view of the extraordinary capabilities of management teams in China and their highly competitive products, Citadel founder Ken Griffin has said.

Speaking at the Global Financial Leaders' Investment Summit held in Hong Kong, Griffin noted on Tuesday that in the past, an investor could have been well-served by exclusively investing in U.S. companies for 100 years. However, he said that the world has changed.

"There's much more innovation outside of the United States relative to 50 years ago," said Griffin.

He highlighted the extraordinary capabilities of management teams in China, noting that they produce highly competitive products on the global stage, especially in the solar and electric vehicle industries.

Also on Tuesday, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) raised its forecast for China's growth by 0.4 percentage point, setting its gross domestic product (GDP) projection for 2023 at 5.4 percent growth.

"The Chinese economy is on track to meet the government's 2023 growth target, reflecting a strong post-COVID recovery," said a statement made by the IMF's First Deputy Managing Director Gita Gopinath following a visit to China.

Xinhua



## There's much more innovation outside of the United States relative to 50 years ago

Agencies





Giannis became the fifth player in NBA history to drop 50 points in a game and still lose. Agencies

## Giannis Antetokounmpo scores 54 points, but Haliburton, Pacers rally for 126-124 win over Bucks

INDIANAPOLIS

GIANNIS Antetokounmpo scored an NBA season-high 54 points, but committed two turnovers after Tyrese Haliburton's go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:29 left and the Indiana Pacers beat the Milwaukee Bucks 126-124 on Thursday night.

Haliburton had 29 points and 10 assists and Bennedict Mathurin added 26 points and 11 rebounds for the Pacers, who blew an 18-point lead and then had to rally from 10 down in the fourth quarter.

"We had to deal with a player who was extraordinarily hot and on a roll," Indiana coach Rick Carlisle said. "We executed as well as we could and created some chaos defensively. You've got to take some risks or else he's going to end up with 60. Very fortunate to get the win."

Antetokounmpo finished one point shy of his career high, but threw away a pass with 1:03 left, then was stripped by Mathurin with 30 seconds to go, both with the Bucks trailing 122-121. He was 19 for 25 from the field, 16 of 18 on free throws and grabbed 12 rebounds, but also had eight turnovers.

"Just trying to get stops," Mathurin said. "The game's about defense."

Chicago's Zach LaVine had the previous high game in the NBA this season with 51 points against Detroit on Oct. 28.

Myles Turner added 21 points for the Pacers, who shot 48% from the field, including a 20-of-48 performance from 3-point range.

Playing without All-Star Damian Lillard, sidelined by calf soreness, Milwaukee received a breathtaking performance from Antetokounmpo, who was three points shy of Michael Redd's franchise record. Khris Middleton, who had 19 points and made a 3 at the final buzzer, missed a 3 that

would have tied the game with 7 seconds left.

With 8.4 seconds to go and Indiana clinging to a one-point lead, Mathurin connected on two free throws to make it 124-121. Bruce Brown, who had 11 points, nine rebounds and seven assists, sealed the win with two foul shots of his own in the final seconds.

The Pacers roared to an 18-point lead in the first quarter and led 38-24 at the end of the period on the strength of eight 3-point makes. Milwaukee climbed within 66-60 at halftime and pulled even at 71 on two free throws from Middleton with 9:32 left in the third.

The Bucks went ahead by as many as 10 in the final period and still led 117-108 with 5 minutes left.

Antetokounmpo scored 26 points in the first half, including 18 in the second quarter, and then 20 more in the third period. He reached 50 with 10:28 left on a layup assisted by Middleton's over-the-top pass, prompting an Indiana timeout.

First-year Milwaukee coach Adrian Griffin was ejected with 7:52 remaining in the third quarter, the recipient of a double-technical foul immediately following Antetokounmpo's dunk in traffic. A night earlier, after Antetokounmpo was ejected in a 120-118 win over Detroit, Griffin had promised to be more vocal with officials regarding hits on his superstar.

"I thought Giannis was getting hit quite a bit and voiced my opinion," Griffin said. "Next time I'll be a little more delicate. He's such a great human being and doesn't complain, has such respect for the referees. It is my responsibility to make sure he's protected."

Milwaukee shot 53% from the floor but made only 9 of 27 from distance.

