



National Pg 3 Govt to uplift water transport



National Pg 4 74,000 hectares taken from Runapa



National Pg 6 Envoy urges Tanzanians to explore ITEC



Samia: Taking criticism after decisions ups effectiveness

By Guardian Reporter

CCM national chairperson President Samia Suluhu Hassan has challenged women leaders to be assertive and accept constructive criticism as an integral part of leadership.

Speaking from Dodoma city while opening a general meeting of the ruling party's Women's Wing (UWT) meant for the election of its leaders at the national level, she expressed dismay over the speed of enrolling new members as well as the execution of the wing's economic projects.

She faulted women leaders failing to supervise projects to satisfaction owing to fearing criticisms, saying that derailed

development objectives through shying away from contributing to critical debates.

"You shouldn't fear giving constructive ideas regardless of the feelings of other participants," she said, adding that if women leaders continue locking themselves indoors because they are women, "our wing will hardly achieve its targeted goals." Women leaders should be more daring and do things that are beneficial to fellow women, she emphasized.

Samia challenged women not to hesitate to face people who have the means to assist them attain their goals, she said that when UWT members elect leaders they expect them to be bold and deliver in accordance

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CCM national Chairperson President Samia Suluhu Hassan opens general meeting of the ruling party's Women's Wing (UWT) in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: State House

PM asks clerics to drum up environment agenda

By Correspondent Benny Mwaipaja, Arusha

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday called on religious leaders to encourage environmental conservation to stem climate change effects that threaten food security due to prolonged drought.

He was speaking at a service held at Ngarenarok Parish in the north central diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT). The service was devoted to bidding farewell to ELCT secretary general Brighton Kilewa and bringing in the new ELCT secretary general, Robert Kitundu.

He commended steps taken by the ELCT and other churches to earnestly take up environmental degradation as a challenge, noting that religious denominations and the entire public need to take measures on the issue.

I have been told that you have 172 centres to provide health services where you have 24 hospitals, including the northern regional referral hospital KCMC

ELCT head bishop Dr Fredrick Shoo said the state of environmental care in the country is not good as many rivers had dried up, with the premier asking religious leaders to add the matter in regular sermons.

We must put emphasis on environmental protection issues including planting trees and using alternative energy to abandon wood and charcoal, he stated, urging cooperation with the government in encouraging environmental protection.

He also praised ELCT and other denominations for collaborating with the government to provide social services like health, education and water, noting that ELCT has 120 educational institutions including 17 English medium primary schools, 70 secondary schools, 21 technical colleges, six universities and nine schools for children with special needs in different

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Horticulture forex drive raising stakeholder hype

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

HIORTICULTURE is likely to become the leading foreign currency earner in the country by 2030.

Anthony Mavunde, the Agriculture deputy minister made this projection here yesterday when opening the three-day horticulture stakeholders conference organized by Global G.A.P., an agro-sector standards body based in the European Union, with worldwide membership.

The conference is themed "enhancing compliance for expanded market access and trade," where the cabinet official remarked that horticulture is a priority subsector,

owing to its potential to generate foreign currency, and offers a viable occupation for large numbers of youths and women.

He told horticultural producers and exporters from various regions and Global G.A.P experts that the government was taking affirmative action to spur the industry through seeking out key international markets, developing facilities to reduce post harvest losses, and improving the handling of perishables, for instance at the Dar es Salaam port.

Plans for this financial year include setting up the cold chain management system for horticultural products starting from transit,

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'Passport issuance has excessive bureaucracy'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mkinga

HOME Affairs minister Hamad Yusuf Masauni has cautioned on excessive bureaucracy in issuing passports and work permits for contracted foreign employees in Tanga, demanding that the red tape stops at once.

The minister made this observation when closing training for immigration officers at the Rafael Kubaga College in Mkinga District

in Tanga Region at the weekend, alluding to complaints from members of the public and visitors.

He said the issue of getting passports and residence permits is part of an open market policy, pointing out that there is an influx of tourists and investors who need services from the department.

"But still there is bureaucracy in providing the services," he stated, emphasizing that immigration officials must change.

The government has invested so much in ICT-enabling infrastructure in applying for passports and residence permits, hence it is essential that this has to be done fairly instead of pursuing personal interests.

He discounted the suggestion of a shortage of working tools, saying that in this year's budget, the government allocated 5.6bn/- to the department for the purchase of 30 vehicles for its activities.

Omary Mgunba, the regional commissioner,

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Zanzibar Industries and Trade minister Omar Said Shaaban (C) presents the CEO of the Year 2022 runner-up award to GF Trucks & Equipment Ltd founder and managing director Imran Karmal at the Tanzania Top 100 CEO Awards ceremony held in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Left is Tanzania Institute of Managers chairman Deogratius Kilawe. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



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Horticulture forex drive raising stakeholder hype

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processing, storage and display, as part of a grand strategy to boost exports, he said.

The ministry is at work to find how horticulture export value grows from \$750m to \$2bn by 2030, set out in the ministry's 10/30 agenda and the national development strategy. The latter requires that the agricultural sector grows by 10 percent annually by 2030, up from five percent at present.

He cited the recent clearance to enter the multi-million-dollar Chinese avocado market in a visit there by President Samia Suluhu Hassan as contributing to the realisation of the projected \$2bn export value threshold.

"We are in talks with the United States and Spain as to unlocking their markets for our horticulture crops to feature in those markets," he said.

Mavunde commended TAHA collaboration with Finland's Food and Forest Development (FFD) agency, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Trademark East Africa (TMEA), EU-Agriconnect and the EU Trias non-governmental organisation to help farmers in African countries.

Tanzania was holding the Global G.A.P tour stop, an annual event for the first time, a conference that brings together horticulture stakeholders to deliberate on

efforts that will enable increased compliance with Global G.A.P standard requirements for international markets access.

Regional Commissioner John Mongella promised further collaboration with TAHA to stimulate horticulture growth, as the industry is native to Arusha region before it was taken up elsewhere.

TAHA Group CEO Dr Jacqueline Mkindi lauded efforts by President Samia to unlock more strategic markets, noting that the task ahead is to work with the government to improve handling facilities and impart farmers with the right skills to produce in the required quality for overseas markets standards.

The country also needs to craft investment friendly policies to attract foreign direct investors (FDI) to spur the industry, she affirmed, enthusiastic for Global GAP tour stop event in the country.

It will push efforts to address challenges impeding compliance to Global GAP standards for a robust, vibrant agri-export sector, unveil existing opportunities as farmers and exporters create usable networks.

Complying with Global GAP and emerging social sustainability standards like Global Risk Assessment on Social Practice (GRASP) and achieving sustainable water management in agriculture, she added.

PM asks clerics to drum up environment agenda

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parts of the country.

"I have been told that you have 172 centres to provide health services where you have 24 hospitals, including the northern regional referral hospital -KCMC in Moshi, Kilimanjaro Region," he said, similarly pointing at 148 health

centres and clinics, lauding the facilities as supporting government efforts in moving health services closer to the people.

For his part, Bishop Dr Shoo praised the sixth-phase government for its efforts to bringing development to the people. The church supports these efforts, he added.

'Passport issuance has excessive bureaucracy'

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earlier said there have lately been complaints regarding illegal migrants in the country, with the government suffering a loss in taking care of them.

"Shortage of working tools and immigration personnel lacking marine expertise have often

contributed to the failure in controlling illegal migrants using sea routes," he said.

Dr Anna Makakala, the commissioner general, said that the training will help uplift their operational capacities to reflect international immigration standards.

Zimbabwe's biggest dam has too little water to generate electricity

HARARE

ELECTRICITY shortages that have been plaguing Zimbabwe are set to worsen after an authority that manages the country's biggest dam said water levels are now too low to continue power generation activities.

The Zambezi River Authority, which runs the Kariba Dam jointly owned by Zimbabwe and neighbouring Zambia, said in a letter dated Nov 25 that water levels are at a record low and electricity generation must stop.

The Kariba South Hydro Power Station provides Zimbabwe with about 70% of its electricity and has been producing significantly less than its capacity of 1,050 megawatts in recent years due to receding water levels caused by droughts.

The dam "no longer has any usable water to continue undertaking power generation operations," said the authority's chief executive officer, Munyaradzi Munodawafa,

in a letter to the Zimbabwe Power Company.

The authority "is left with no choice" except to "wholly suspend" power generation activities pending a review in January when water levels are expected to have improved, said Munodawafa in the letter seen by The Associated Press and widely reported in local media.

The authority has been reporting low levels of water at Kariba Dam during this period preceding the rainy season in recent years, but not enough to shut down power generation activities.

Coal-fired power stations that also provide some electricity are unreliable due to ageing infrastructure that constantly breaks down, while the country's solar potential is yet to be fully developed to meaningfully augment supply.

Households and industries have been going for hours, and at times days, without electricity due to shortages in recent months.

It has been reported that an ongoing expansion of a major coal-fired power station, Hwange, could help plug the shortages exacerbated by the Kariba plant shut down if it goes live by year-end as scheduled.



Zanzibar Industries and Trade minister Omar Shaaban (2nd-L) presents Tanzania CEO/MD of the Year 2022 award certificate to CRDB Bank Plc CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela in Dar es Salaam at the Top 100 Executive Awards ceremony held in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Two senior officers with the bank were also cited for special mention: Chief Financial Officer Frederick Nshakanabo and Head of Procurement Jesca Njau. Looking on: Tanzania Institute of Managers co-founder Deo John (L) and managing director Alex Shayo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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with members' expectations.

"Fearing being blamed will not help you as a leader, criticism makes you grow and it is part of leadership," she reiterated

"You may introduce new levies and charges to boost revenues, but you may end up being blamed. When this happens, you must review the charges to provide relief to the people. In situations like this, we don't go back, but keep going and still be daring," she explained.

Women leaders need to be confident and bold to take up criticisms as they cannot avoid it, she stated, elaborating that leaders shouldn't hesitate to take actions for fears of facing strong opposition in future elections.

The party leader asked the conference participants to break

Samia: Taking criticism after decisions ups effectiveness

up campaign groups as soon as elections are completed and provide support to newly elected leaders to enable them to conduct their work without hurdles.

Leveraging ideas on women economic empowerment, the president asked the leaders to come up with ideas to invest in major projects that would eventually ultimately see the wing obtaining more revenues.

There is an opportunity for women to start engaging in charcoal replacement briquettes using coal dust from the Kiwira coal mine in

Ruvuma Region, she stated.

UWT had enrolled 86,288 new members from 2017 to 2022, she pointed out, remarking that the number is too small even by comparing with those who joined the wing in Zanzibar.

UWT has to maintain advocacy for women's rights, fight gender violence and insist on women taking part in wider economic activities, she specified.

CCM Mainland vice chairman Abdulrahman Kinana directed his remarks at the need for unity and solidarity, urging UWT leaders to

defend the interest of women while adhering to the party's policies and government plans.

"When women face challenges; it is the responsibility of UWT to ensure problems facing women are resolved and their expectations are met. Leaders should be a bridge between the government and the party," he stressed.

Secretary General Daniel Chongolo said the women's wing is powerful and could help women attain what they desire, while insisting on the leadership to stick to the principal objectives of UWT.



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango issues directive to the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank's Information and Technology head, David Nghambi (L), who represented the TADB managing director when the VP visited the bank's pavilion at the National Financial Services Week Exhibition in Mwanza at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Survey shows record wildlife numbers in Mozambique's Gorongosa National Park

MAPUTO

IN the heart of Mozambique, 12,000 square kilometres of lush landscape and natural habitats make of Gorongosa National Park a treasure.

The civil war which ravaged the country between 1977 to 1992 caused casualties among wildlife. The elephant population, for instance, was virtually decimated

for its meat and ivory, then traded for weapons.

Thirty years later, biodiversity is increasing and according to the latest animal count, done in October this year, the local fauna has reached a new high, over 102,000 animals.

The team surveyed a core 60% of the Park over a period of 12 days.

"There is a very fertile, a very productive system", Mark Stalmans who works at the Gorongosa

National Park Science Department.

So if you got a vibrant population that's left, if you get them protection, with a good rainfall, with a frequent flooding, very fertile soil that provides for good grazing you can actually have a very rapid growth in those numbers"

The uncertainty over climate, however, is making National Park officials apprehensive. The "imbalance" in nature, they say, is

already "noticeable" in such vital phenomena as rainfall. "Sometimes it falls very early, sometimes it falls very late and sometimes it falls much less, or not at all", Pedro Muagura, an Administrator at the Gorongosa National Park said.

So, all this is going to impact on animal reproduction, it's going to impact on the vegetation and the migration of the animals is no longer what it should be. This not only harms the fauna, but also "decomposes" various activities."

The conclusions still need further studies. Until science suggests answers, Gorongosa will continue to adapt to the changes



Barrick Bulyanhulu finance manager Charles Mhando pictured in Dodoma city sat the weekend making a presentation at a finance, good governance and accountability seminar for local government authorities. It was organised by the Tanzania Association of Accountants. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Government busy working on strategies for uplifting water transport - minister

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER for Works and Transport Prof Makame Mbarawa has said that the government is working on strategies to bring major changes in the water transport which include constructing ships and producing more experts to work in the area.

Speaking during the first graduation ceremony for seafarers at the Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI), Prof Makame wanted the graduates to maintain ethical standards and utilize the skills obtained to bring development in the sector.

The course, which was sponsored by the Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency (CCTTFA), saw a total of ten students from countries of Tanzania, Burundi, Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

"A good seafarer is the one who maintains ethics when executing his/her duties, vision as well as adhering to self-safety and of vehicles," he said.

He further urged DMI to expand its network with various institutions so as to facilitate students at the college to have ample time to conduct Sea Time practical.

The minister commended CCTTFA for sponsoring the students as the move will help increase the number of professionals and strengthen sea transport services.

"The government has a responsibility to ensure that our students of the sea professions get enough practical training to increase their knowledge and then bring productivity at work," he said.

Burundi's minister for Infrastructure, Captain Dieudonne Dukundane commended Tanzania for utilizing its resources properly to ensure that students from all

countries of the central corridor learn and graduate well.

He emphasized on the importance of member countries of the central corridor to implement programmes which they have set so as to strengthen water transport especially in ocean and lakes so as to stimulate economic growth.

DMI deputy principal, Dr Tumaini Gurumo said the graduates have received training which will help them work in any country that is surrounded by ocean and lakes across the globe.

He also underscored the need to have special ships owned by central corridor member countries so as to strengthen regular practical learning of seafarers.



The government has a responsibility to ensure that our students of the sea professions get enough practical training to increase their knowledge and then bring productivity at work

High Court judge praises government efforts to improve judiciary services

By Guardian Correspondent,

Morogoro

TANZANIA Senior High Court Judge for Morogoro High Court Zone, Paul Ngwembe has thanked the government for providing funds for the improvement of the country's judiciary service.

Judge Ngwembe made the remarks when opening a training seminar for workers and staff from 18 district courts held in Morogoro region during which he said that

the government has dished out the money through the World Bank that has boosted courts and created a friendly environment for court employees.

He said Tanzania judiciary also thanks the World Bank for continuing to trust Tanzania by endorsing the loan that has helped the judiciary make improvements to its services countrywide.

Judge Ngwembe further said for a long time they had been faced with challenges including lack of buildings including refurbishing


of aged court buildings as well as other infrastructures, but the funds provided has rectified the deteriorating situation - from primary court to high court level.

He added that he will not tolerate any worker who will lack ethics by engaging in practices that mar the judiciary, including corruption, and called upon them to execute their duties with justice.

He called upon the 54 seminar participants to use the training to enhance their achievements when performing their daily duties.

The Registrar of the High Court of Tanzania, Wilbert Chuma said the training will provide mindset and concept changes in executing court duties and called upon all of them to be good ambassadors to become others.

The customer service training for new courts workers have been given for Songwe, Gairo, Mkinga, Mvomero, Kilombero, Kaliua, Uvinza, Buhigwe, Kakonko, Tanganyika, Mbogwe, Nyang'hwale, Kyerwa, Missenyi, Butiama, Rorya, Itilima and Busega districts.