AP

## KCB Group-sponsored driver eyes African Rally Championship title



The KCB Bank's Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs, Christine Manyenye (C) shakes hands with Karan Patel, the KCB Group sponsored driver who is participating in the African Rally Championship (ARC) this weekend. On the right is the co-driver, Tauseef Khan. The final leg for ARC will take place in Iringa today and tomorrow. (PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT)

By Guardian Correspondent

KCB racing team driver Karan Patel says he is consciously eyeing the African Rally Championship (ARC) title in the final leg this weekend.

The driver and his navigator Tauseef Khan currently lead the ARC standing with 120 points which puts them in a better position to win the title if the team performs well in the two final rounds in Tanzania.

"It has been a successful year for us so far and we are hoping to seal the deal here in Iringa (Tanzania) by collecting enough points so that we can win the ARC championship.

The aim is not just to win but to do what is required to gather the points needed for us to win," said during press briefing ahead of the rally.

The Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs KCB Bank Tanzania, Christine Manyenye said the Bank as the main team sponsor remains optimistic about winning the title as the previous performances were top-notch.

"As we prepare for the Rally of Tanzania, which will also mark the last leg of the 2023 Africa Rally Championship calendar, we are confident of the KCB racing team. From the beginning, they have demonstrated their desire to claim the continental title and are just

one leg away from realizing this dream," said Manyenye.

With a career marked by remarkable achievements, Patel has consistently demonstrated his ability to push the limits of speed on the track. His journey has been defined by countless hours of hard work and an unrelenting pursuit of the best.

"As a bank, we wish to reassure our commitment towards supporting motorsport in the region. Our support has gone a long way in building the KCB brand to be the undisputed powerhouse brand that we are today," she added.

The team has done reconnaissance (surveying) for the two routes ahead of the rally which will give them a deep understand-

ing of the terrain for easily navigation during the rally.

The navigator, Khan, said the terrain was a bit rough but they have put in place a game plan that will enable them to maneuver the foreseen challenges.

The first round will take place today at Matembo Iringa and the final route at Sao Hill Mafinga covering a total of 370 kilometers.

The driver and his navigator currently lead the ARC standings with an impressive 120 points, closely followed by Uganda's Jas Magat with 111 points. Yassin Nasser, despite facing setbacks in the Zambia event, remains a formidable contender with 93 points.

## Tanzania battle Zanzibar for U-15 CECAFA championship today

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi and Agencies

TANZANIA U-15 boys team will face the Zanzibar side in the ongoing CECAFA Championship Group B fixture slated for today in Njeru, Uganda.

Both Zanzibar and Tanzania have already booked semi-final slots from the group.

The hosts Uganda were the first to the semi-final stage on Tuesday after winning their second Group A match.

The two sides will battle for the first spot with a draw in favor of Zanzibar who have collected many goals (7) with a clean sheet, while Tanzania has

scored three goals with one goal conceded.

Tanzania scored six points from their two opening games against Rwanda and Somalia.

They defeated Rwanda 2-1 with 10-man. Peter Arbogasti netted for Tanzania in each half, while Patrick Niyongabo pulled one back for Rwanda.

Tanzania's Feisal Juma was sent off with five minutes to the end of the match.

In the second game, Tanzania defeated Somalia 1-0 with Suleiman Kaniki's goal.

Zanzibar defeated Somalia 4-0 in the first match played on Wednesday at the FIFA Technical Centre and went on to send

Sosthène Habimana's Rwanda boys packing with a 3-0 win.

Hosts Uganda are title favorites but Zanzibar's goal-scoring threat has been remarkable putting them in the conversation as well.

With one semi-final spot at stake, Ethiopia and South Sudan will battle for the spot, while Sudanese side will need a big win against Djibouti to clinch the final fourth spot while hoping Uganda to beat Ethiopia.

So far Uganda hold the record of many goals in one game after scoring 15-0 past Djibouti in their opening fixture.

The CECAFA Zone last held a U-15 Boys Championship in

Asmara, Eritrea in 2019 where Uganda stopped Kenya to emerge champions.

As previously, Yussuf Mossi, the CECAFA Competitions Director, made it clear that only players aged between 11-15 years old will be eligible to play in the championship in Uganda.