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SALE OF USED ITEMS








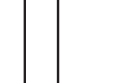

The International School of Tanganyika is selling used items as detailed below:

Description of item:


Item	Condition	Quantity	Location
1. MINI BUS, 15 SEATER MAKE - NISSAN MODEL: URVAN MODEL NO: HWS4RMEFE25DWA, COLOUR: YELLOW REGISTRATION NO. T906ADM ENGINE NO: ZD30022095 ENGINE CAPACITY: 3000, DIESEL YEAR OF MANUFACTURE: 2002	Good running condition	1	Upanga
2. MINI BUS, 15 SEATER MAKE - NISSAN MODEL: URVAN MODEL NO: TWS4RTFE25DWA, COLOUR: YELLOW REGISTRATION NO. T477ACP ENGINE NO: ZD30022327 ENGINE CAPACITY: 3000, DIESEL YEAR OF MANUFACTURE: 2002	Good running condition	1	Upanga
3. CANTER CABIN WITH SEATS	Fair	1	Upanga
4. SWITCH GEAR UNIT 1Kv (BRAND IMEB)	Fair	1	Masaki
5. ARMORED CABLE 95mm (4core) 25meters	Fair	2	Masaki
6. CABLE 95mm (3core) 26meters	Fair	1	Masaki
7. ENGINE BLOCK WITH CYLINDER HEAD FOR FORD RANGER 2.2 ENGINE	Poor	1	Upanga
8. AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH 530A, CLASS - PC, 50/60Hz	Poor	1	Upanga

Inspection can be done during office hours at UN Road, Upanga and Masaki.
Contact persons: Gaspar Kimario (mobile no. 0716 626201) or Paulo Bigo (mobile number 0655 549816/0754 549816)

Offers in writing to be emailed to bids@istafrica.com latest by 3.00 p.m. on Thursday, December 13, 2022

TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LTD (TIPER)



BULK STORAGE

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES

29 November, 2022

1. Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves (TIPER) Ltd is a bulk storage facility for Petroleum Products with its shares divided equally between the Government of Tanzania and Oryx Energies SA of Switzerland. The Company office is located at Kigamboni Industrial Area, Depot site-plot 1, Dar es Salaam-Tanzania.
2. Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd (TIPER) hereby invites experienced and reputable Service Providers with at least 5 years' experience in **Provision of Security Services** in oil and Gas Company to bid for provision of security services on annual basis.
3. Bid documents failed to comply with Article 2 above will not be considered for evaluation.
4. Interested and eligible bidders may request electronic copy of tender document by sending their request letters through the following email: tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz from **29 November, 2022 to 12 December, 2022 from Monday to Friday, between 8:00A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**
5. All bids properly filled and enclosed in plain envelopes in one original plus one copy, properly filled and enclosed in plain envelopes marked **Tender No: TP/11/2022/NCB/S/010 for Provision of Security Services**. All bidding documents must be delivered physically to, Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Limited (TIPER), P.O. Box 2608, Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam. The deadline for submission of Tender documents will be **4.00 p.m. local time on 13th December, 2022**
6. Bids MUST be submitted in hardcopies only. Softcopies MUST be submitted in a USB Flash Drive attached to copy of the bid document.
7. **Bidders MUST visit the site before bidding.** Pre-bid meeting and site visit to be conducted on **Monday 5 December, 2022 from 10:30am to 12:00 am local time.**
8. During the site visit all bidders will be required to come with their own PPE's (Personal Protective Equipment) which meets TIPER standards. This includes **Steel Toe Safety Boots, Cotton Overcoat and Helmet**. Bidders without PPE's will not be allowed onto the site.
9. There shall be NO public opening of bids.
10. Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids will not be considered for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
11. TIPER is not bound to accept the lowest or any bid.

THE SECRETARY, TENDER COMMITTEE,
TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LIMITED (TIPER),
P.O. BOX 2608, KIGAMBONI, DAR ES SALAAM.

Government gives up 74,000 hectares of land from Ruaha National Park: Jafo

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE government has released over 74,000 hectares of land from the peripheries of Ruaha National Park in Mbarali District and permitted it to be used by the people for their economic activities.

The decision was issued by the Eight-man Ministerial Sectoral Committee dealing with finding solutions to land conflicts in the country, whereby on Sunday it visited Mbarali District to inspect the land demarcation exercise around Ruaha National Park.

Leading the team, the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Selemani Jafo said the decision to give up the land to the people aims to empower villages around the national park to get land.

He said the land will be used by villagers in the area for farming and grazing to avoid their infringement on the park area.

He added that out of the land given up, 37,000 hectares have been reserved for grazing and 36,200 hectares for farming.

He said when the demarcation exercise is complete, every side - pitting villagers and TANAPA will identify the demarcation lines hence there will not be any infringement, and this is hoped to

put to rest the long-time conflict that had existed in the area.

Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera said the ongoing demarcation exercise is being supervised by experts under government directives.

"So far we have erected demarcation stones along 61 km and the work is under the directive of the 8-man ministerial sectoral committee," Homera said.

Residents of Mbarali district have been in land conflict against Ruaha National Park, opposing the boundaries that were erected according to GN 28 of 2008 saying the demarcation line was within their land.



So far we have erected demarcation stones along 61 km and the work is under the directive of the 8-man ministerial sectoral committee



Shree Jaing Sangh (SJS) Community Dar es Salaam chairman Chetan Shah (5th-L) symbolically presents a consignment of pillows, bed sheets and mattresses to the assistant head teacher of the city's Buguruni Deaf Primary School, Richard Kweka, at the weekend. It was a donation by the SJS Aan Daan committee headed by Convenor Akash Shah (6th-L) in collaboration with Lions Club of Dar es Salaam infinity members. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Swiss renewable firm partners H2 Industries to support green hydrogen projects in Africa

By Special Correspondent

SWISS renewables developer Terra Sola has signed MoU with H2 Industries to support its development of green hydrogen projects across Africa.

The agreement supports Terra Sola's development of large-scale integrated solar energy projects for selected countries across Africa integrated with H2 Industries' liquid organic hydrogen carriers (LOHC) technology.

These projects could enable the storage and release of electrical power for export, use as a local industrial feedstock, or for grid stabilisation and/or off-grid power availability.

The multimillion US dollar cooperation is aimed at accelerating the transition of local industries to renewable energy, driving electrification, and boosting socio-economic development in these selected countries.

Terra Sola brings together

financial, technological, and development partners to establish large-scale PV power plants, primarily in the Middle East, as well as Africa, where there is high demand for energy.

Terra Sola, through its Algeria-based development arm Terra Sola PV Production Algérie, is active in more than 17 African countries with a combined project pipeline of more than 10GW of installed solar capacity, combined with various socio-economic

benefits for their host countries, like education and job-creation programmes and the localisation of industrial production and knowledge transfer.

H2 Industries' LOHC technology can convert power from renewable energy into hydrogen, store and transport it in LOHC and then release it for power generation, via fuel cells, in any location or for direct use in industry and/or mobility sectors, on-grid, or off-grid.

ADF invests \$6 million in boosting governance of public financing on the African continent

By Special Correspondent

THE Board of Directors of the African Development Fund have approved a grant of \$6.12 million to help strengthen public finance governance in low-income African countries.

The funding is for Phase 2 of the Regional Institutional Support Project in Public Finance Governance (RISPPG) which will be implemented by two pan-African institutions: the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF) and the Collaborative Africa Budget Reform Initiative (CABRI). The grant, which was formally approved on 3 November 2022, will be distributed as follows: \$3.90 million to support the continent's tax administration reforms and domestic resource mobilisation efforts through support to ATAF and \$2.22 million to support budget reforms and strengthen public finance management through CABRI.

This project is a follow-up to a first phase approved by the African Development Bank in 2016 and successfully closed in September 2021 with both institutions (ATAF and CABRI). The project's overall objective is to improve domestic resource mobilisation and public financial management in recipient countries, and help strengthen their efforts towards sustainable, inclusive growth and development. More specifically, it aims to improve African tax systems through technical capacity building, strengthening public financial management capacities and the integration of gender and climate change into taxation and public financial management. The project will also help countries build a common position and a stronger voice for the continent on regional and global platforms.

Abdoulaye Coulibaly, Director of the Governance and Public Financial Management Coordination Office at the African Development Bank, said that in addition to development results, the project also aimed to strengthen the resilience of

national systems to various shocks, improve disaster preparedness and encourage the transition to low-carbon economies, through climate-smart budgeting and fiscal policies.

"The project will contribute to strengthening the actions of the Public Financial Management Academy, a virtual capacity building platform for African countries across the cycle and ecosystem of public financial management created in August 2022 by the bank," said Coulibaly said.

The project will help the countries of the African Development Fund who are members of the two implementing organisations. Their tax administrations as well as officials from ministries of finance will benefit from capacity building. The project will contribute to the development outcomes of the African continent and the achievement of various commitments, including financing for development, Agenda 2063 and Sustainable Development Goals. It will be implemented over a three-year period.



The project will contribute to strengthening the actions of the Public Financial Management Academy, a virtual capacity building platform for African countries across the cycle and ecosystem of public financial management created in August 2022 by the bank



Namumbo district commissioner Dr Julius Ningu (R) pictured at the weekend presenting an outstanding taxpayer award certificate for 2021/2022 to Jitegeme Holdings Company Limited finance and administration manager Deograsia Liwenga after the firm emerged runner-up in Ruvuma Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

African female leaders discussing food supply at Tokyo conference

TOKYO, Japan

FEMALE leaders from African countries attending an international conference in Tokyo have stressed the need to take measures to ensure a stable food supply.

The first Asia Pacific Africa Women's Economic Exchange Summit opened on Monday. The

conference was organized by a Japanese organization supporting African nations. Participants include female leaders from seven African countries, such as Uganda and Malawi and Japanese lawmakers.

Fatoumata Bah-Barrow, the wife of the Gambian president, expressed concern about the

current food situation.

She said, "This year, there has been a rapid increase in food prices" and that the "supply chain had been seriously impacted by border closures and movement restrictions during the pandemic." She added that the Russia-Ukraine crisis has worsened the situation.

Angeline Ndayishimiye Ndayubaha, the wife of the Burundi president, expressed hope of increasing food production to achieve a goal of providing nutritious school meals. She said her country is short of drinking water, and heavy rains have caused damage to farmlands.

The conference is scheduled to continue until Thursday. Participants plan to visit an elementary school in the city of Saitama on Wednesday to observe school meals.



Vodacom Tanzania Plc managing director Philip Besiimire (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend having a word with one of the firm's customers at a function at which the newly arrived MD was introduced to customers. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Adopt tree cropping culture, agro forestry stakeholders challenged

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

LOCAL agroforestry stakeholders have been challenged to adopt tree cropping culture so as to improve biodiversity and increase the performance of the vital sector in the country.

Despite the fact that the tree planting campaign in Tanzania has so far realized an encouraging outcome, the sector still needs more technical and advanced agro-practices.

Director of land use planning and management department at the ministry of agriculture, Eng. Juma Mdeke made the call recently in Mara Region at the 7th exhibition of intercropping agriculture organised by Vi Agroforestry Tanzania.

Themed: "Diversity for Food Security and Income", the event focused on the performance of the reforestation and tree planting sector within the country.

"Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango has been always directing us to motivate and direct all stakeholders in the country's tree planting sector to shift from tree planting culture and start practicing tree cropping, and hopefully, this is the right time we should embrace his directives," Eng Mdeke expressed.

He observed that practicing tree

cropping will enable the country to attain much-needed sustainability in its tree planting and reforestation campaign.

He said last year at least 1200 trees were planted in Mara Region but most of the trees have failed to thrive.

President of Vi Agroforestry Tanzania board, Charlota Szczepanowski said that her organisation will continue to cooperate with Tanzania in efforts to up-scale tree planting sector, she said they have so far learned a lot from Tanzania's tree planting and reforestation, as well as intercropping initiatives.

"We will continue standing at the forefront to partner with the government and other organisations to ensure restoration of native forests with an eye to creating rich biodiversity, the situation which among others, will ultimately assure greater food security," she assured.

Vi Agroforestry Tanzania partners with a number of farmers' organisations in different parts of the country with the chief goal, among others, to organise farmers who grow everything from coffee to bananas and vanilla. At present, Vi Agroforestry has two projects and one overall programme in Tanzania.

Zanzibar govt to empower more women through blue economy

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Minister for Blue Economy and Fisheries Masoud Suleiman Makame has said his government's aim is to make sure all efforts are directed to empowering women economically through the blue economy.

He made the remarks here at the weekend at a forum that discussed the draft for the strategic plan involving gender issues and women

in the blue economy.

The minister said the investment will concentrate more on fishing, seaweed farming and sardines and crabs processing.

He said in bringing fast development to the community, the government is at the forefront in making sure full involvement of women is attained in assisting the education, innovation, provision of working tools, working capital and markets.

"I like to thank forum organisers, UN Women's Organisation for your big contribution in support of Tanzania, but also in your assistance towards the blue economy sector here in Zanzibar," he said.

He said the strategy is important for the Isles in achieving the government's efforts in ensuring gender equality within the development of the blue economy sector including fishing and harvesting of other marine

resources.

He said his ministry will make sure it supports the implementation of all development programmes including making sure both genders benefit from them.

Meanwhile, the strategy consultant from UN Women, Shukuru Nyagawa has said they have assessed five areas in regard to the blue economy including fishing, farming, tourism, transport and good governance

where women are faced with various challenges.

She said they face the challenges due to their little understanding, lack of capital and better working tools and lack of opportunities to participate.

She said the strategy has issued various recommendations that make sure markets are available for women's products from the blue economy.

The permanent secretary of

the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries Dr Aboud Suleiman Jumbe said the blue economy cannot grow without women's participation in development projects.

He said the Blue Economy Policy has identified six main areas to attain growth, including education, innovation, working tools including machinery, infrastructures and women's access to loans and capital.

Call: Prioritise local graduates to reduce unemployment challenges

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has called upon the private sector to prioritise recruiting local graduates in their companies so as to help reduce unemployment challenges facing youth in the country.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Planning, Hamad Chande made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend at the 48th graduation ceremony of the Institute of Finance Management (IFM).

During the graduation a total of 4,272 graduates were conferred with certificates, degrees, masters and PhD in insurances, social securities, and finance and information technology.

He said the private sector should keep priorities for local higher education graduates instead of those graduating abroad because local graduates are aware of the challenges in the community.

Chande said the number of graduates has increased from

209,114 up to 220,000 in 2020 noting that the government alone cannot employ all graduates.

"It is time for the private sector to give priority to our local graduates since they are aware of the working environment which is advantageous to the investor," he said.

The deputy minister tasked IFM to invest in research that can help to identify new sources of tax as well as fight moral decay among civil servants.

He said the research should also focus on challenges in the health, environment and education sector and help to give solutions to the government.

He also called upon higher learning students loan board beneficiaries to settle their arrears to make it more sustainable noting that in the 2022/2023 financial budget the government had collected 84bn/-.

"Be patriotic to your nation by working hard and shun corruption and gender violence," he said.

In order to reduce the congestion at Dar es Salaam based campus,

the deputy minister urged the IFM management to extend its services to other campuses.

Prof Emmanuel Mjema, IFM government council chairman said that the institute will improve training in order to get graduates who can compete in the labour market within and outside the country.

"Education is the only tool that can help to fight against poverty, ignorance and diseases. It is a duty of everyone," he said.

IFM Acting Rector, Dr Emmanuel Mzava said since its inception, 50 years ago, the institute had recorded a significantly noted increase in enrolment from 14,395 to up to 15,525 in the years 2020/21 and 2021/22 respectively.

Courses have also increased from 33 to 35 with the number of graduates rising from 4,366 to 4,438 in the same period of time.

Dr Mzava pointed out one of the major challenges as lecture halls and hostels lead the institute to incur the cost of hiring buildings to accommodate students.

He said the presence of hostels will increase enrolment capacity and reduce the cost of hiring buildings.



Daniel Malanga (R), Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority's Director of Economic Control, opens the 42nd Terminal Air Traffic Control Automation annual general meeting in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Dickson Mulasiani

DAR ES SALAAM MARITIME INSTITUTE (DMI)



18TH GRADUATION CEREMONY

The Principal of Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) is pleased to invite the College graduands of the **2021/2022** academic year and the public to the **18th Graduation Ceremony** to be held at DMI grounds on **Thursday 08th December 2022** starting from **09.00 am**

GRADUANDS ARE REQUIRED TO OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING:

1. Pay a total of **TZS 40,000/=** being the cost of hiring academic costume fee for Master and Bachelor graduands and **TZS 20,000/=** for Certificates and Diploma graduands. Payments shall be made by **05th, December, 2022** through control: **994410062431**
2. Confirm participation to the Registrar's office by **1st, December, 2022, 06:00 pm**
3. Obtain Agreement Forms for hire of academic costume from Registrar's Office - DMI.
- For any inquiries, please use the following contacts: mobile: +255 657 100 013 or +255 716 898 037; e-mail registra@dm.ac.tz
4. Collect the academic costume at DMI from 1st to **5th December 2022** between **11:00 am to 04:00 pm**. During issuance of the academic costumes, a grandaunt shall be required to present valid student ID card and a duly filled Agreement Form for hiring of academic costume.
5. Attend a compulsory rehearsal at DMI on **7th December, 2022** starting from **09.00 a.m.**
6. Meet own travel, lodging and incidental expenses. Graduation day will be preceded by the 1st Convocation that will be held at DMI grounds on **7th December 2022**.

ALL GRADUANDS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO ATTEND

Principal
Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI)
P. O. Box 6727 Dar es Salaam, Tel: 255-22-2112600
www.dmi.ac.tz

Tunduma OSBP gets a new scanner for screening cargo

By Guardian Reporter, Tunduma

A new x-ray cargo scanner has been launched at the Tunduma One Stop Border Post (OSBP) in Songwe Region to enhance efficiency and facilitate smooth crossing processes.

The scanner will contribute to a reduction in cargo clearance time experienced at the border due to long waiting time and customs clearance processes at the Tanzania-Zambia border area.

Speaking during the launching, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Emmanuel Tutuba said: "The government has been implementing plans to improve the business regulatory environment (Blue Print) in the country, including business across borders with the aim to improve the business environment, increase local and international investment and promote economic growth."

The x-ray cargo scanner project has been implemented at a cost of \$2.692million (6.222bn/-) funded by The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO Tanzania), Embassy of Ireland and the Norwegian Embassy in Tanzania through Trade Mark East Africa (TMEA).

The scanner is high energy (7.5MeV) and high throughput (120 trucks per hour).

Tutuba said the implementation of projects for the construction of OSBP and the purchase and installation of x-ray cargo scanners supported by TMEA contributes to achieving the government goal of improving the business environment.

Songwe Regional Commissioner, Waziri Kindamba said the move will also help to eliminate traffic jams at the Tunduma town and simplify cargo inspection through the border of Tanzania and neighbouring Zambia urging employees of the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) to take good care of the installed infrastructures.