After the U-15 CECAFA Boys Championship, focus will turn to the CECAFA U-18 Boys Championship which will be held in the Kenyan town of Kisumu from November 25 to December 9.

The Pan African Schools CECAFA Zonal qualifiers will crown the 2023 season when it takes center stage December 10-15 in Nairobi.



Tumbi Secondary School's students present the topic through drama in the ongoing tax clubs competition held at the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA)'s Institute of Tax Administration at Mikocheni in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. Students from 59 schools from Dar es Salaam and Coast regions participate in the competition organized by TRA with the aim of encouraging tax education in schools. (PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA)

## CAF now launches online ticket sales process for Africa Cup of Nations 2023

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi and Agencies

THE Confédération Africaine de Football (CAF) will launch online ticket sales for the Africa Cup of Nations Cote d'Ivoire 2023 at the weekend towards attracting football fans across the continent and beyond for the showpiece African football event.

Sales will go online today, November 11, with the first phase open exclusively for VISA payment card holders.

Two days later, on Monday, November 13, public sales will go live on the platform.

The move, a first-ever in the history of the Africa Cup of Nations, seeks to provide fans an opportunity to secure their tickets well in advance for the tournament scheduled for January 13 to February 11, 2024, in the Ivorian cities of Abidjan, Bouake, Korhogo, San Pedro and Yamoussoukro.

As a sequel to the successful launch of the ongoing CAF Women's Champions League, a dedicated fully functional, and user-friendly platform has been developed on the CAF website to create a pleasant and seamless fan experience

for interested persons.

CAF General Secretary Veron Mosengo-Omba said CAF was committed to creating access to thousands of football fans who will travel to Cote d'Ivoire to watch the event next year and also ensure that Ivorians have easy access to the competition.

"Online tickets will enhance ticketing experience for fans of African football and the general public. The support from the stakeholders has been great and we are hopeful of meeting the increasing demands of the fans and the general public," he said.

25 percent of the tickets for the group stage will be available for this phase of sales for fans to secure their seats for the 34th edition of the biennial football fiesta.

Ticket prices range from 5000 FCFA (about 8 US Dollars) for Category Three (3), 10000 FCFA (about 16 US Dollars) for Category Two (2) and 15000 FCFA (about 24 US Dollars).

Fans will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for the group stage with an opportunity of six tickets for each household.



## VAR controversies prompt calls for action in Premier League

LONDON

VAR was supposed to help cut out egregious and costly refereeing mistakes but the technology has come under heavy fire from Premier League managers who have lost faith in the system.

The video assistant referee was introduced in the 2019/20 season for "clear and obvious errors" or "serious missed incidents" in specific situations.

The promise was that it would lead to "more correct and fairer judgements", even though the Premier League conceded that 100 percent accuracy was impossible.

But feelings are running high after high-profile incidents that have overshadowed the action on the pitch.

Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta launched a blistering attack on the decision to let Newcastle's goal stand after his team's 1-0 defeat last weekend, labelling it a "disgrace".

Anthony Gordon's second-half goal was checked for three separate VAR offences but survived them all to earn Newcastle the three points.

"We didn't deserve to lose the match," Arteta told Sky Sports. "We lost the match because of the clear and obvious decisions. It's embarrassing. A disgrace."

The Spaniard's comments were made in the heat of the moment but the club came out strongly in support of their manager in a statement the following day.

"Arsenal Football Club wholeheartedly supports Mikel Arteta's post-match comments after yet more unacceptable refereeing and VAR errors on Saturday evening," Arsenal said.

- 'Sporting integrity' -  
The angry fallout after the game at St James' Park echoed another VAR controversy in the high-stakes fixture between Tottenham and Liverpool in late September.

Officials wrongly disallowed a goal from Luis Diaz after a misunderstanding over the on-field decision and Spurs went on to win 2-1 at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

Referees body Professional Game Match Officials Ltd (PGMOL) released the audio of the decision that led to the disallowed Diaz goal.

In the recording, video assistant referee Darren England says the check is "perfect" before swearing when he realises a mistake has been made. "They've restarted the game. Can't do anything, can't do anything," he adds in exasperation.

PGMOL admitted a "significant human error" and Liverpool issued a statement in which they said "sporting integrity" had been undermined.