TRA Commissioner General, Alphayo Kidata said: "The Tunduma OSBP facility including the non-intrusive inspection systems has set the highest standards for all our OSBPs and will be used as a benchmark for all our future border posts."

TMEA Country Director for Tanzania, Monica Hangi said: "We have continuously worked with various partners to grow regional trade by increasing efficiency and

Indian diplomat encourages Tanzanians to apply for training opportunities under ITEC

By Correspondent James Kandoya

INDIA High Commissioner to Tanzania Binaya Srikanta Pradhan has encouraged more Tanzanians to apply for training opportunities allocated under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC).

According to him, the ITEC Training Programme is fully funded by the government of India and invites candidates from partner countries for training courses in India.

Ambassador Pradhan made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, during ITEC Day, an event aimed to hear testimonies from the programme alumni.

He said out of 150 training slots allocated under ITEC, only one third of Tanzanians applied leaving 100 slots unutilized.

"I encourage more Tanzanians to utilize the opportunities and apply for the training slots which are very important to build their career," the envoy said.

The statistics show that up to 2019, a total of 2,369 Tanzanians had been trained in India in various priority areas in the past five years under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme.

The envoy said that Tanzania is one of the largest beneficiaries of training slots under the ITEC programme including the India-Tanzania centre of excellence in ICT set up at the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT) and at the Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology in Arusha city.

He said ITEC programme is part

effectiveness of land border crossing processes, through the construction of OSBPs and implementation of integrated border management systems. At Tunduma OSBP, our partnership with TRA and funding from UKAID, Irish Aid and the Norwegian Embassy in Tanzania have enabled the purchase of this x-ray cargo scanner."

She added: "TMEA's ambition has been to make Tunduma OSBP a state-of-art OSBP equipped with required customs and inspection facilities that include the installation of both body and baggage scanners. It is our expectation that Tunduma OSBP will be a benchmark for the development of other OSBPs."

TMEA has so far supported the construction and operationalization of fifteen (15) OSBPs across eastern Africa, including four OSBPs in Tanzania namely Hollili, Mutukula, Kabanga and Tunduma and is continuously working with partners to make them more efficient with the goal of achieving a reduction in time and costs of doing business.

According to a time and traffic survey report of April 2021 conducted by TMEA, the average traffic passing through Tunduma OSBP per day is 209 vehicles and it takes an average of 30.15 hours (Min 1.09 hours and Max 154.59 hours) to cross the border for inbound cargo; out of which 3-4 hours is for physical verification of cargo.

For outbound cargo, the average traffic is 243 vehicles per day and it takes an average of 37.51 hours (Min 0.37 hours and Max 155.32 hours) to cross the border.

With reference to TRA's statistics for FY 2021/22, the value of imports, export and transit cargo through Tunduma OSBP has increased by 519,797.4m/-, 674,584.4m/- and 27,181,067.2m/- respectively compared to 2020/21 fiscal year on which imports was 428,086.2m/-, exports 610,581.5m/-, and revenue collection was increased by 26 percent from 76,534.70m/- in 2020/21 financial year to 96,449.68m/- in 2021/22 fiscal year.

Installation of the x-ray cargo scanner comes at a crucial time to quicken verification processes and in turn, save time and costs while increasing trade between the two countries.

This high energy (7.5MeV) and high throughput (120 trucks per hour) scanner will further reduce the time to cross the border by 30 percent.

Indian diplomat encourages Tanzanians to apply for training opportunities under ITEC

of areas of bilateral cooperation with Tanzania including new initiatives such as e-ITEC, focusing on areas of interest for Tanzania such as healthcare, agriculture, entrepreneurship, and infrastructure.

The Institute of Adult Education Director Dr Michael Ng'umbi appealed to India government to opt of supporting out of school students so that they can achieve their goals.

In 2020, the number of out of school children in Tanzania increased by 100.1 thousand children (+5.84 percent) since 2019. While the number of out of school children increased significantly in the first phase of the observed period, the increase slowed down in the last years.

Out-of-school children are the number of school-age children enrolled in primary or secondary school minus the total population of the official primary school-age children.

Some ITEC alumni who underwent training programmes in India narrated their experiences of staying and getting trained in India. The ITEC alumni interacted with fellow Tanzanians and recalled great memories of their stay in India.

The ITEC programme aims to offer capacity building and skills development training to public servants of fellow developing countries. It was introduced by the government of India way back in 1964.

The ITEC day brought together all the alumni who underwent trainings in India in the past.



Ijala district commissioner Ng'wilabuzi Ndwater Ludigija (3rd-L) and Bora Rx Medicina managing director Margareth Maganga (4th-R) cut the ribbon in Dar es Salaam at the weekend to mark the official handing over of medical devices worth more than 48m/- donated by the company to the city's Gerezani dispensary. To the DC's left (in yellow blouse) is an investor in the firm, Elmira Hadzhykhanova. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TRA cites products smuggling as major challenge hampering revenue collection

By Correspondent James Lanka,

Moshi

THE Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has cited the smuggling of some crucial commodities such as sugar, cooking oil and fabricated clothes as one of the major challenges hampering its efforts to collect more revenues.

Speaking here over the weekend at an event to issue awards to good taxpayers, TRA finance director, Lina Edward said that the authority can collect more tax if not for the challenge of illegal import and export of important products.

She said that despite the authority beating various targets every year, there were some unfaithful traders who evade paying taxes by importing and exporting products using illegal points.

She said that in the 2021/22 fiscal

year, the authority successfully collected 22.28trn/- equivalent to 99.22 percent of the intended 22.45trn/- higher than the 18.15trn/- collected in the 2022/21 year.

"The success of the authority in the collection of the government revenues shows that taxpayers are committed to fulfilling their tax obligations in accordance with the law.

She asked all taxpayers who are required to use Electronic Fiscal Devices (EFDs) to purchase and use the machines, especially those with an average annual turnover of 11m/-.

TRA Kilimanjaro Regional Manager, Masawa Masatu explained that his authority in the region has collected a total of 227.72bn/- in the financial year 2021/2022, surpassing the region's target of collecting 210.52bn/-.

"These collections are equal to

108 percent of the target set and this success is due to the sincere cooperation that TRA in this region has received and continues to receive from businessmen, most of them being those who pay without pressure," he said.

Masatu said the event was aimed at showing the cooperation provided by businessmen and individual taxpayers which he said contributed a lot to the development of the country's economy and the development of the citizens.

"We really appreciate the taxpayers, both businessmen and individual taxpayers and that is why within this week there will be various services that will be provided by the regional TRA office through its employees whereby businessmen and all citizens, in general, will benefit," he explained.

Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner, Nurdin Babu who

graced the event hailed the role played by TRA management for coming up with the idea of thanking taxpayers a move which he said would help in motivating people to pay taxes voluntarily.

"When you show your clients that you care for them, it will motivate them; this will make them continue to give you the important cooperation that you need while committing your duties of collecting revenues; May I take this opportunity to urge other institutions to emulate TRA so as to build good relationships between service providers and those who are served," he said.

He directed all suppliers of various goods and services to ensure that they provide accurate electronic receipts in the sales they make while reminding all buyers to demand proper receipts in every purchase.



Tigo CEO Kamal Okba (R) addresses teachers and students of Dar es Salaam's Benjamin Mkapa Secondary School, one of those benefiting from the firm's e-school project. He is with Axian Telecom CEO Stephane Oudin. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TIA told to make curricula amendments

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

THE Finance and Planning Minister, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba has called upon the Tanzania Institute of Accountancy (TIA) to continue making amendments to its curricula in order to satisfy the country's employment needs.

He also appealed to the institute to conduct types of research that aim to solve challenges in the community and contribute to the country's economic growth.

Dr Nchemba made the remarks at the weekend in the speech read on his behalf by Singida Regional Commissioner, Peter Serukamba at

the 20th Graduation of Tanzania Institute of Accountancy (TIA) in Singida.

He said the government needs experts with the expertise, knowledge, and seriousness in solving challenges, and not multiply them. "Abide with great seriousness the curricula issue in order to have experts capable to bring about economic transformation," he said.

He called upon the graduates of the country's universities and other institutes of higher learning to spend a lot of their time reading various books on their profession.

He said when academicians create a reading culture and revise

what they had been taught it will help them to increase their new knowledge and skills in accountancy work.

Dr Nchemba added that college graduates should be a good example by working justly, with efforts and innovation and avoiding corruption as to a large extent the nation is depending on their contribution.

He said one of the main problems of the present generation is their shying away from the reading culture, adding that this should change.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the institute's Advisory Board, Saidi Chiguma said the institution

provides education compatible with market needs, a contributing factor to the institute having a huge number of students - more than 25,000.

He advised the graduates to use the knowledge gained to bring economic development to the country.

He also called upon the government to improve the education policy to change people's lives and for their easy access to the employment market.

A total of 3,666 students graduated this year, 1,789 being women in degree and diploma levels.

The graduation also involved Singida, Mwanza and Kigoma TIA campuses.

Potato growing highly threatened by climate change effects - report

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

POTATO growing in the country has been highly threatened by the ongoing effects of climate change, including drought, increasing temperatures, pests and diseases and soil degradation, a report by the Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT) project has said.

Menno Keizer, CRAFT project manager in Tanzania said that areas such as Kagera and Rukwa regions which are currently among the key potato-producing centers are projected to become less suitable in years to come.

He noted that with the fact that Tanzania is Africa's 6th largest producer of potato, supporting more than half a million farmers, these projections pose a significant threat to the industries especially since potato stands among the important ten staple crops produced in Tanzania with massive potential as food and income.

"Our climate risk assessments depict that 12.3 percent of potato growing areas in Tanzania are projected to not be suitable by 2050," he said.

Keizer added that, as the population in Tanzania continues to grow at approximately 3 percent annually, potato growers, most of whom are smallholder farmers, need to find ways of producing food sustainably.

Thus, he unveiled that in Tanzania CRAFT was organising a two-day climate-smart policy dialogue to discuss policy-related aspects in the potato sector as well as how climate change will impact the sector and the adoption measures needed to combat the impact of climate change.

"The envisaged dialogue will bring key national level, public and private sector stakeholders in the climate and the potato sector in Tanzania and other East African countries. We want to provide a forum for potato actors to

share experiences with stakeholders and policymakers at the national level with a goal of addressing identified policy barriers in the potato value chain," Menno expressed.

Country Director of SNV - The Netherlands Development Organisation- Michael M' Grath, detailed that, in Tanzania CRAFT is supporting over 8,800 smallholder farmers in the potato value chain with evidence-based climate adaptation and mitigation such as the use of drought and disease-tolerant potato varieties, improved farming practices and off-season irrigation production.

"The project also contributed over Euro320, 000 in the three Agri-SME in the potato value chain, notably Sai-Energy and Logistics Company, East Africa Fruit Company and Isowelu AMCOS Cooperative as a catalyst to stimulate them to invest in climate-smart interventions which they have leveraged to generate over Euro415, 000 as of September 2022," he communicated.

Together with that, he stated that the initiative was also supporting at least 61,000 smallholder farmers in the sorghum, common beans, and sunflower value chain added: "These strategies have enabled smallholder farmers to become resilient and Agri-SMEs increase their productivity, ensuring produce potatoes without disruptions throughout the year.

CRAFT is a five-year project being implemented in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and the project is implemented by a consortium consisting of SNV (lead partner), Wageningen University and Environmental Research (WUR and WEnR), the CGIAR research programme on Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), Agriterra and Rabo Partnership, and the project is funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS).

Be cooperative for smooth operations, importers urged

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE Tanzania Bureau of Statistics (TBS) has reminded importers to provide full cooperation with relevant officials particularly those dealing with quality at the entry points into the country so as to make clearance of goods easier.

TBS inspector, Andalalisyse Mwakyonde made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during a familiarisation tour at TBS offices.

He said traders or importers are obliged to test the quality of their products before shipping to Tanzania in order to avoid penalty or return to the country of origin in case they are found to be substandard.

"I urge importers to cooperate fully with standards officials at the ports or any border before and after importation is done so that to avoid unnecessary problem," he said.

He said TBS has now increased the number of international companies that inspect the quality of imported products including used motor vehicles before shipping into Tanzania. "We had four companies that we entered into an agreement to inspect quality of imported products around the world, now we have added one," he said.

They are Intertek, Bureau Veritas (Belgium), CCIC (china) SGS (Swiss) and TUV Rheinland (German) which its agreement was signed in August 2022.

As part of the Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity (PVoC) the companies will conduct conformity assessments on regulated products to verify compliance with the TBS regulations.

The regulated products under the PVoC programme for Tanzania include toys, sports electrical and electronics, automotive chemical products, mechanical material and gas appliances, furniture (wood and metal articles, paper and stationery, safety (Personal Protective Equipment), food and food products and used products.

Mwakyonde who is an inspector at destination inspection noted that the new product conformity assessment

programme was introduced to control certain categories of imported consumer goods.

The objective of the PVoC is to ensure that all imports of regulated products comply with the approved Tanzanian technical regulations prior to shipment.

PVoC helps exporters and importers swift customs clearance with the appropriate Certificate of Conformity (CoC).

"We are determined to ensure that consumers at the end of the day get quality and standard goods which are worth value for their money," he said.

He added that when TBS seizes substandard goods depending on a situation, the importer and distributor are either ordered to ship back the products to the place of origin, meet the destruction cost and at times they are sent to court and ordered to pay fines.

The Standards Act No. 2 of 2009 states clearly that TBS is mandated to promote standards, and in doing so it cannot compromise quality.

The act empowers them to suspend production or importation of any goods which do not follow required procedures.

Colletha Sarimbo, TBS principal food safety officer, urged food and cosmetics traders to ensure that they register their premises before starting operations.

She said the Standard Watchdog has entered into a memorandum of understanding with district councils where traders can register premises without contacting TBS officials.

She also asked food traders who want to advertise their products to contact first with TBS offices for approval. She said the government aimed at ensuring that only goods that meet required standards are sold in the markets.

Sarimbo said that TBS will not hesitate to take stern measures for those who would be found engaging in selling products without following required procedures.

Registration of premises and food and cosmetics products started in 2019 since the bureau assumed the roles from the former TFDA.



Research management advisor Prof Appolinary Kamuhabwa makes remarks in Dar es Salaam at the weekend shortly after a Reunion Run meant for familiarisation and sensitising the community on the importance of engaging in physical exercises. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Correspondent James Kandoyo

DUCE appeals for support to train its staff

THE Dar es Salaam University College of Education (DUCE) has appealed to the government and sponsors to support in improving infrastructures and sponsorship to its staff for Masters and PhD degrees.

DUCE Governing Council Chairman, Ambassador Mwanaidi Sinare made the call at the 15th graduation ceremony held over the week in Dar es Salaam.

During the graduation, the University of Dar es Salaam Chancellor, Dr Jakaya Kikwete conferred certificates, postgraduate diploma, degrees and masters degrees to 1,588 graduates.

Ambassador Mwanaidi said that the high cost to sponsor scholarships for its staff for master's and PhD degrees abroad is a major challenge.

An increase in student enrolment that is directly proportional to the

capacity of infrastructure has led to a shortage of laboratories and lecture halls, she said.

"The council calls upon the government and sponsors to help us to build more infrastructures to facilitate teaching and learning to provide quality education," she added, noting there has been an increase in the number of students enrolled which is not proportional to college infrastructure.

She said there are also hostel challenges for students as well as a shortage of funds to support staff in need of further professional development.

Duce Board Chairman, Prof William Anangisy said the increase in the number of students enrolled and the number of courses is one of major successes notably since its inception, seventeen years ago.

Prof Stephen Maluka, DUCE principal said that in a period of seventeen years, the college has registered remarkable success including training professionals and operators.

He said in the year 2022/2023, the college has allocated 480,035,000/- for training to staff.

He said out of that, 10,448,000/- will be used for short courses and 378,587,000/- for long-term training.

Prof Maluka said a total of 54 staff are set to benefit from training for the financial year 2022/2023.

However, DUCE has set aside \$ 1 million which is equivalent to 2.3 bn/- for long-term training through Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) where a total of 16 staff are pursuing masters and PhD in different universities abroad.

The revenues collected from research and consultancy services have increased from 26m/- to 150m/- in the year 2022/2021 to 2021/22.

He thanked the government through HEET for disbursing \$4,958,000 (equivalent to 11.4bn/-) that will be used to construct two buildings.

The Dar es Salaam University College of Education (DUCE) is a public institution established in 2005 through the government Notice No. 202 published on 22nd July 2005.

The establishment of the college was a priority response by the government of Tanzania to address the problem of the acute shortage of graduate teachers and experts in the education sector that had resulted from the rapid expansion of school enrolment.



Zanzibar Tourism and Antiquities minister Simai Mohammed Said (3rd-L) cuts the ribbon late last week to launch a hotel in Dar es Salaam. Second right is the hotel's general manager, Ravi Reddy. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Mweka to produce more experts in wildlife ecology, conservation

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THE College of African Wildlife Management-Mweka (CAWM-Mweka) has established a special Master's Degree in African Wildlife Ecology and Conservation in a move aimed to produce more experts in animal protection.

Speaking during the 58th graduation ceremony over the weekend, CAWM-Mweka Rector, Prof Jafari Kideghesho said that in this academic year the college in collaboration with the Manchester Metropolitan University in the United Kingdom (UK) has officially

started to offer the unique course in 2022.

Prof Kideghesho said that the college will also introduce another special Master's Degree in Tourism Management this year, and in March 2023 his institution will start to offer another special Master's Degree in Conservation Leadership.

The CAWM-Mweka boss further said that the college has also introduced a new Geographical Information System (GIS) in their training, a move to improve student's ability to ease the information they need on time for sustainable conservation, anti-

poaching and tourism, thanks for the new USAID funded project.