"We fully accept the pressures that match officials work under but these pressures are supposed to be alleviated, not exacerbated, by the existence and implementation of VAR," the club said.

Manager Jurgen Klopp even called for the game to be replayed.

Wolves have far more cause for complaint, with four high-profile penalty decisions going against them, potentially with far-reaching consequences.

Arteta stuck to his guns before Arsenal's Champions League match against Sevilla this week, suggesting it was the duty of managers to discuss the issues around the use of VAR.

"Errors are part of evolution," he said. "The trajectory is never going to be (always upwards), there are always going to be bumps in the road and these things are necessary to improve the game in the right way."

"But we have to talk loudly. If you have a problem and you put it in your drawer, the problem is in the drawer and it's going to stink at some point."

League Managers Association chief executive Richard Bevan says coaches want to see changes -- including the video assistant referee working with the same referee each week.

"PGMOL have confirmed to us that they are actively looking at how best to incorporate VARs into match-day refereeing teams, to ensure the dynamic between on-field referee and VAR is conducive to producing positive outcomes," Bevan told the Daily Mail.

"The managers are also calling for a review (and simplification) of the interpretation of the term 'clear and obvious' in VAR decision-making, as this is a cause of much confusion at present."

Henry Winter, chief football writer for The Times, urged the Premier League to listen to the managers of its clubs.

"Anyone who attends a game or watches on television knows that VAR has never been more contentious," he said. "Some grown-up debate is required. The starting point is that, love it or loathe it, VAR is here to stay."

"We live in a technological age and other sports have embraced it successfully, so it's about English football getting it right."

AFP

## Man City face Chelsea test as pressure builds on Ten Hag

LONDON

PREMIER League leaders Manchester City travel to Chelsea tomorrow with Erling Haaland in ominous form as Arsenal and Tottenham seek to recover from their first defeats of the season.

Early-season results boosted hopes of a genuine title race but City were the only team in the top five to win last weekend.

At the other end of the table, the bottom four sides are in danger of being cut adrift even before the season is a third of the way through.

AFP Sport picks out three talking points ahead of the action in the English top flight.

"Man City turn on style  
Manchester City recently had an uncharacteristic mini-wobble but they have responded in emphatic style, hitting 17 goals in five games in all competitions.

Pep Guardiola's champions are back on top of the Premier League, taking advantage of slip-ups from Tottenham, Arsenal and Liverpool.

Erling Haaland, who scored 52 goals for City last season, is in red-hot form, with 15 in the current campaign so far.



Pep Guardiola

Mauricio Pochettino

City travel to Chelsea on Sunday not knowing exactly what to expect from Mauricio Pochettino's inconsistent team, who beat nine-man Tottenham 4-1 on Monday.

But the treble winners will be full of confidence, having won their past six matches against the Stamford Bridge side in all competitions without conceding a single goal.

"Pressure back on Ten Hag  
Manchester United got out of jail last week when Bruno Fernandes struck a last-gasp winner to earn a 1-0 victory at Fulham and ease the pressure on manager Erik ten Hag.

But the Dutchman is once again in the spotlight after United went down 4-3 in a chaotic Champions League match in Copenhagen on Wednesday.

The club have lost nine of their opening 17 matches in a season in all competitions for the first time since 1973/74, a campaign in which they were relegated.

United would normally be expected to sweep aside Luton, Saturday's opponents at Old Trafford, but they have scored just 12 goals in 11 Premier League matches so far and their injury-ravaged defence looks shaky.

Ten Hag, however, is convinced his team's luck will change.

"This squad is resilient," he said after the defeat in Denmark. "The whole season, so many decisions are against us, so many setbacks for injuries."

"Every time there is a spirit, there is a fight and we will keep going because I am sure and I said to the lads it will turn -- on one moment in the season it will turn in our favour."

"Relegation dogfight  
The bottom four teams in the Premier League each have just a single win and a paltry combined total of 20 points from 11

## Colombian guerrillas free Liverpool striker Luis Diaz's kidnapped dad

BOGOTA

COLOMBIA'S ELN guerrilla group on Thursday freed the father of Liverpool footballer Luis Diaz, ending a 12-day kidnapping ordeal and triggering celebration in his hometown.