He hailed the role played by president Samia Suluhu Hassan in the protection, conservation and wildlife tourism in the country through the 'Royal Tour Documentary' that has opened the door to investments and attracted a number of tourists and investors from various countries.

Prof Kideghesho further explained that CAWM-Mweka is next year expected to commemorate 60 Years Anniversary since its inception in June 1963.

Prof Faustine Bee, chairman of

the CAWM-Mweka governing board explained that in the 2022/2023 financial year the board has approved a budget amounting to 14bn/- so as to implement various projects.

This includes the construction of the college's security wall, and a special practical training building, among many others.

"We are also working on the directives we received from the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Dr Pindi Chana on the construction of CAWM campus in one of the Northern Highlands regions," he explained.

Chairman of the ruling CCM, Patrick Boisafi explained that the work of the political party leaders is also to supervise the protection and conservation of natural resources.

As power supply gap ends, tricky policy issues linger

GOOD news comes with another: the apparently earnest start of year-end rains stretching to the beginning of another year has brought about a rapid diminishing of the 350-megawatt supply gap prevailing during the past month.

Tanesco, the national power utility firm, says that this gap is being all but plugged in the next week or so, and just about 100MW will be in short supply in the coming days and by February there will be no power rationing to speak of.

The Kinyerezi I gas-fuelled power plant in Dar es Salaam will be adding over a reliable 185MW to the grid.

The firm's management says that since the rains have started and water levels at hydropower plants at Kidatu and Iyovu are rising, the situation will be vastly better as December creeps in.

This assurance was given in the wider context of a social media-based debate where contributors from various walks of life demanded official clarification on the sticky issue.

The overall picture emerging of this effort at dialogue was mixed, factually helpful but sanctimonious in matters of accountability, like politicians staying out of power generation.

Questions being asked by 'politicians' in the discussion on social media were helpful, offering an alternative channel to policy issues that couldn't be easily put to cabinet ministers.

One such question related to when the government would likely allow private financiers to invest in the sector, where Mtwara, Somanga Fungu and Kinyerezi gas power generation sites were mentioned - but that clearly isn't an issue the utility can really determine.

It is a policy issue and it is a bit off the table, including a demand as to

when Tanesco would be placed on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE).

Answers the firm's management gave to the issues were both amplifying and evasive - for instance, suggestions that private sector investments in the energy sector were a slow process "largely owing to the history of lies rather than reality."

Again, it is unclear if indeed Tanesco isn't afraid of working with the private sector, since "to be safe in the energy sector one has to be transparent". Ordinarily, it is the public sector that needs to be transparent, as its costing structure hinders joint ventures.

This issue comes up in the utility's explanation that the main challenge facing power generation projects is the price of electricity, as to the price the producer will sell to Tanesco after the power is generated.

There is first a price differential between natural gas and hydropower quotations, as the latter is about half the quotable natural gas wholesale price. Independent producers usually take up gas-fuelled projects now that gas is locally supplied, and earlier it was costly imported furnace oil supply.

Arguably the major snag about the inclusion of private sector players is that they would have to sell the power to a government utility which then sells it at prices determined by a sector regulating agency, where the utility is only an adviser.

That puts paid to some of the utility's observations that politicians should stand aside and let professionals (in the power sector) deliver the answers as, in fact, that is just not possible.

Critical functional and normative decisions are needed to set out or rectify policy, where professionals in the sector would lobby for a particular approach, for that matter public sector dominance.

Local engineers have a daunting task before SGR operations start

PREPARATIONS for the onset of the operations of electric trains on standard gauge railways are steaming ahead, with 14 young engineers scheduled to leave for South Korea this December 1 for five months of intensive training.

The training forms part of contractual arrangements between the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) and the Korean Railroad Corporation (KoRail) providing for the supervision of operations for a limited period and intense training to empower TRC staff take over all lines of operations in due course.

The pact was signed at the State House on July 4, witnessed by none other than President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The TRC management, profiling the flying-out trainees, said they were young engineers being prepared to occupy key positions in operations, rail safety, machines, information technology and maintenance of rail infrastructure.

Issues relating to signalling, communications and electric circuits are included in the training, even as some people wonder if the time provided for the training is really adequate given the range of expertise involved.

One idea is that the trainees be dispatched in small batches for actual specialisation as South Korea, highly advanced as it is in the technology of operating electric trains, surely realises how to sufficiently upgrade skills in five months.

For those listening to the TRC management on the training, there was explicit focus on the young engineers to learn hard to achieve their professional goals and help in realising set and expected corporate objectives.

Equally important was the corporate image they need to protect or be faithful to which, by extension, would be an integral part of the national image.

What is more importantly at issue is the sort of continuous engagement with the Korean corporate entity during operations, and whether a managerial joint venture is relevant, given the TRC's safety record.

Having KoRail on board in a continuous contractual arrangement will help draw business to the line as inland trade insurers will be eagle eyed with respect to who is in charge when it comes to safety.

When one modernises in technology, the idea of remaining strictly local in management has its drawbacks, as TRC will not be dealing just with local clients.

It was largely owing to its enviable safety record that the management cited KoRail for adulation as to why it was picked to conduct operations training for Tanzanian engineers.

Yet this quality should not just form the background of adulation permitting us to dispatch young engineers for operations training. Instead, it will be more usable if it was tapped into the brand as an operational safety consulting firm. Having two or three KoRail officials paid by TRC might not work to satisfaction.

To be sure, this isn't routine managerial wisdom of parastatal executives but it is clear that we need to have what it takes to draw business to our SGR, and price quotations are only part of the issue.

As the competing line on the northern corridor was built at roughly twice the cost per kilometre, we can quote lower freight charges. But unless safety is above board, the matrix might not deliver as expected.

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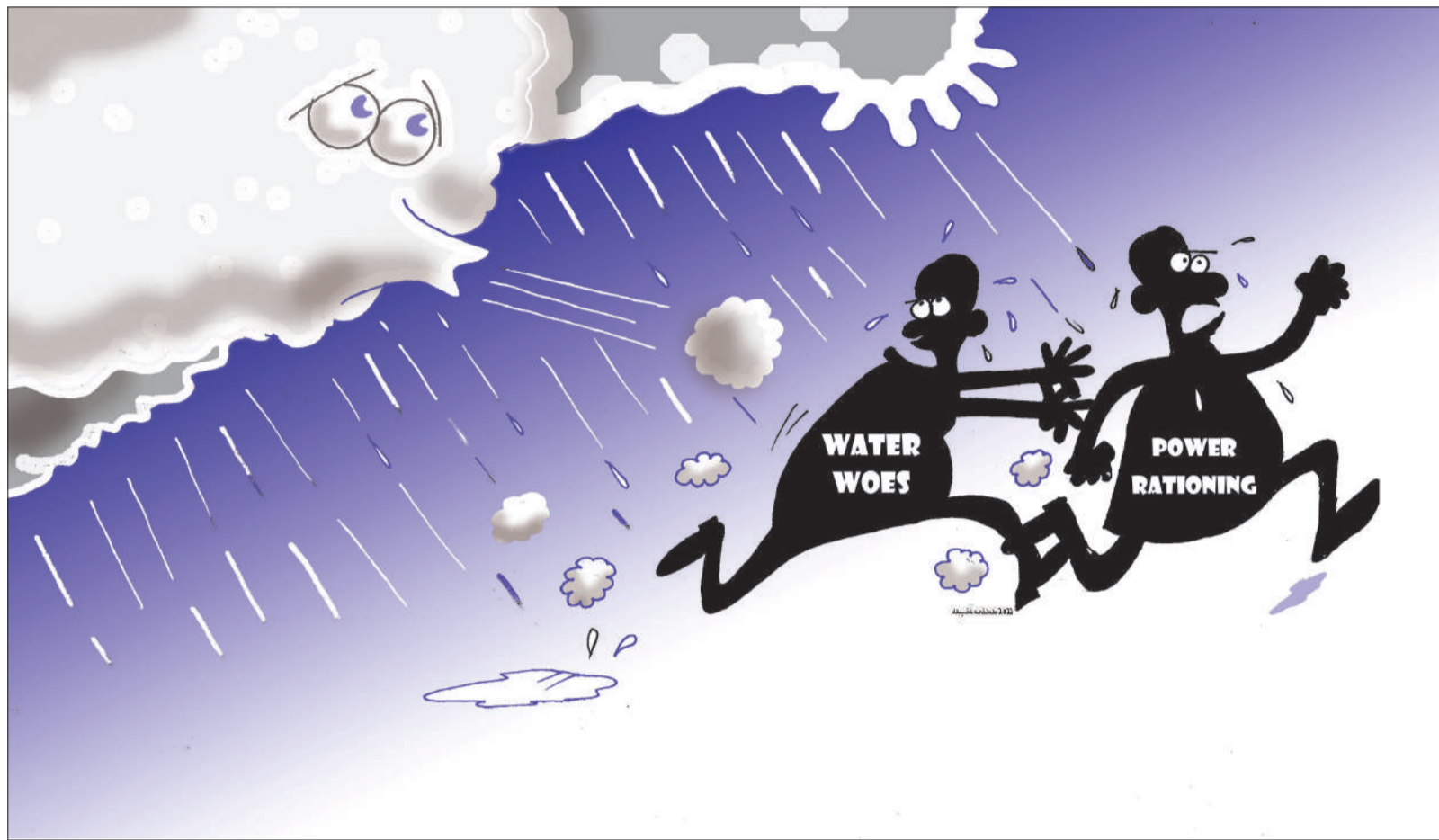
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AI can help analyse women's representation in the news

By Aldana Vales

FROM automating content production to assisting fact-checking efforts, artificial intelligence (AI) has become increasingly widely used in journalism in recent years. The opportunities that algorithms offer media organisations have become clearer along the way.

Among them, AI technologies can play a role in improving women's representation in the news. News organisations around the world have leveraged AI technologies in a variety of ways to help them analyse and identify biases in their reporting, detect hate speech against women, and more.

Sahiti Sarva, an engineer specialising in using data science to understand policy, co-authored a visual essay with Leonardo Nicoletti in 2021 examining the nature of women's representation in news reporting, entitled *When Women Make Headlines*.

Sarva and Nicoletti's team analysed more than ten years' worth of headlines from the top 50 publications in India, the US, the UK and South Africa for the project.

Sarva explained their approach at a virtual workshop hosted by the London School of Economics' JournalismAI initiative earlier this year, saying: "We scraped all of the headlines tagged with 20 keywords synonymous with women, girl, female and so on, and that gave us about 382,139 English

news headlines."

"This was, of course, a lot of data. 'You think AI is going to make it easier,' Sarva said in an interview for this article, adding that before one could start applying any algorithm, there was much work to do.

Sarva cited cleaning, removing useless words, and finding the right code packages to use. Oftentimes, she said, "you need to be creative on what data you are going to use".

"We went ahead and created our own dictionaries that calculate something called gender bias in headlines," Sarva explained at the JournalismAI workshop, adding: "This included a combination of gendered language like actress, daughter, wife, along with behavioural and social stereotypes around gender, like emotional support and care."

Once the team had these dictionaries, they used a machine-learning method called "sentiment analysis" to understand what it looks like when women make headlines.

Sarva elaborated: "We found that the story - when women make headlines - is often very sensational. A lot more sensational than regular headlines that we read and, over time, the number has only gone up. This could probably be because when women make headlines the story is twice as likely to be violent than empowering."

As public figures, women are frequently the target of attacks

on social media. Who are the perpetrators? Journalists from Brazil's AzMina, Argentina's La Nación, and Latin America's CLIP and DataCrítica turned to AI to find out. Together, they developed a web application to uncover hate speech against women on Twitter.

"Aware of the escalation of hate speech, particularly against women, our project wants to be able to quickly and assertively monitor when any of these misogynistic attacks is initiated by a politician," said AzMina's Bárbara Libório at the same JournalismAI workshop.

[Misogyny is hatred of, contempt for, or prejudice against women. It is a form of sexism that is used to keep women at a lower social status than men, thus maintaining the societal roles of patriarchy. Misogyny has been widely practised for thousands of years.]

The app found that the attacks came from politicians in particular, among other public figures, with Libório explaining: "This initiated the real waves of hate speech because their supporters decided to attack these women at a higher rate."

If you want a model to detect misogynistic messages, she continued, the AI technology must learn what hate speech against women is. As the first step in the process, Libório's team created a database of examples, marking tweets as misogynistic or not.

Once the AI learned this process,

her team evaluated how effective it was at identifying hate speech against women. They created a scoring system, testing it in Portuguese and Spanish.

With their model ready, they created a web application to help users analyse text and files. Libório hopes that they can share their prototype with other initiatives determined to map gender violence on social media.

"AI technologies can be of great help to support journalists to do their jobs better," said Sabrina Argoub, programme manager at JournalismAI. She said that when it comes to women's representation in news AI can be used to enhance transparency and accountability, while raising awareness.

The AIJO project, which compares the rate at which men and women, respectively, are quoted in articles or depicted in visual news, is one example.

However, Argoub noted that AI isn't a cure-all - and buy-in from newsrooms and journalists alike is necessary to realise true progress on the matter.

"It's good to keep in mind that the machine can provide the data and help review how well or not we're doing," she said.

She added: "To take action, the starting point and the intention to tackle women's underrepresentation in news need to come from newsrooms and journalists themselves."

• IJNet

Geo-journalism platform covers Nigeria's worsening climate crisis

By Arinze Chijioke

AS the climate crisis intensifies in Africa, Nigerians continue to feel its effects firsthand. Just in the past month, the country has experienced its worst flooding since 2012.

This has left more than 600 people dead and displaced over 1.4 million others, while leaving more than 45,000 homes in disrepair. Vast areas of farmland have also been destroyed, inflaming fears of food insecurity.

Local governments and civil society in the flooded regions have asked the federal government to declare a national emergency as, according to the Humanitarian Affairs ministry, the flooding has hit 33 of Nigeria's 36 states.

Despite widespread agreement among scientists on the devastating impacts of climate change, efforts to deal with these consequences are still rudimentary and ineffectively coordinated in Nigeria.

Additionally, there is a lack of in-depth reporting on the climate crisis and how it has affected different communities.

Human activity, including the emission of greenhouse gases from vehicles, the burning of hydrocarbon products, industrial emissions, and deforestation, is a major contributor to the climate crisis.

A lack of information on the topic remains a challenge, as many in Nigeria do not believe that these human-created carbon emissions are responsible for the ongoing crisis.

Determined to make more information about the climate crisis available, Ripples Nigeria founded the country's first geo-journalism platform to elevate the stories of those directly affected by climate change.

Upon receiving a grant from the Google News Initiative Innovation Challenge, Ripples Nigeria founded Eco-Nai+ in 2021. This is designed to host environmental data on droughts, rainfall and erosion, while carefully monitoring natural disasters to help track the progression of climate change.

According to Eco-Nai+ coordinator Chinedu Chidi, the goal was to build a platform to facilitate inclusive, people-led journalism to help in the fight against climate change.

"We wanted to create a platform with the buy-in of the people so that user-generated data can be sourced for effective geo-journalism intervention," said Chidi, adding: "Since the launch of Eco-Nai+, we have been filling the information gap on climate and environment-related issues in Nigeria."

Eco-Nai+ relies on three main sources of data: user-generated data, authoritative sources and scientific data. The user-generated data allow

those most impacted by environmental changes, like farmers and other rural workers, to tell their own stories.

The platform relies on data from Google Earth, meteorological agencies and open sources, in addition to figures gathered by researchers and journalists. It also uses findings by scientists - on carbon levels, ice levels in the Arctic, ocean and heat data, and topography.

Eco-Nai+ operates through a set of five tools. Among them are Uv reign, which allows for user-generated content; Geo-Viz+, which visualises data; and Ecober, which creates a multimedia-based chat-room used for crowdsourcing ideas and crowdfunding projects.

"We have maintained daily coverage of climate and environment-related stories, as well as built strategic partnerships with key stakeholders," said Chidi, adding: "The platform allows users to feed in data which get processed and can be visualised and exported."

Expansion and technical limitations are two of the major challenges Eco-Nai+ faces, as it supplies daily coverage on the climate crisis.

Chidi reported: "There is still the resistance to technology in rural areas and reluctance to pay for new technology. Technical limitations include the cost of acquiring drones, and GPS-surveying equipment needed

for advanced field work."

Eco-Nai+ aspires to become Africa's leading innovative media platform driving efforts on combating climate change and protecting the environment, while connecting far-flung communities through active collaboration. This is according to its executive director, Samuel Ibemere.

"We are looking at the creation of a far-reaching geo-journalism ecosystem for Africa that will feature an Africa-focused geo-journalism hub where journalists can access tools, training and resources," he said.

In the near future, the platform also plans to release an application that readers can download to easily access information and tools on its website.

For Chidi, this application will empower journalists across Africa to be geo-journalists in practice and contribute collectively to more accurate and responsible reporting on the environment.

"The climate crisis demands a sense of urgency and sustained meaningful action, not just by some, but by all of us. This is why Eco-Nai+ is mobilising an army of stakeholders for this great cause," said Chidi. "From rural community dwellers, to researchers and journalists scattered across the continent, we're helping to unite diverse groups for the singular purpose of saving the planet," he added.

• Agencies

By Paul Simon Handy and Felicite Djiro

UN's peacekeeping in Africa needs tighter parameters and fewer contrasting agendas

PEACEKEEPING is one of the United Nations' (UN) most important conflict management tools, but policymakers, host countries and experts agree that it is in crisis. This year has seen a rise in contentious, if not hostile, relationships with African host governments and, to some extent, with urban populations.