After days of negotiations for the handover, the rebels presented Luis Manuel Diaz to humanitarian workers at an undisclosed location in the Serrania del Perija mountain range on the border with Venezuela.

The elder Diaz, 56, and his carers then traveled by helicopter to the city of Valledupar, some 90 kilometers (56 miles) from his hometown of Barrancas in northern La Guajira department -- where he was abducted on October 28.

Exiting the helicopter, Diaz walked slowly and waved at reporters who were kept at a distance.

According to Monsignor Francisco Ceballos, a member of the group that received him, Diaz spent "four days walking when they detained him, and two days now that they were going to hand him over."

When he was released he was "a little emaciated, tired, lame," Ceballos said.

Earlier, as news of his release broke, relatives of the footballer and his father embraced tearfully in Barrancas where they were gathered to follow the events.

Diaz arrived hours later to neighbors celebrating with drums and trumpet music outside his home, which was under police guard.

In a message broadcast on Blu Radio, Diaz said he wanted to "thank all the people... for this great support they have given to my family. I love



Relatives celebrate the release of Luis Manuel Diaz 12 days after he was kidnapped by a unit of the ELN guerrilla group. Agencies

them very much, soon I will have the opportunity to greet them and give them a hug."

In another video, Diaz is seen in bed with a bandaged right leg, thanking the military for his "quick" release.

His sister Aracelys Diaz told journalists the family was "happy," though somewhat concerned about her brother's condition.

"He is not as we would like, but he is fine. He is alive," she said.

- A 'mistake' -  
Diaz Sr. and his wife Cilenis Marulanda were abducted by armed men on motorcycles at a gas station in Barrancas nearly two weeks ago.

Marulanda was rescued hours later and a massive search operation by ground and air was launched for her husband, with more than 250 soldiers involved.

The Army withdrew its troops Monday under conditions imposed by the ELN for Diaz's release.

"It was not a simple operation... A series of conditions had to be met and of course every hour that passed generated anguish," govern-

ment representative Ivan Cepeda told Caracol Television.

The ELN, which is in peace negotiations with the government and is party to a six-month ceasefire that entered into force in August, has described the kidnapping by one of its units as a "mistake."

On Sunday, the 26-year-old footballer Diaz had begged the ELN on social media to free his father.

Liverpool welcomed the release Thursday and immediately named Diaz in their starting 11 against Toulouse in the

Europa League, which the Colombian's team lost 3-2.

- Trust broken -  
The abduction threatened to derail high-stakes peace negotiations between the ELN and the government of leftist President Gustavo Petro.

Petro took office last August with the stated goal of achieving "total peace" in a country ravaged by decades of fighting between the security forces, leftist guerrillas, right-wing paramilitaries and drug gangs.

The president last week said the kidnap-

ping had broken the "trust" between the parties.

And on Thursday, the government delegation to the peace talks said the ELN had caused "serious damage to the confidence of Colombian society in the possibility of achieving peace."

Luis Manuel Diaz was the founder and amateur coach of the only football academy in Barrancas, where his son showed promise from a very young age.

Known locally as "Mane," Diaz Sr. is credited with aiding the meteoric rise of the Liverpool

rounds of games.

Newly promoted Luton, Burnley and Sheffield United are all struggling along with Bournemouth -- there is already a five-point gap between 17th-placed Luton and Everton, one place above them.

Despite those poor results, not a single Premier League manager has been sacked so far -- there were a record 14 managerial changes last season.

Burnley boss Vincent Kompany urged his team not to lose confidence after they became the first side in English top-flight history to lose each of their first six home games to begin a season.

"We have to put everything into context and not let ourselves get knocked down by something which is supposed to be one of the hardest achievements to do, which is to establish yourself in this league," he said.

Kompany's men have a daunting trip to face Arsenal this weekend, with the Gunners smarting from their 1-0 defeat at Newcastle.

**Fixtures**  
**Today (1500 GMT unless stated)**

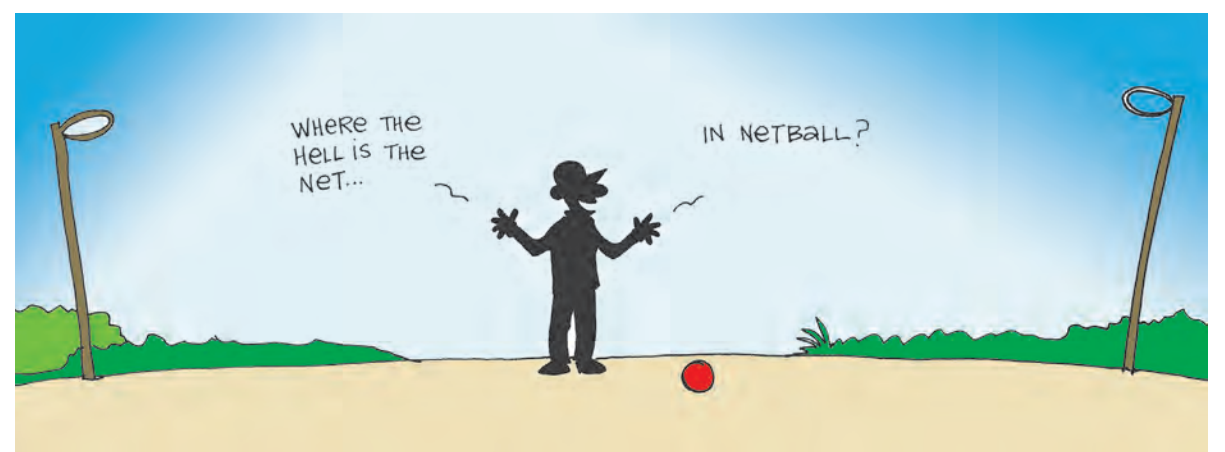
Wolves v Tottenham (1230), Arsenal v Burnley, Crystal Palace v Everton, Manchester United v Luton, Bournemouth v Newcastle (1730)

**Tomorrow (1400 GMT unless stated)**

Aston Villa v Fulham, Brighton v Sheffield United, Liverpool v Brentford, West Ham v Nottingham Forest, Chelsea v Manchester City (1630)

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Man City face Chelsea test as pressure builds on Ten Hag

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## Simba leadership calls for crisis meeting

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

NBC Premier League giants Simba SC are expected to hold a crisis meeting this week which is emanating from the team's recent disappointing form in both domestic and international tournaments.

The recent poor form of the team has put fans, players and officials on a collision course and our source at the club said there will be a meeting of club leadership, players and supporters this week.

The source, who did not want to be named, said the meeting is aimed at finding a solution to the struggles that the team is facing on the field of play.

The meeting comes after Simba lost 5-1 to their arch-rivals Dar es Salaam Young Africans (Yanga) last Sunday and one all-draw at home against Namungo FC on Thursday.

From the two games, Simba has collected a single point from a possible six points.

"I am told the leadership of our club will this week meet players, technical staff then supporters to find a solution to the struggles the club (Simba) is currently going through. We were of the view that our game against Namungo FC yesterday (Thursday) will be our comeback but we struggled and equalized in the late minutes of the game. Something has to be done to save Simba from sinking further," he said.

Simba information officer Ahmed Ally could not be reached on his mobile phone, but in a monitored interview on Thursday after the one all-draw against Namungo, he said they were disappointed with the results.

However, Ally said he is confident that his team will bounce back to its winning ways.

"Today's (Thursday) results against Namungo FC are not what we expected. Our aim was to collect all the maximum points, but this is football and I am sure we will bounce back and start winning games," he said.

After the 5-1 defeat in the hands of Yanga, irate Simba supporters asked for some players and head coach Roberto Oliveria, who is better known as Robertinho, to be sacked.

They (supporters) accused some players (names withheld) of poor performance, alleging that they (players) have been bribed to underperform and the coach for lacking tactical acumen to outstand Yanga's head coach tactics.

The supporters were also baying for the blood of the club chairman Murtaza Mangungu, alleging his lack of leadership skills is contributing to the club's downfall.

The supporters further challenged the players to change their attitude to remain in contention for the NBC Premier League championship.

Simba parted ways with head coach Robertinho and physical coach Corneille Hategekimama, and replaced the head coach with Daniel Cadena who is the club goalkeepers trainer and Suleiman Matola on an interim basis.

Unlike in a game against Yanga last Sunday, on Thursday the Msimbazi Street side played well but were failing to convert several chances which they created.