Attacks against facilities of the UN peacekeeping mission in Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) due to its perceived ineffectiveness against armed groups led to the death of three peacekeepers and several Congolese civilians.

Tensions between Mali's military authorities and the UN mission there worsened to the point that the UN couldn't monitor the human rights situation in areas where the Russian Wagner Group was deployed.

In Central African Republic (CAR), the use of private Russian soldiers followed a period of conflict between the government and the UN mission. The peacekeepers were seen as inefficient in helping the government restore its authority.

As president Faustin-Archange Touadéra embarks on a highly contested constitutional review process aimed at extending his stay in power, the UN mission will navigate uncharted waters.

Globally, peacekeeping operations are deployed in increasingly complex political and security situations, making operational success difficult and strategic goals hard to define.

UN missions were originally set up to monitor cease-fires and compliance with peace agreements between two warring parties. Contemporary missions have morphed into stabilisation operations aimed at enforcing peace and addressing the root causes of crises.

This extended scope – often mocked as 'Christmas-tree mandates' – has changed the status of UN missions. Now, multidimensional stabilisation resembles whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches that push missions to work closely with the host country's government. This often exposes the UN to opposition and accusations of partiality from civil society leaders.

Also, demagogue politicians see this as an opportunity to deflect from their failures and use the UN as a scapegoat for society's ills. In recent years, this has happened to varying degrees in DRC, Mali and CAR. This places the UN at the centre of the political game in host countries as it presents a critical resource that socio-political actors often fight to access.

The UN's 2015 Report of the Independent High-level Panel on Peace Operations rightfully emphasises the primacy of politics in peacekeeping. But are UN missions properly equipped to handle the political challenges they face in host countries? On the ground, most missions seem reluctant to engage in the politics of managing relationships with host governments and populations.

As the future of peacekeeping is debated, the UN Secretariat should consider assessing the capacity of its missions to navigate the political minefield they operate in. This is particularly necessary for large operations with a stabilisation mandate that have existed for



United Nations peacekeepers in Democratic Republic of Congo, 22 February 2021. File photo

a decade or more.

Long periods in one country often create more problems for peacekeepers to solve. Their little-known successes, especially in the humanitarian and economic domains, tend to make sitting leaders less inclined to carry out the reforms needed for durable stabilisation.

One of the most challenging aspects of multidimensional stabilisation missions is assessing their goals and effectiveness.

There is wide acknowledgement that stabilising societies undergoing or exiting violent conflict is complex. Recent failures in Iraq and Afghanistan should caution the UN against broad peacekeeping mandates and heavy operations.

Such approaches fuel the popular belief that the missions are a substitute for sitting governments, but without the at-

tenant legitimacy and accountability. This contributes to false perceptions that peacekeeping is a cash cow for UN staff and a mechanism for funders to preserve their interests. In contexts where digital disinformation fuels anti-Western sentiments in Africa, peacekeeping missions become collateral damage.

On 14 November, the peacekeeping world commemorated former UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's 100th birthday and the 30th anniversary of his seminal Agenda for Peace.

The time is ripe for a new conceptual framework. The classic doctrine of a non-combatant force has been reaffirmed, but the UN needs to rethink the political and security environments in which peacekeepers are deployed.

Inspiration can be drawn from the Powell Doctrine designed by the United

States (US) in the 1980s following the Vietnam War. The approach identified criteria to guide US military deployment, including vital interest, full intention to win, adequacy of the force with the objectives pursued, support of the opinion and by Congress, and military intervention as a last resort.

Three ideas could be explored in this regard for peacekeeping. First, the scope of the mandate should not exceed more than three goals, mainly in the political and security fields. Second, a time limit on the UN mission's presence on the ground is needed to avoid internal complacency around mandate renewals and help ensure professional and ethical conduct.

Third, bi-annual assessments should involve national stakeholders from governments and civil society to ensure a degree of local ownership of mandates.

Even more important, initial UN mandates should undergo a thorough and independent analysis of the political contexts in host countries. Tracking the evolution of these contexts should also not be left to the UN alone.

The UN should develop a set of measures to assess local acceptance of peacekeeping missions. These can serve as early warning tools and guide against targeted disinformation campaigns, particularly when they involve public officials.

Peacekeeping missions are vital to address international security threats. But equally important is rethinking their shape and form to ensure their effectiveness and local legitimacy. This is crucial at a time when power games in the UN Security Council increase the scope for using peacekeeping to set specific agendas. **DM**

China safeguards climate justice, boosts global confidence in climate governance at COP27

By He Yin

THE 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27) recently concluded in the Egyptian coastal city of Sharm el-Sheikh.

The meeting passed tens of resolutions on the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. It reached a historic agreement to provide "loss and damage" funding to vulnerable countries most affected by global climate change.

The meeting released a positive signal in adhering to multilateralism and coping with climate change with solidarity.

The Chinese delegation joined consultation on nearly 100 topics and firmly safeguarded the common interests of developing countries, making important contribution to the package of positive outcomes the conference achieved.

The theme of conference "Together for Implementation" mirrored the world's ambition and vision to achieve climate justice.

At present, global efforts on climate change are facing severe challenges, with the developing world remaining the largest victim of climate change issues.

Developed countries had once enjoyed the development dividend brought about by long-term disorderly carbon emission, and their total per capita carbon emission is way more than that of developing countries.

However, developed countries have failed to fulfill their promise made in 2009 to provide \$100 billion per year for developing countries to tackle climate damage by 2020, and have never set any credible roadmap for doubling the adaptation finance. It constitutes a "capital bottleneck" for the global response to climate change.

At the COP27, developed countries still didn't face up to their historical



Common cranes fly over a wetland in Yueyang, central China's Hunan province, Nov. 9, 2022. File photo

responsibility and were reluctant to provide financial or technical support for developing countries.

The Foreign Affairs magazine said in an article that "the West must be honest and serious about its development-aid and climate-finance commitments."

China has always been taking earnest actions in climate governance. Having over-shot the climate action goals of 2020 ahead of schedule, China announced the vision of carbon peaking and carbon neutrality, and published the "1+N" policy framework for implementing carbon peaking and carbon neutrality goals.

Between 2012 and 2021, China's energy consumption expanded 3 percent annually on average, but its economy was growing an average speed of 6.6 percent each year. During the same period, China's CO2 emissions per unit of GDP dropped 34.4 percent, and its energy intensity fell by 26.4 percent..

In July 2021, China's national carbon emissions trading market commenced. It is the largest of its kind in the world and covers about 4.5 billion ton of CO2 emissions each year.

At the COP27, China formally submitted a report on the progress in implementing its targets of tackling climate change.

Named "Progress on the Implementation of China's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)," the report introduces the progress made by China in implementing its NDC targets and mirrors China's determination and efforts to promote green development and tackle climate change.

Egypt's Minister of Environment Yasmine Fouad has expressed appreciation for the "dual carbon" goals raised by China and the country's efforts to realize them, saying China's concept of "Lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets" is inspiring.

As a developing country and a responsible major country, China has

always been a staunch supporter and active practitioner for South-South climate cooperation.

At the Session 1 of 17th summit of the Group of 20 (G20) recently held in Bali, Indonesia, Chinese President Xi Jinping said that in tackling climate change and transitioning toward green and low-carbon development, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities must be upheld. It is also important to provide funding, technology and capacity-building support for developing countries and promote cooperation on green finance, he added.

So far, China has signed 45 climate change cooperation documents with 38 developing countries, constructed three low-carbon demonstration areas, carried out 42 climate change mitigation and adaptation projects, held 45 offline and seven online training courses in China, and trained 2,000 officials and technicians in the field of climate change for more than 120 developing nations.

Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Simon Stiell noted that China has made substantial progress in coping with climate change, playing an important role in advancing the global climate governance.

Everyone living on Earth is part of a big family and humanity is one community. Climate change is a common challenge to all, and humanity must come together to rise to that challenge.

China will keep working with all parties relevant to build a fair, equitable and win-win global climate governance system, and to contribute Chinese wisdom, solutions and strength to tackling climate change.

KAMPALA

MANY African participants walked into the UN climate conference held earlier this month in the Egyptian coastal city of Sharm El-Sheikh with much optimism, but came out with unmet expectations.

The two-week gathering, also known as the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), sought to move from negotiations to implementation and call for actions when extreme weather events are impacting the lives of millions of people worldwide.

Despite some progress at COP27, including a decision to set up a "loss and damage" fund and an agreement to establish a global adaptation framework, developed countries have been blamed for taking a passive attitude toward issues such as providing financial and technical support to the more vulnerable developing countries.

AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS DISAPPOINTED

Africa accounts for 4 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, but suffers the most from them, noted African climate campaigners, adding that 20 percent of the continent's population live in countries that are in the top 10 most vulnerable to climate change.

This year alone, the continent has seen deadly flooding in parts of West Africa and the worst drought in decades in the Horn of Africa.

Some 22 million people in the Horn of Africa are food insecure due to drought. Figures from the World Food Programme showed that at least 9.2 million livestock deaths occurred in the drought-affected areas of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia in 2022. In Nigeria, more than 600 people have been killed and over 3.2 million affected as a result of the flooding that hit more than 30 states in the country this year.

At the start of COP27, Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission Moussa Faki Mahamat called for climate justice to address the damage Africa has suffered due to climate change effects, appealing to the developed world to honour their promise made at COP26 to double funding by 2025.

However, as the conference closed on Nov. 20, African experts and civil society organizations found no good news for communities that are facing prolonged droughts, erratic rainfall and flooding.

Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), a collection of civil society organizations, said COP27 ended leaving millions of Africans in continued climate-related misery.

Africans left COP27 disappointed, said PACJA Executive Director Mithika Mwenda.

"We came with the hope that the momentum created by the discussions in the year ahead of COP27 under the facilitation of UNFCCC, the COP Presidency, and the facilitation of friends of the COP will

Africa urges climate actions rather than broken promises and double standards



Livestock are seen in a dry field in Kidemu sub-location in Kilifi county, Kenya, March 23, 2022. (Xinhua/Dong Jianghui)

materialize with concrete outcomes in Egypt. But unfortunately, the end of COP is an anti-climax," he said.

While describing the "loss and damage" fund agreement as a "much needed political signal to rebuild broken trust," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said it is not enough to address concerns.

"A fund for loss and damage is essential, but it's not an answer if the climate crisis washes a small island state off the map, or turns an entire African country to desert," he said.

BRAZEN DOUBLE STANDARD

Thirteen years ago in Copenhagen, developed countries promised to mobilize 100 billion U.S. dollars per year for climate actions in developing countries, but have so far defaulted with all kinds of excuses.

In 2021, nearly 200 participating countries adopted the Glasgow Climate Pact at the end of COP26, which includes an unprecedented goal for developed countries to double the funding provided to developing ones for adaptation by 2025. However, doubts were high that developed countries would again fail to honour their commitment.

This year at COP27, some rich nations attempted to cancel their long-delayed climate finance pledge, and although an agreement to establish a global adaptation framework was reached at the end of the conference, it lacked clarity and a credible roadmap to double adaptation funds.

And while developed countries are going back on their word and are returning to coal energy, especially amid a lingering energy crisis, some of them have been ordering developing countries to speed up green energy transition.

In mid-September, the European Parliament passed an emergency resolution urging Uganda and Tanzania to halt the construction of a crude oil pipeline that passes on a 1,445-km journey from the oil wells in western Uganda to the Tanzanian seaport of Tanga, saying it threatens the "protected and sensitive" ecosystems.

The move was described as hypocrisy by Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, who said later at COP27 that Europe is applying "brazen double standard" towards Africa in its climate and energy policies.

"We will not accept one rule for them and another

rule for us," Museveni wrote on his blog.

The African Development Bank's 2022 Africa Economic Outlook projected that Africa will need to mobilize as much as 1.6 trillion dollars between 2022 and 2030 to meet their Nationally Determined Contributions to fight climate change.

But as the developed world has failed to meet its finance commitment to the continent's green energy transition, a few experts in Africa, like Jonathan Tabalanga, an international relations expert and lecturer at Uganda's Cavendish University, fear that the continent may be left with no options but to continue using fossil fuels for development.

"Africa is confronted with a decision to make on whether to get their people out of poverty through industrialization, which is also a problem to the environment, or resort to eco-friendly means of production which are extremely expensive," Tabalanga said.

WALKING THE TALK

In late June, the AU published its Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032) and described it as "a key instrument in supporting regional collaboration on climate change and more effective international partnerships."

"There is a need to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of transboundary cooperation to ensure that decision-making and investment occur at appropriate timeframes to respond to the speed of changes in the climate and environment," said the document.

While developed countries are turning a deaf ear to Africa's call for deeper cooperation on green development, many developing countries, including China, are reaching out to the continent with utmost sincerity.

At the 8th Ministerial Confer-

ence of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation held last year, China proposed that the two sides advocate green and low-carbon development, and actively promote solar, wind and other sources of renewable energy, saying it will work closely with African countries to implement the green development program in the years to come.

China has walked the talk. For example, in De Aar, a town in the Northern Cape province of South Africa, Chinese company Longyu-an Power has partnered with local firms on a wind power project that has been in operation since 2017 with an installed capacity of nearly 245 MW.

Chinese-built Adama wind farms, installed with 102 turbines with a total generating capacity of 153 MW, is helping Ethiopia tap into its rich renewable energy potential. In Kenya, official figures showed that the installed capacity of solar power is more than 100 MW, while the China-financed Garissa Solar accounts for 50 MW.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa said recently that his country hopes to learn from China's experience in green development and energy transition, and is ready to actively participate in the Belt and Road cooperation.

At a time when the world is facing an energy crisis, China continues to make solid progress in dealing with climate change and plays an important role in advancing the global response to climate change, said UNFCCC Executive Secretary Simon Stiell when meeting with the Chinese delegation to COP27.

"China can be a very good contributor to the advanced levels of keeping Africa green because they are technologically more advanced. They can come and help us with solar, wind energy. Those areas are important," said Tabalanga, the Ugandan expert.

Xinhua



This photo shows the closing plenary at the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, Nov. 20, 2022. Xinhua

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Farmers discover hidden potential in organic farming

By Getrude Mbago

IN these days where the World has greatly changed in terms of technology and other innovations, it was hard to believe that someone can practice organic farming and still reap profit from it, says Songolo Madumla, a garden attendant at the National Sugar Institute (NSI) based in Kilombero District, Morogoro Region.

Madumla is one of the 117 garden attendants who have benefited from practical training on organic farming issued by the Tanzania Sustainable Agriculture (SAT) in 2020.

"I attended training for two weeks at the SAT centre in Vianzi, Morogoro, while there together with other garden attendants from various agricultural institutes in the country, we were deeply trained on how organic farming is and what we can do to ensure that it produces positive outcomes," Madumla narrated this in an interview with The Guardian recently.

According to him, after coming back from the training, he shared the knowledge and skills with other fellow attendants at the college as well as tutors and staff.

"From there the college set aside a special area in which we can practice farming without using artificial fertilizers or pesticides. We then started cultivating vegetables using manure and liquid fertilizer and boosters which we produced ourselves using things that surround us such as wastes and manure," he narrates.

Madumla who also runs a small organic farm at his home, says organic farming is cost effective as it uses little water with the fertilizer being found locally as well as plant booster which is made easily thus producing more profits than the modern one.

He says that in the screen house which was constructed by SAT at the college, they firstly planted cucumber and then bell pepper and since they started harvesting in April this year, they have collected a good amount and deposited them in a special account which they opened for the purpose.

He notes that since they started practicing farming, they have attracted a number of customers whom they are now serving by sending them organic products such as bell peppers, amaranth, spinach and other veggies. "The market is really huge because within this short period, we have secured customers from the college community but also in the streets, they wake up every day giving orders so as to be delivered with their products of their choice," he adds.

According to him, naturally grown vegetables and fruits have high demand as the majority of customers say they have good taste and more health benefits.

He is echoed by Lucy Salila, a fellow garden attendant at the college who says that apart from practicing the farming at the college, they also do it at home and observed a lot of benefits both income and health.

"We have bell peppers in the screen house and other vegetables such as amaranth, spinach and fruit trees which have been planted outside the screen house," she says.

Yohannes Msigwa, admission officer at NSI says the project has transformed their mindsets and many students as well as staff now admire



Songolo Madumla, a garden attendant at the National Sugar Institute (NSI) showing bell peppers in a screen house which have been grown organically.

organic farming more than the modern one as they have witnessed themselves in the school's garden.

"The staff here were the first one to taste the vegetables which are free from chemicals, from there the garden attendants increased efforts and expanded their plots to produce more products so as to cater the demand in the college as well as serve other customers in the street," he explains.

Msigwa says it was hard to believe that organic farming can transform the economy and people's lives, but after the training and practices, they have come to know that farming carries a lot of benefits if taken seriously.

He says that a total of nine teachers as well as two garden attendants have benefited from the project by attending a 14-day training in Morogoro.

"The training also helped the college to establish special fungi-

cides and pesticides tree gardens so as to produce more trees that help fight pests in the vegetable and fruit gardens," he adds.

In the past, the vegetable production yield was very poor and sometimes total loss caused by pests and diseases; high usage of synthetic pesticides to control pests and diseases increasing the cost of production and long term effects to workers and consumers," he says.

At the college, students are also

trained on organic farming and receive practical training in the farms and garden plots.

He commends SAT and the government for implementing the project which has seen improvements in curriculum and promotion of organic farming in various areas.

Antuse Massawe, programme manager from SAT says that what has been narrated by the garden attendants is the result of the implementation of the project dubbed: "Curriculum Implementation Support for Training Institutes (CISTI).

The project which commenced in 2020 and expected to be completed later this year, has benefited 29 agricultural training institutes in the country. It has facilitated review and approval of six new training modules for agriculture production on certificate and diploma levels which also saw organic farming being added as a course.

It has helped stimulate organic farming in the colleges and surrounding communities.

According to her, the project's purpose was to support public and private training institutions to produce graduates who are in line with the needs of the country through successfully integrating and implementing organic agriculture, gender, environmental management, cooperatives and communication skills through the new training curriculum for agriculture on certificate and diploma levels.

She also says that the project also involved training tutors and garden-attendants on organic gardens' management using natural botanical extracts so as to enable them to impart the knowledge to their students easily.

With support by LED Liechtenstein Development Service and coordinated by the government, the project has helped integrate several areas such as organic agriculture, gender, environmental management, cooperatives and communication skills that is based on the new training curriculum for agriculture on certificate and diploma levels.

Adding weight to the ongoing wave of land-related policy reforms

By Godfrey Massay

THERE is growing momentum for policy and legislative reforms in Tanzania. In the last two years alone, the Government has initiated policy reforms in the following sub-sector: business, gender, housing, human settlements development, agriculture, and investment. Specifically, these policies are currently in the review process: the National Land Policy, the National Housing Policy, the National Human Settlement Development Policy, the National Investment and Development Policy, and the Livestock Policy. The changes are building on earlier policy changes introduced by the government inland, natural resources, and the extractive sector in the last five years.

It is against this backdrop that Landesa/Tanzania in partnership with other civil society organizations has engaged

with the government and provided recommendations on land, gender, housing, human settlement, agriculture, and investment policies. Most of these policies are in the final stages of approval and will lead to a wave of endorsed legislative reforms awaiting implementation in the near future.

Landesa sees the opportunity to support the government in developing policies and laws that guarantee land tenure security for men and women. There is also opportunity the legislations and policies to safeguard social inclusions of different groups such as youth, women, and indigenous people, and promote the building of climate-resilient responses within communities.

In addition, the government has recently developed and launched a strategy to engage youth in agriculture called Building a Better Tomorrow: Youth Initiative for Agribusi-



Secure land tenure promotes women's land rights. Photo: USAID

nesses. The Ministry of Agriculture has identified poor access to land as one of the challenges affecting youth, which the

strategy is set to address. To tap the potential of the country's agriculture sector, in July 2022 the Ministry of Agricul-

ture launched the largest block farm (11,453 acres) in Dodoma that is anticipated to generate more employment opportu-

nities for youth through access to land. Two additional farms with 3,560 acres and 8,000 acres respectively are expected to be launched in Dodoma soon. Many other regions in the country will follow.

Moreover, the Ministry of Lands will be implementing a "Land Tenure Improvement Program" with \$150 million from the World Bank over the next five years. This project will, among other things, support the issuance of one million Certificates of Right of Occupancy, 500,000 Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy for those living in customary lands, and one million Residential Licenses in approximately 40 districts.

Civil society organizations are called on to be more organized and be proactive in providing inputs to these reforms and bring voices from

communities to the policy negotiation tables. The government is advised to do wider stakeholder engagements and integrate inputs from the general public as they develop and implement policy, legislative and programmatic reforms.

In the next five years, Landesa will continue providing support to the government on policy and legal reforms, coordinate and support civil society organizations in engaging with the government on land-related policy and governance dialogues and partnering with key government institutions such as the parliamentary committee on land, natural resources and tourism to advocate for policy, programmatic and budgetary priorities in the land sector.

Godfrey Massay is the Country Program Director for Landesa Tanzania.

UN Women, AU renew commitment to advance gender equality in Africa

ABUJA,

THE United Nations (UN) Women and African Union has renewed their commitment to advance gender equality in Africa.

UN Women Eastern and Southern Africa (ESARO), in collaboration with the UN Women Liaison Office to AU and the African Union Commission's Women, Gender and Youth Directorate (WGDD) organized a three-day meeting to develop a joint plan for action, advocacy and resource mobilization on gender issues in Africa.

As an outcome of the meeting, representatives agreed on drafting a joint Framework aligned with the African Union and the UN Women's strategic priorities for Africa.

The Framework will take into consideration UN Women's expertise and mandate as a global champion for women and girls and AU's unique positioning and continent-wide access to African policymakers

at the highest levels. The Framework is aligned with both organizations' strategies on gender equality, in particular the WGYD Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy and the UN Women Africa Strategy.

The meeting enjoyed the participation of Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Deputy Chairperson for the African Union Commission, and Dr. Ása Regnér, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and UN Women Deputy Executive Director, whose interventions provided more guidance for the alignment of the eventual collaboration framework at both strategic and programmatic levels.

Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa commended the deliberate approach to leverage the respective institutions' comparative advantages and imparted four key messages.

"We must focus on the following things to achieve scale for the work we intend to do together, focus on the importance of shared valued partnerships,

we must build an ecosystem of efficiency to connect the macro and the micro level interventions to make a difference at scale, we must implement game-changing initiatives and extend institutional, technical and financial support to each other for the partnership to be successful."

Dr. Ása Regnér reiterated UN Women's continued support and system-wide collaboration with the AU Gender Directorate for the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in Africa.

Prudence Ngwenya, Acting Director of the AUC WGYD expressed the importance of a collaborative framework being in place to ensure the organisations deliver with impact and at scale.

"It is indeed an exciting time to work in the women and youth empowerment space and what has become abundantly clear is that collaboration is the best way to make our respective efforts reverberate across Africa. UN Women is a trusted partner of the

AUC and as we enhance how we work this will be a beacon to other UN agencies who want to partner with us on transformative gender and youth programming," she said during the meeting.

Dr. Maxime Houinato, UN Women Regional Director for East and Southern Africa, emphasized the need to have a collaborative document that showcases a "mutual commitment and accountability", focused on key initiatives with women and the youth.

The participants also agreed on five key areas that should be included in the new 'AU-UN Women Collaborative Framework', particularly programmatic support on gender equality and women's empowerment, resources and opportunities.

The three-day meeting provided a platform to build a systematic engagement between UN Women and African Union in strengthening their strategic engagement on gender equality and women's empowerment in Africa, for the next five years.

Push forward - act now to end violence against women and girls

UNITED NATIONS

FIVE years ago, the global #MeToo movement brought new urgency and visibility to the extent of violence against women and girls. Millions of survivors came forward to share their experience. They forced the world to recognise a reality that shames every one of us. Their courage and voice led to a powerful collective activism and a sea-change in awareness.

This wake-up call, alongside other invaluable initiatives around the world, continues to resonate. Grassroots activists, women's human rights defenders and survivor advocates remind us every day, everywhere.

They are revealing the extent of that violence, they collect and shape statistics, document attacks and bring the violence that happens from the shadows into the light. Their work remains as crucial as it ever was. They offer us a path to bringing this violation of women's rights to an end.

The work of women's rights movements and activists is the bedrock of accountability and making sure that promises made many times become reality. They are mobilizing and they are powerful. We celebrate them today.

The evidence is clear. We have to invest urgently in strong, autonomous women's rights organizations to achieve effective solutions.

This lesson was taught to us most recently during the COVID-19 pandemic. Countries with powerful feminist movements, stronger democracies and more women in parliament were the most effective in responding to the surge in gender-based violence, the shadow pandemic of COVID.

In this area as in others, we see time and again that when women lead everyone wins. We all benefit from a more inclusive and effective response to the challenges we face. We all profit from more resilient economies and societies.

Alongside these efforts, men must step up



On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, 25 November, the color orange is used to represent a brighter future, free from violence against women and girls. Credit: UN Women

and push forward. They must play their part in change. They can begin where they live. It is an uncomfortable truth that for some women and girls rather than being a place of safety, as it should be, home can be deadly.

The latest global femicide estimates presents an alarming picture, one made worse by COVID-19 lockdowns. Our new report, released with UNODC, shows that on average worldwide, more than five women or girls are killed every hour by someone in their own family.

These deaths are not inevitable. This violence against women does not need to happen. Solutions are tried, tested and proven, and include early intervention, with trained, supportive policing and justice services, and access to survivor-centred support and protection.

I have three calls to action. I believe these are our priorities and our essentials. They are the basis on which we can push forward and make a reality of stated commitments to end

violence against women and girls.

First, I call upon governments and partners across the world to increase long-term funding and support to women's rights organizations, to make commitments to the Generation Equality Action Coalition on Gender-based Violence and donations to civil society organizations through the UN Trust Fund and support to the Spotlight Initiative. Resources matter and the scale of financial support for this cause does not match either the scale of the issue or the statements of concern made by those in leadership roles.

Second, I ask that we all, in our own ways, resist the rollback of women's rights, amplify the voices of feminist women's movements and mobilize more actors. We can all be advocates and our voices combined can drive the change we seek.

In doing so, we must also ensure the promotion of women's and girls' full and equal leadership and participation at all levels of political, policy-making and decision-making spaces. Accelerated progress toward ending violence against women and girls is just one of the dividends.

Third, I ask for the strengthening of protection mechanisms for women human rights defenders and women's rights activists. No one anywhere, ever, should face violence or harassment for standing up for what is right and calling for what is necessary.

We cannot let our determination to keep "pushing forward" for gender equality waver. Our goal of a world where violence against women and girls is not just condemned but stopped is possible. By pushing forward together we can attain it.

Chinese-sponsored solar-powered boreholes tackling water stress in Kenya's arid lands

NAIROBI

WINIFRED Nzioka's face lit up when a male farmhand delivered several jerrycans of water to her homestead on a balmy late afternoon to quench the thirst of mooing cows.

The middle-aged mother of five has put up a permanent house sandwiched between sunbaked farms at the heart of the southern Kenyan county of Machakos, which is in the grip of a prolonged dry spell. A few yards from Nzioka's homestead is a public school where a solar-powered borehole sponsored by a Chinese entrepreneur is providing respite to water stress that used to torment residents of the arid plains that dot Machakos County.

The small-holder farmer told Xinhua during a recent interview that water woes are now behind her since she can draw the commodity from the solar-powered borehole at a modest fee. "I have benefitted a lot from the borehole where I obtain water for my cows and domestic consumption. We are happy because clean drinking water is now on our doorstep," said Nzioka.

Completed in around May, the solar-powered borehole at Kwakatheke Primary School, adjacent to Nzioka's home, is the brainchild of Li Xia, the chief executive officer and co-founder of Shenzhen Solar Run Energy Company Limited.

Through a partnership with local not-for-profit groups, Li has leveraged solar solutions to address water stress in Machakos and other Kenya's drylands bearing the brunt of climate-induced droughts. Li, who had just landed from Egypt where she attended the UN climate conference, said harnessing solar power to pump water from boreholes is helping tackle the growing scarcity of the resource in Africa's climate hotspots.

Fabian Daniel, an 18-year-old farmhand, was in his element as he chaperoned two heifers that carted away 20-liter jerrycans filled with water drawn from a kiosk fed by the solar-powered borehole. "We used to trek for about five kilometers and spend upwards of two hours to reach a water source, but it is no longer the case; now we are



This file photo shows a woman pulling a donkey after fetching water at a borehole 25 kilometers from her home in Dertu, Garissa County, Kenya, Nov. 10, 2021. Xinhua

obtaining the commodity at this kiosk which is on our doorstep," said Daniel.

The young son of peasant farmers said he currently spends less than thirty minutes drawing water from the kiosk and carting it home for domestic consumption and irrigating crops. "I think this water project is good for rural Kenyans affected by drought. We have to look for a way to make water available for these communities, including drilling boreholes. Underground water is more reliable than rain," said Li.

She noted that solar power, a renewable source of energy, could aid Kenya's quest for a green transition besides enhancing sustainable water supply for underserved rural communities.

Li stressed that access to a reliable water supply will enable Machakos villagers to undertake climate-resilient agricultural practices, boost their food security and broaden their revenue streams. "Water is not only helping them to drink, but also helping them to increase productivity in their farms."

And solar power is a must; because in off-grid areas, you cannot draw water from underground sources without solar energy," said Li. Li said courtesy of a strategic partnership with local enterprises and charities, her company has been able to utilize China's pro-

cess in underground water utilization to tackle access gaps in Kenya's arid and semi-arid areas.

More than five million liters of clean drinking water has been delivered to households since the completion of the solar-powered borehole project and the kiosk in May this year, said Tajinder Singh, managing director of Project Maji, a not-for-profit social enterprise that has partnered with Li to tackle water woes in Kenya.

Singh added that the public primary school is provided with one thousand liters of safe drinking water daily to help quench pupils' thirst, irrigate trees and improve sanitation and hygiene. Singh disclosed that one 20-liter jerrycan of water is sold at 2.5 Kenyan shillings (about 0.02 U.S. dollars) at the kiosk, adding that regular monitoring is conducted to ensure the commodity meets the safety and quality threshold.

Susan Kennedy, principal of Kwakatheke Primary School, said the establishment of a solar-powered borehole has improved the academic performance and health of her 107 pupils. "The children have been spared the agony of trekking long distances under scorching heat to look for water. The borehole water is safe for drinking and children are also using it to nurture trees and maintain the hygiene of their classrooms," said Kennedy.

Xinhua



UNITRANS TANZANIA LIMITED

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Unitrans Tanzania Limited currently has the following exciting opportunities at Kilombero and Kilosa Districts, Morogoro Region where is subcontracted for various agricultural operations to the sugar industry. We are currently looking for a suitably, qualified, proactive, and experienced individuals with strong background on their professionals to fill in the following posts.

1. MOTOR VEHICLE MECHANIC (DIESEL MECHANIC)

Minimum Requirements

- Certificate in motor vehicle mechanic course grade I-III
- 5-10 years' experience in a haulage environment.
- Knowledge of the following brands Bell, John Deere, Game and Cat
- Relevant technical knowledge of specific mining equipment
- Basic electrical knowledge
- Basic welding knowledge
- Basic hydraulic knowledge
- Basic computer knowledge

Duties and Responsibilities

Fleet Maintenance

- Ensure the fleet is maintained in the most cost-effective way by the efficient ordering of spares and consumables.
 - Ensure maximum availability on the fleet and least amount of down time.
 - Preventative maintenance is done as per manufacturer recommendation.
- ##### Operational Excellence
- Service company vehicles to predefined checklists.
 - Diagnostics on all Equipment.
 - Completion of job Cards.
 - Minor panel beating and welding if skilled.
 - Take oil samples as per policy.
 - Ensure that repairs at breakdowns are diagnosed and the manager/foreman is informed immediately after work has been performed.
 - Ensure that all vehicles are maintained in accordance with both legal requirements and according to company policies and procedures or mining requirements.
 - Ensure proper safety measures are always taken at work and on the road for Unitrans.
 - Ensure that appropriate safety measures are always taken, and all work is carried out in a safety aware environment.
 - Complete necessary documents regarding breakdowns, services, spares drawn etc.
 - File documents pertaining to service and repairs of vehicles. All vehicle documents need to be filled in by artisan after completing and signed off by foreman and filed into vehicle file.
 - Does weekly stock take with the workshop foreman
 - Must stand in for the foreman when needed.
 - Complete necessary maintenance tasks to the correct standard and in a reasonable amount of time so as to minimize operational downtime".

2. DRIVER TRAINER

Suitable candidates should have the following:

- At least Form 4 education level
 - English literate
 - Class A, B, D, F, E & G driver's license
 - At least 2 years' experience in a trainer position.
 - Attend vocational training collage
 - Attend driver instructor/trainer course.
- ##### Duties and Responsibilities
- Prepare lessons that are tailored to operators' needs.
 - Provide on job training theory and practical skills related to all aspects of driving to operators.
 - Demonstrate the Tanzania Road Traffic Act and its regulations.
 - Demonstrate haulage techniques to improve work safety efficient.
 - Provide work guidance in accordance to work instructions as issued by customer from time to time.
 - Monitoring and control onsite fuel and oil usage.
 - To familiarize yourself with the requirements of Occupational Safety and Health Act.
 - To train operators and ensure that, the necessary checks on machinery and equipment are carried out and their findings are recorded in the register.
 - To ensure all machines assigned to the operation

- are safe to be operated.
- To perform monthly inspections of your workplace and equipment using checklist.
- To ensure that no employees is allowed to operate machinery unless he is adequately trained and competent to do so.
- To conduct operators' evaluation and Planned Task Observation to operators.
- Documenting and reporting operators training progress.
- To liaise with safety, health, and environmental representatives when they are performing their inspections.
- To participate in incident and accident investigation when happen in workplace.

3. FINANCIAL MANAGER

Minimum Requirements

- Completed degree in Finance/Accounting or related qualification
- Recognised member of a financial professional institute
- Minimum 8 years proven experience in an accounting role
- 3 Years' experience in a senior supervisory role.
- Computer literate and proficiency in MS Office is essential
- Maintain a professional, responsible, ethical, independent and objective work ethic
- Effective planning and organisational skills

Responsibilities

Cost Control

- Manage costs and cost ratios with budget/target, and coordinate profit improvement and cost saving projects
- Analyse and compare different contracts for benchmarking and performance improvement

Operational Finances

- Review monthly and annual forecasting based on operational requirements
- Continuous improvements are developed, and action plans are compiled on a regular basis
- Monitor operational expenses and ensure that they are correctly accounted for
- Manage and the internal and external audit process
- Close out audit issues raised by the Auditors
- Manage the operational financial requirements, reports, and requests from the heads of departments for the different contracts

Financial Management

- Support the heads of departments in the provision and interpretation of financial information
- Assist with the monitoring and advice on cash flows and predict future trends.
- Manage the business unit financial accounting
- Advise on the proper allocation of resources.
- Ensure that appropriate financial regulations and controls are always in place and in use.
- Prepare and review detailed budgets for approval
- Make regular reports to management on income, expenditure, and any variations from budgets.
- Ensure that all financial reporting obligations are met in relation to submissions of any initiatives.
- Authorize expenditure up to limits as defined.
- The movements of assets are updated and controlled effectively.
- Completion of Management and Statutory Packs
- Review of Balance sheet reconciliations and other checks as indicated in the financial control policies.
- Assistance with annual financial statements as required
- Preparation of reports for Executive team
- Ensure that the information on the Financials truly reflects operational utilisation and business activity for the month

Risk Management

- Key risk areas are monitored and evaluated.
- Risk assessment analysis is conducted
- Action is taken immediately to reduce and greatly minimise the chance of future risk.