In a monitored post-match interview, Coach Cadena said his boys played well only that they were unlucky not to score goals.

He added that he will use the international break to rectify the problems.

"It was a good game. We played well but missed a lot of scoring chances. I will use the international break to rectify the mistakes which my players were making. I am sure we will be better when the league resumes next month," he said.

On Thursday at Uhuru Stadium, Simba came from behind and equalized in the 75th minute of the game through Jean Baleke while Namungo's goal was scored by Reliants Lusajo in the 29th minute.

# Simba boss Cadena unhappy with Namungo draw



Simba forward Willian Onana (L) fights for the ball with a Namungo player during their NBC Premier League match at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

**S**IMBA interim coach Dani Cadena was not satisfied with his side sharing the point with Namungo at Uhuru Stadium on Thursday.

The resilient visitors were excellent throughout, frustrating a Msimbazi Reds outfit who had previously been beaten just once all season.

While Simba undoubtedly had chances, Namungo largely contained them before pouncing on the 28th minute through former Young Africans striker Reliants Lusajo.

Jean Baleke struck a second-half equalizer for Simba to deny Namungo a memorable first NBC Premier League victory against Simba.

After the game, Cadena addressed the media.

The Spaniard admitted being frustrated with the results though he was happy with the performance in his first game in charge of the team following the sacking of Robert Oliveira

on Tuesday.

"We played against a strong team and another thing is that we came into the game with a bad result so it was difficult for us. We had a lot of opportunities but did not score goals. We have to work very hard because we can't keep giving away goals to teams.

"It is difficult for us but I think the players understand the new plan we

have. In the first half, we had control of the match for the first twenty minutes but I think the fitness levels of the players were not good in the last minutes and we lost control.

"In the second half, we made three changes. We brought on Moses Phiri, Luis Miquissone and Shaban Chilunda. These three players changed the match but only the ball never entered

the net. "We added more forwards because the opponents played in their own half so we thought we needed so many midfielders. The opponent gave us the opportunity to attack.

"I am not happy because there was no win for us but also I am happy with my players because they understand what we want. They gave me all that I told them they needed to do,"

Cadena concluded.

The result leaves Simba third in the table - behind Azam on goal difference and five points behind leaders Young Africans.

However, the Msimbazi has one game in hand against newly promoted Mashujaa as the NBC Premier League takes a two-week breather for the upcoming FIFA international break.

## Coastal Union confirm Mwinyi Zahera's replacement

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe



David Ouma (Agencies)

COASTAL Union have appointed David Ouma as their new head coach, following Mwinyi Zahera's exit two weeks ago.

The Kenyan coach was officially unveiled by the Tanga-based side on Thursday evening.

Zahera guided Coastal Union to one victory in his opening seven games in the NBC Premier League. That led to Wagosi wa Kaya to demote the former Young Africans tactician to the technical director role as he became the fourth coach to lose his job this season.

Coincidentally, Wagosi wa Kaya have brought in Ouma who resigned from his technical director role at Kenyan Premier League side Sofapaka two months ago.

Ouma was Sofapaka's head coach in the 2021/22 season.

He was demoted to the technical director role after a bad start to the 2022/23 Kenyan Premier League campaign.

He will have a big task on his hands, with the club lingering in the relegation zone on the NBC Premier League table, having won only one game in the opening nine games so far.

His first task in charge will be

an away fixture against Tanzania Prisons, whom they are separated by goal difference.

At his unveiling, Ouma boasted of his extensive successful works with struggling clubs and believes he can replicate the same at Coastal Union.

In his long coaching career that spans almost twenty years, he has managed Sofapaka FC, Posta Rangers and Mathare United in the Kenyan Premier League.

He has also coached both the Kenyan male and women's national teams, Harambee Stars and Starlets.

Ouma has a CAF A licence as well as a UEFA A badge obtained from Netherlands football federation, KNVB.

His internship was at the famous Dutch club, Ajax Amsterdam.

Work for Ouma cannot start quickly enough with the international break giving him the perfect opportunity to know and assess his squad before the resumption.

With two-thirds of the season still to play, Ouma has more than enough time to turn things around for Wagosi wa Kaya who have become perennial relegation candidates.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