Interested candidates may apply by email their CVs to careers.tanzania@unitrans.africa. Email subject should be the position that you are applying. Deadline is 10th December 2022. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



NCBA eyes deals for M-Shwari entry into DRC, Ethiopia
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AGRA's President recognised for promoting food security
Page 14



PSSSF's DG scoops top CEO of the year award
Page 15

Faida fund offers 'risk-free' collective investment option

By Guardian Reporter

WITH only 10,000 anyone can invest in risk free Faida fund, the collective investment scheme managed by Watumishi Housing Investment (WHI).

Through the scheme, low and middle income earners Tanzanians can invest by building wealth, while enjoying financial freedom through the newly launched collective investment scheme.

The Faida Fund opening of the offer was held on November 1 and closing for initial sale will be on December 31st this year, before becomes open for subsequent sale on January 2 next year.

Maryjane Makawia, WHI public relations and sales officer say, as low as 10,000/- someone can invest through this scheme as initial capital and thereafter spend as little as 5,000/- on subsequent additional investment.

She said parents are also allowed to invest through Faida Fund for their children. Yield for investing in the fund will range from 10 to 12 percent per annum.

"The advantage of this scheme is that it offers a Tanzanian the best option to build their financial independence, while enjoying earnings," she said. "Registration processes for this scheme is very simple as applicant requires only a name, date of birth and phone number."

Faida Fund is managed by WHI, which is the government institution under the Office of the President, Public Services and Good Governance, which has the mandate of managing collective investment scheme and construction of low cost houses for public servants and members of social security funds and is currently operating two funds including Nyumba Fund and Faida Fund.



Watumishi Housing Investment CEO Dr Fred Msemwa speaks during the launch of the fund earlier this month File Photo

She said the fund is approved and registered by the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) and custodian bank for the fund is CRDB Bank Plc, the largest in terms of assets.

Approval of unit holder's register by CMSA will be held on January 5th next year, notification of the result will be held on January 10th next year and official launch and opening of repurchase operation will be held on Janu-

ary 14, 2023 and April 1, 2023 respectively, according to offer document.

Investors of the fund are eligible for annual dividends and can withdraw their invested funds anytime at own convenient and the units ownership certificate can be used as a security item to secure a bank loan, she said.

"Any Tanzania want to build their liquidity, Faida Fund is the best option to invest in financial market, with low risks," she said

Investing in Faida fund is open to any Tanzanian, whether diaspora, children and institutional investors and there is no any cost in joining or exit from the fund.

To register for Faida Fund, just open Google playstore and upload WHI app or click government menu *152*00#, select payment option 1, select number 6 (WHI) and then Faida Fund for USSD enabled mobile phones or through the website fas.whi.go.tz. All application forms are obtained from www.whi.go.tz

After registering, an investor will be issued with control number which will be used to buy units all the time and the number will not change.

According to the officer, investor can also direct employer to deduct funds from monthly salary to invest on Faida Fund directly through standing order.

Faida Fund is an open-ended scheme, which seeks to create wealth to Tanzanians particularly to middle and low-income groups through investments in units to obtain competitive return through capital growth; and enhance the culture of savings in the financial assets.

The new Faida Fund was launched in November 2022 and is expected to take on board small investors including bodaboda, students, workers, retirees and peasants.

All set for Tanzania Private Sector Day 2022

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) is expected to hold this year's Tanzania Private Sector Day (TPSD22) in the first week of December 2022.

The statement issued by TPSF yesterday said the event will take place at the Superdome Arena, in Masaki, Dar salaam Tanzania.

TPSD22 is a flagship multi-sector event organised by the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) in collaboration with key private sector organisations, the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade to honour and recognizes the contribution of the private sector to the economy.

The event with the theme "Enhancing Private Sector Competitiveness" will bring together over 1000 delegates that include captains of industry, CEOs, and senior government officials.

The Private sector is the key contributor to socio-economic transformation through creation of decent jobs, household



TPSF chairperson Angelina Ngalula (3rd from R) speaks during the announcing of the TPSD 2022. Left is Tanzania Cigarette Company board Chairman Paul Makanza and others are the event organizing committee members File Photo

incomes and welfare improvement, government revenues in the form of taxes towards the provision of vital social services and development projects.

"The purpose of the event is to assess the milestones and accomplishments of the private sector during the period 2021-2022, while also highlighting the conducive business and investment environment that has driven socio-economic growth in the country under the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan and her sixth phase government," said Angelina Ngalula, TPSF chairperson.

Increased trade with our neighbours Kenya by 95 percent has contributed to Tanzania's growth.

Other noteworthy accomplishments of the private sector include growth in investment activity, employment possibilities, tax compliance and access to new markets for Tanzanian products and produce.

Ngalula noted that the Private Sector Day will promote business and investment opportunities that exist in the country.

"We need to tell the world of the in-

vestment opportunities that are available in Tanzania," Ngalula emphasized.

According to the TPSF Chairperson, agriculture is a sector that presents lucrative incentives to the prospective investors.

"Agriculture has been another key sector of the economy. We have recently signed important deals that have cleared food produce from Tanzania. For instance, China imports over 40,000 tonnes of avocados from Tanzania annually. We have also signed similar agreements with South Africa and India," she

noted.

Through economic diplomacy, Ngalula said, investment opportunities in mining are publicised abroad and results are now observable. In 2021, the government signed four contracts with mining companies that are worth over \$735 million, the first of its type in Tanzania.

According to the TPSF chairperson, the economic growth rate post the COVID-19 pandemic needs to be maintained, stating that currently Tanzania's economy is growing at 5.1 percent.

The private sector is already playing an active role of providing solutions to the country's economic challenges through small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that are the backbone of family livelihoods and the national economy.

"Many families in Tanzania are reliant on small and medium enterprises (SMEs), in fact, the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) says that about 35 percent of the country's GDP is from SMEs. Our discussion in December, will centre on the role that the private sector has in helping the country realise her development vision," Ngalula explained.

Additionally, TPSF will launch 'Zonal Buyer-Seller Forums,' an initiative that will bring together investors and financial institutions to promote trade and investment. Our goal is to increase B2B sellers and potential buyers in all zones throughout Tanzania.

In collaboration with an international consulting firm, Epvate & Fortune International Consulting (EFIC), TPSF will also award and recognize private sector companies and Private Sector Organizations (PSOs) that have demonstrated exceptional performance throughout the year.

"We will recognize and award companies in the following categories: Recognition of Outstanding Business Associations, Award for Outstanding CSR; Outstanding Start-up Innovation Award; Environmental Sustainability Award, and Recognition of Outstanding Government Agencies in Business Facilitation," added Ngalula.

Tanzania is endowed with diverse natural resources and having immense potential expanding markets, both regionally and globally.

Tanzania is among the leading investment destinations in Africa, and currently undertaking deliberate measures to reform the Business environment and investment climate.

BEIJING

Oil plunges to lowest since 2021 over China unrest

OIL tumbled to the lowest level since December as a wave of unrest in China punished risk assets and clouded the outlook for energy demand, adding to stresses in an already-fragile global crude market.

West Texas Intermediate sank toward \$74 a barrel following three weeks of losses. Protests over harsh anti-virus curbs erupted across the world's largest crude importer over the weekend, including demonstrations in Beijing and Shanghai, spurring a broad selloff in commodities as the week opened. The rare show of defiance is raising the threat

of a government crackdown.

The unrest aided the dollar as a haven, making raw materials less attractive, while hurting mobility in China. It also brings the possibility that authorities could respond with tighter curbs, with Covid-19 cases hitting a record this month, although others speculate the pace of easing could pick up.

Oil's leg lower is the latest twist in what's been a tumultuous 12 months, with volatility driven by the war in Ukraine, aggressive central bank tightening to combat inflation, and China's relentless attempts to

eradicate Covid-19. In recent days, European Union diplomats have also been locked in talks over a cap on Russian crude prices, with negotiations set to resume later on Monday.

"Sentiment in the oil market remains negative, and developments over the weekend in China will certainly not help," said Warren Patterson, head of commodities strategy at ING Groep NV in Singapore.

Congestion data from Baidu showed peak-hour traffic in major Chinese cities on Monday morning declining sharply. In Beijing, the capital,

traffic was down 45% from a year ago, while in Guangzhou it was 35% lower. Chinese oil demand could average of 15.11 million barrels a day this quarter, down from 15.82 million a year ago, according to Kpler, a data and analytics firm.

The "demand outlook will deteriorate before it gets better," said Fenglei Shi, director of Greater China oil market midstream and downstream at S&P Global Commodity Insights, citing an uptick in lockdowns.

Aside from China, traders were also assessing a US move to grant supermajor Chevron

Corp. a license to resume oil production in Venezuela after sanctions had halted all drilling activities almost three years ago. The sanctions relief comes after Norwegian mediators announced the restart of political talks between President Nicolas Maduro and the opposition this weekend.

Key market metrics are signaling weaker conditions. WTI's prompt spread -- the gap between its nearest two contracts -- was 17 cents a barrel in a bearish contango pattern compared with \$1.29 a barrel in backwardation a month ago.



FILE PHOTO: Oil pump jacks at Vaca Muerta in Argentina

NCBA eyeing deals for M-Shwari entry into DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana



NCBA Bank managing director John Gachora. PHOTO | NMG

NAIROBI

NCBA Group is set to launch its mobile phone banking services M-Shwari in Ghana, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) through partnerships in efforts to grow further into a regional bank.

The group, which also operates in Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda, is in talks for partnerships with banks and telecoms operators in the three countries for mobile phone banking services.

This signals that the Kenyan bank will seek to earn commissions from the deals over setting up brick-and-mortar operations in Ghana, Ethiopia and DRC.

Kenyan commercial banks are looking beyond their borders for acquisitions and partnerships, seeking to tap opportunities outside East Africa, which are driven by rapid economic growth and trade integration.

NCBA has reaped huge rewards from pioneering

mobile phone-based lending in Kenya after teaming up with telecoms operator Safaricom in 2012 to launch the dominant service, M-Shwari.

It wants to replicate this model outside East Africa, in particular virgin markets of Ethiopia and DRC—which have huge populations and a banking sector mainly focused on serving big companies, making them appealing to ambitious lenders in regional states in search of retail lenders and small traders for growth.

“In new markets the model will be to work with local banking and mobile partners to deliver our products,” NCBA Group chief executive John Gachora said in an interview.

“The countries of interest for now remain Ghana, Ethiopia and DRC - these added to our current five would make it eight countries.”

He did not disclose the banks and telcos that NCBA is seeking in the three markets. Telecoms operators have expanded mobile financial services across Africa after the idea was pioneered by Safaricom with its M-Pesa service in 2007.

Kenyan lenders have been turning to technology in response to the competition from mobile phone-based financial services.

NCBA has partnerships in the regions with other telecoms operators, including M-Pawa in Tanzania with Vodacom, Mokash in Uganda and Momokash (Ivory Coast) with MTN.

The bank says the partnerships will be a key plank in expansion of its digital lending business in the continent.

“As NCBA, we are looking to start seeing digital financial services as an export product beyond Kenya and into the region,” NCBA director of digital business Erick Muriuki said.

“The objective here, of course, is to ensure that we can diversify our revenues from beyond Kenya and be able to see that we are generating significantly more revenues from the digital business outside East Africa.”

Ethiopia's State-owned mobile operator, Ethio

Telecom, last May launched the mobile phone-based financial service, Telebirr.

It allows users to send and receive money, deposit or take out cash at appointed agents, pay bills to various merchants and receive cash sent from abroad. Safaricom was last month given the nod to launch M-Pesa in Ethiopia, the first time foreigners were allowed to offer the service and smooth the market for NCBA.

Ethiopia's banking sector is still one of the most tightly state-controlled in Africa and is not open to foreign ownership.

The sector is dominated by the two oldest and most profitable institutions, Awash Bank and Dashen out of the 19 commercial banks that Safaricom and NCBA must seek deals with to launch Ethiopia's first mobile phone lending product.

DRC became the seventh member of the EAC this year, bringing the size of the bloc's economy to over Sh30 trillion. The nation of about 90 million people is the world's biggest cobalt producer and Africa's top copper miner—whose retail banking and fintech market is tiny, and yet to go big on lending through mobile phones.

NCBA will have to do battle with Equity and KCB, which have entered or are seeking to enter the central African country through buyouts.

KCB in August entered an agreement to acquire 85 percent stake of DRC's Trust Merchant Bank (TMB) while Equity bought Banque Commerciale du Congo in 2020.

Nigeria seeking to advance crypto, digital assets trading

LAGOS

Nigeria seeks to advance digital asset trading in the country, but like some countries in Asia, it is drawing a distinction between digital assets – which can be broadly defined and may include central bank digital currencies (CBDCs), non-fungible tokens (NFTs) and privately issued stablecoins – and cryptocurrencies, according to a Bloomberg report.

Lamido Yuguda, Director-General of the Nigerian Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), joins other regulators including those in South Korea seeking to clarify the distinction between digital assets and virtual or cryptocurrencies.

Yuguda said the country will promote investment in “sensible digital assets” with investment protection – without offering specifics. The SEC will also explore blockchain technology to advance virtual and traditional investment products, the Bloomberg story said.

He added the commission is sidestepping digital currencies for now, Bloomberg reported. Cryptocurrencies are not explicitly banned in Nigeria, although the Central Bank of Nigeria has instructed banks to not engage in or with entities involved with cryptocurrencies and to close the accounts of those involved in crypto transactions.

Yet Nigerians are globally the most curious about cryptocurrencies, as per a study done by CoinGecko, and are also among the most prolific crypto users. But the IMF has said Africa's growing crypto markets need better regulation, and the widespread use of crypto could undermine monetary policy effectiveness and threaten macroeconomic stability.

Nigeria has been at the forefront of CBDC innovation as it became the first African nation to launch its own CBDC, the eNaira, back in October 2021.

The Nigerian regulator joins Singaporean, Hong Kong and South Korean market regulators in trying to define what assets fall under the term “digital asset.” As per the Monetary Authority of Singapore, a digital asset is “anything of value whose ownership is represented in a digital or computerized form,” and it is referred to as crypto assets when deployed on the blockchain.

The Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) uses “virtual assets” to cover digital representations of value which may be in the form of digital tokens, virtual commodities, crypto assets or other assets of essentially the same nature.

Saudi Aramco hires banks for \$1billion share issuance

RIYADH

SAUDI Aramco Base Oil Co., a refining unit of the state-owned oil producer, named banks including Citigroup and HSBC Holdings Plc for its initial public offering on the Saudi stock exchange, which could raise about \$1 billion.

The company, also known as Luberef, is planning to sell 50 million shares, or a nearly 30 percent stake, according to a statement. The price at which all subscribers in the offering will purchase the shares will be determined after the book-building period.

The company hired SNB Capital as lead manager, financial adviser, book-runner, global coordinator and underwriter. It also named Citigroup Saudi Arabia, HSBC Saudi Arabia, and Morgan Stanley Saudi Arabia as financial advisers, book-runners, global coordinators and underwriters.

The bidding period for participating parties and book-building process opens on Dec. 4 for six days, according to the company's prospectus. Subscription period for individual investors opens Dec. 14 for two days, and the announcement of the final allocation of the offer shares will be no later than Dec. 22.

Saudi Arabia's Capital Market Authority approved Luberef's IPO plan last week.

The refinery business, with operations in Saudi industrial cities Jeddah and Yanbu, is 70% owned by Saudi Aramco, while the rest is held by local private equity firm Jadwa Investment. The offering consists of Jadwa's sale of its shares in Luberef, while Saudi Aramco is keeping its stake. The offering could raise about \$1 billion, Bloomberg reported in June.

The energy-rich Persian Gulf has been one of the world's IPO hotspots this year, accounting for almost half the proceeds from new share listings across Europe, the Middle East and Africa. While share sales elsewhere have dried up amid aggressive interest rate rises, Middle Eastern markets have benefited from high oil prices, and Saudi Arabia alone has seen a record 27 IPOs this year, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Jadwa had acquired its Luberef holding in 2007 from Exxon Mobil Corp. Exxon had originally invested in the refinery in 1978.

Luberef operates two production facilities in Yanbu and Jeddah on Saudi Arabia's west coast. It produces various base oils and byproducts including asphalt, marine heavy fuel oil and naphtha. They are mainly sold across the Middle East, North Africa and India. It also sells across Asia, the Americas and Europe.

Demand for base oils globally is expected to grow by about 5 million metric tons between 2022 and 2030, according to a company statement. “The demand outlook for base oils is further supported by strong macro fundamentals in Saudi Arabia and the broader Middle East region, which are key end-markets for Luberef.”

“Luberef will continue focusing on achieving growth in key end-markets, especially where market dynamics present attractive demand outlooks,” Tareq Alnuaim, president and chief executive officer of Luberef, said the statement.

AGRA's President recognised for promoting food security

By Guardian Correspondent, Monaco

AGRA's President, Dr. Agnes Kalibata has been recognised by Prince Albert II of Monaco for leading efforts towards Africa's food security and prosperity through inclusive and sustainable agricultural growth to secure livelihoods of millions of smallholders since 2014.

Dr Kalibata was a laureate at the 15th annual Awards for Planetary Health by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation. The awards honor personalities and organisations who have shown remarkable commitment to the preservation of the Planet. Speaking after receiving her award, Dr. Kalibata expressed her gratitude for the recognition.

“We are not on track to achieve the SDG Goal of “Zero Hunger” by 2030. This is made more difficult by climate change. Agriculture is a major part of the climate problem. It currently generates 19-29% of total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Without action, that percentage could rise substantially. I am honored to receive this award today. But it is not just for me. It is also an award acknowledging that we must continue our push to support African smallholder farmers - as they look to increase their agriculture production for more food security and increased incomes, they must do this while having choices to use modern technologies and practices that take care of environment.”

In his opening address at the award ceremony, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco emphasised that while the Foundation's Awards for Planetary Health reward inspiring personalities for their work in favour of water, climate, and biodiversity, they also reward the paths they have chosen.

Those of “politics and collective action; science and research; industry and innovation. Three areas that we must constantly mobilise, for it is with them that we make progress”.

The Sovereign Prince underlined the importance of the 2022 laureates' commitment: “At a time when our planet is once again experiencing open conflicts that tend to push environmental issues aside, there has never been a better time to give a voice to those who



AGRA President Dr Agnes Karibata receives an award from Prince Albert II of Monaco Photo by AGRA

seek to protect it”.

The other laureates in the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation's 15th annual Awards for Planetary Health were: Professor Dame Jane Francis, Director of the British Antarctic Survey, a research centre of the Natural Environment Research Council; and Dr. Ido Sella, the CEO and co-founder of ECONcrete Tech, whose mission is to change the gold standard, transforming the way our concrete coasts look and function, so that where the ocean meets the shore, life thrives - above and below the water.

Established in 2006, AGRA is an African-led and Africa-based institution that puts smallholder farmers at the center of the continent's growing economy by transforming agriculture from a solitary struggle to survive into farming as a business that thrives. Together with our partners, we are working to sustainably grow Africa's food systems.

AGRA strengthens seed systems, develops and promotes sustainable farming practices, helps unlock trade and markets, and supports governments who lead their countries' development. We work with farmers to adapt to climate change, increase soil health, and protect the environment.

AGRA believes deeply in the urgency of reducing the inequality that women face in agriculture, and to unlocking the power and innovation of youth.

CURRENT NEWS



Copper's biggest mystery is finally cracking

NEW YORK

THE warnings keep getting louder: the world is hurtling toward a desperate shortage of copper. Humans are more dependent than ever on a metal we've used for 10,000 years; new deposits are drying up, and the type of breakthrough technologies that transformed other commodities have failed to materialize for copper.

In what could prove a game changer for global supply, a US startup says it's solved a puzzle that has frustrated the mining world for decades. If successful, the discovery by Jetti Resources could unlock millions of tons of new copper to feed power grids, building sites and car fleets around the globe, narrowing and possibly even closing the deficit.

At its simplest, Jetti's technology is focused on a common type of ore that traps copper behind a thin film, making it too costly and difficult to extract. The result is that vast quantities of metal have been left stranded over the decades in mine-waste piles on the surface, as well as in untapped deposits. To crack the code, Jetti has developed a specialized catalyst to disrupt the layer, allowing rock-eating microbes to go to work at releasing the trapped copper.

The technology still needs to be proven on a large scale. But the riches at stake are pulling in some of the industry's most powerful players.

BHP Group, the biggest mining company, is already an investor and

has now spent months negotiating for a trial plant at its crown jewel copper mine, Escondida in Chile, according to people familiar with the matter. US miner Freeport-McMoRan Inc. began implementing Jetti's technology at an Arizona mine this year, while rival Rio Tinto Group is planning to roll out a competing but similar process.

The miners are responding to an increasingly urgent problem. Copper is ubiquitous in the modern world, used in everything from phones and computers to water pipes and cables. And while the global drive to decarbonize is based on phasing out dirty natural resources like oil and coal, an electrified future will need more copper than ever before.

Despite its importance, the world is facing a growing threat of shortages in the coming decades. The best mines are getting old and the few new discoveries are either in difficult places to operate, or face years of opposition to development.

The history of commodity markets shows that looming deficits tend to spur new discoveries and technologies. The US shale boom in the 2010s turned the oil market on its head, while breakthroughs in nickel processing upended supply forecasts.

But new discoveries in copper are increasingly unlikely, given the long history of mining - evidence of copper usage has been traced back to at least 8,000 BC in what is now Turkey and Iraq. That means most of the world's great deposits have already been found and exploited; more than half the world's 20 biggest copper mines were discovered more than a century ago.

Yet the long history of copper mining also means there are massive amounts of metal sitting on the surface in waste dumps.

The reason is a principle as old as mining itself: ore is pulled up from the earth, the easiest metal is extracted, and anything too difficult or expensive to process is tossed aside as waste. Over the past decade alone, an estimated 43 million tons of copper have been mined but never processed, worth more than \$2 trillion at current prices, creating huge opportunities for anyone who can successfully recover those riches.

To be sure, it's not a new concept to reprocess mine waste when technology improves or prices rise. But that just hasn't been feasible for certain types of ore. And the breakthrough has opportunities far beyond waste dumps - there are millions more tons still underground that haven't been viable to mine.

Much depends on mining companies' willingness to install Jetti's plants. But if the technology becomes fully embraced by the industry, the company estimates that as much as 8 million tons of additional copper could be produced each year by the 2040s - more than one third of last year's total global mine production.

"The industry has accumulated this waste material forever," said Jetti's founder and chief executive officer, Mike Outwin. "They've been trying to come up with an answer for it on their own for a couple of decades and haven't been able to."

So far Jetti's process has been running on just one mine, at Pinto Valley in Arizona. But the results have been so promising three of the world's biggest copper miners - including BHP - have bought stakes in the company. Its latest fundraising was at a valuation of \$2.5 billion.

Copper giant Freeport says it has also "initiated a commercial implementation this year at our Bagdad mine in Arizona to trial the tech-

PSSSF's DG scoops top CEO of the year award

By Guardian Reporter

PUBLIC Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) director general Hosea Kishimba has scooped the best CEO of the year award on public institutions category.

The awards ceremony, which was attended by various Chief Executive Officers (CEOAs) was held on Friday last week at Mlimani City, organized by KPMG, which has 35 years of experiences in insurance, finance, law and taxation.

Speaking after receiving an award, Kishimba said: "I direct this award to members of PSSSF, this is their gift as

we are closing the year. This award is really giving me motivations to continue serving them next year".

Kishimba, an MBA-Corporate graduate from Mzumbe University, also studied an advanced diploma in accountancy from IDM- Mzumbe. He has also attended various training courses locally and internationally. He is also the member of Institute of Directors (IoDT) and board member of CRDB Bank and board chairman of CRDB Burundi.

Before his appointment as the director general of PSSSF in February 2019, Kishimba served as an internal auditor for former PPF Pension Fund.



The Managing Partner KPMG Tanzania, Alexander Njombe (L), presents the best 2022 CEO of the year from Parastatals, to the Director General of the Public Social Social Security Fund, (PSSSF), Hosea Kishimba during the annual event organized by KPMG in recognition of Excellence and Leadership.

Veterinary vaccines uptake is low than production, says Prof. Nonga

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

THE consumption of veterinary vaccination in Tanzania is low that production, the Guardian can reveal.

This was stated yesterday by the Director of Veterinary Services (DVS), Prof. Ezeron Nonga when launching the Tanzania Veterinary Laboratory Agency (TVLA), Southern Highlands Zone in line with the 10th anniversary of the establishment of an agent.

The launch was officiated by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (Livestock Sector), Tixon Nzunda in Iringa Region.

He said the agency produces more than 65 million livestock vaccines a year but veterinary experts and the general public believe on livestock treatment than prevention.

Prof. Nonga explained that they are trying to work on the challenge and during TVLA week, they have provided public awareness on the use of vaccines, as an effective way to controlling animal diseases.

Also, in terms of pesticides there have been numbers of complaints from the herders that some of the do not kill the ticks and fleas adding that they are spending a lot of money on the pesticides. The presence of such livestock laboratories in the Southern Highlands zone will be a solution to livestock keepers being able to identify the correct pesticides.

Prof. Nonga said that despite the budget deficit, they are producing vaccines against poultry diseases, saying the agent continues to produce the

vaccine for chickens of various diseases. In addition, the agency (TVLA) is in the final stages of producing vaccines against rabies and skin rashes for goat and sheep.

Canine rabies causes about 59,000 human deaths each year globally, but the disease can be eliminated by sustaining sufficient dog vaccination coverage over several consecutive years.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (Livestock sector), Tixon Nzunda congratulated the agency for its services to fight the challenge of livestock diseases. Nzunda has therefore instructed Prof. Hezron Nonga to put in place a system for starting a livestock week from next financial year, which will involve all existing government institutions under the Ministry of Livestock as well as the Regional Secretariat, Local Government Authorities and Stakeholders from the Private Sector. The event was also accompanied by the opening of the new agency building located in the Isoka Mchinjioni in the region which is expected to serve all livestock keepers in the Southern Highlands.

"This innovation is the current view of the Ministry and in doing so, we have not only been able to advertise the activities of the institution, but we have succeeded in educating the public and making close contact with the community we serve, through the media, various groups and social networks including the Agency website. And I believe other institutions under the ministry will emulate this," added Nzunda.



The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (Livestock) Tixon Nzunda (C) opening the new Laboratory and Office Building, the Tanzania Veterinary Laboratory Agency serving the livestock keepers of the Southern Highlands zone in Iringa. He is flanked by TVLA Chief Executive Dr. Stella Bitanyi (right) and Iringa Municipal Mayor of Iringa Ibrahim Ngwada (left). (Photo Correspondent by Friday Simbaya)

Chinese programme fosters skilled workforce in Africa

NAIROBI

AT the dispatch center at Djibouti's Nagad railway station, the young Djiboutian girl Aisha was watching the staff's operations while paying close attention to the different colored dots and lines flashing on the screen.

As one of the first batch of enrolled students at the Djibouti Luban Workshop, Aisha together with her classmates was learning railway-related knowledge through an internship program at the Djibouti originating station of the Chinese-built Ethiopia-Djibouti railway.

In a recent interview with Xinhua, Aisha said that after three years of training, about 20 young Djiboutian students, including herself, will complete their course at the end of this year and become the first batch of graduates of the local Luban workshop.

The Djibouti Luban Workshop, a vocational training cooperation project jointly implemented by two vocational schools based in north China's Tianjin city, the Djibouti Industrial and Commercial High School and the China Civil Engineering and Construction Corporation, was established in March 2019. The workshop was the first of its kind established in Africa.

Considering Djibouti's transportation needs, the Djibouti Luban Workshop offers majors such as rail transport operation and management with a view to helping build a local talent pool for the railway industry.

The workshop in Djibouti, as well as about a dozen of others set up in Africa over the years that offer different majors and courses tailored to the workforce needs of various African countries, has epitomized the growing China-Africa capacity-building cooperation.

PRODUCTIVE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CO-OPERATION

A report this year by the African Center for Economic Transformation, a non-profit Accra-based think tank, showed that by 2030, sub-Saharan Africa's working-age population

is expected to reach 600 million, with youth accounting for 37 percent of that number. However, it noted that African governments must address significant challenges to realize the demographic dividend, including high youth unemployment due to poor quality of education and lack of inadequate infrastructure and equipment.

During the 8th Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) held in Senegal a year ago, China announced nine cooperation programs that it planned to jointly implement with African countries over the next three years, one of them being the capacity building program. This program has been promoted with the aim to boost employment, especially for Africa's huge youth population.

The Luban workshops, as part of the China-Africa cooperation in this regard, have linked Chinese and African vocational schools, helped upgrade facilities, and provided state-of-the-art technology and training for the host countries.

Through collaboration among Chinese and African governments, enterprises and schools, 12 workshops have been established so far in African countries such as South Africa, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Kenya.

Different workshops may have different priorities. For instance, in Djibouti, the Luban workshop focuses on developing railway operation talents while in Ethiopia, the workshop aims to improve the teaching-learning process in the areas of mechatronics, robotics, and artificial intelligence.

In efforts to accelerate the digital transformation in Africa, Chinese companies such as Huawei have also been providing ICT training.

Huawei launched this month a fund in Zambia to develop local innovation leaders, with plans to provide ICT training to 5,000 local youths and train at least 50 faculty members and government officials on basic ICT skills by 2025.

In Angola, Huawei also plans to train more than 10,000 local ICT personnel over the next five years.

In Tanzania, a collaborative project with China was launched in June this year to boost vocational education through the development of new vocational standards in the East African nation.

Adolf Rutayuga, executive secretary of Tanzania's state-run National Council for Technical and Vocational Education and Training, said the project will help develop a large pool of talented and skilled workers, and ensure that vocational education graduates meet the needs of the international market.

BOOSTING EMPLOYMENT IN AFRICA

Under the capacity building program announced at the FOCAC's meeting last November, Chinese companies operating in Africa are encouraged to provide at least 800,000 jobs to the locals over the next five years.

According to a report released by Ernst & Young, China's investments in the continent totaled 70.6 billion US dollars from 2016 to 2020, having created more than 170,000 jobs, making it a top job creator in Africa. Instead of bringing workers from afar, Chinese companies in Africa are hiring more from the local workforce.

Chinese business associations in African countries have also been actively involved in local staff recruitment by organizing job fairs. In October, the Chamber of Chinese Enterprises in Zimbabwe partnered with Stanbic Bank to hold a two-day job fair with 30 Chinese companies offering 757 jobs.

"We have learned that it is difficult for locals to find jobs, especially for fresh graduates. That's why we created the platform for bringing job seekers and employers as well as organizations face-to-face to understand their needs and also to meet each other," said Shannel Liu, vice president of the chamber. Liu said over 100,000 locals are currently employed by the chamber's companies.



In Tanzania, a collaborative project with China was launched in June this year to boost vocational education through the development of new vocational standards in the East African nation.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Netanyahu signs coalition deal with 2nd far-right party

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI Prime Minister-designate Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party and far-right Noam party signed a coalition deal on Sunday, moving Netanyahu one step closer to forming what is expected to be the most right-wing government in Israeli history.

Under the agreement, Noam's leader and its sole lawmaker Avi Maoz will serve as a deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Office and would be in charge of a new agency called "National Jewish Identity Authority," the Likud party announced in a statement.

Maoz will also be in charge of Nativ, a governmental bureau that maintains contact with Jews in the former Soviet republics and encourages them to immigrate to Israel.

Maoz is a strong advocate of Israel's Jewish identity and supporter of Jew-

ish religious laws such as gender segregation between women and men in public venues, including universities, concerts and public transport.

It is Likud party's second coalition agreement after Netanyahu was mandated to build a new coalition government in mid-November.

Over the weekend, the Likud said in a statement that it had signed a deal with Itamar Ben-Gvir, an extremist politician who is expected to become the national security minister in Netanyahu's government.

Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving prime minister who was ousted just a year and a half ago and is standing trial on corruption charges, has been in talks with three other far-right parties about joining his coalition government.

In the parliamentary elections on Nov 1, Netanyahu and his allies won 64 of the 120 seats, after almost four years



Likud party leader Benjamin Netanyahu gestures as he addresses his supporters at his party headquarters during Israel's general election in Jerusalem, Nov 2, 2022. REUTERS

of five inconclusive elections.

Under Israeli law, Netanyahu is required to form a coalition government

before a mid-December deadline or

the president would appoint another lawmaker to form a government.

Norway's defense minister sees no direct threat from Russia

BERLIN

NORWEGIAN Defense Minister Bjorn Arild Gram has asserted that despite current events in Ukraine, he does not see any direct threat to Norway coming from Russia.

In an interview with Germany's Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung published on Sunday, the top military official noted that since the onset of Russia's special military operation in Ukraine, interaction between Norway and Russia has changed.

"That said, we've retained some communication channels, we are cooperating on fishery and are working together on sea rescue. We have also been maintaining interaction between our militaries although less actively," he stressed.

That said, he added that "at some point, everything should normalize." "Yet it may happen that everything will be different than before because this situation also has long-term consequences," the defense minister added.

He noted that amid the Ukrainian crisis, Norway has increased its military spending and put its intelligence on alert.

"However, we do not see a specific direct military threat to Norway itself. This is a serious situation, we should be ready," he noted.

On February 24, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in a televised address that in response to a request by the heads of the Donbass republics he had made a decision to carry out a special military operation in order to protect people "who have been suffering from abuse and genocide by the Kiev regime for eight years."

The Russian leader stressed that Moscow had no plans of occupying Ukrainian territories, noting that the operation was aimed at the denazification and demilitarization of Ukraine.

Following this, the US and its allies announced sweeping sanctions against Russia and stepped up arms deliveries to Kiev.

Agencies



Norwegian Defense Minister Bjorn Arild Gram

Ethiopia's Tigray receives first-round humanitarian aid after peace accord

ADDIS ABABA

THE Ethiopian government disclosed that more than 450,000 people in the country's conflict-affected northernmost Tigray region have been reached in the first-round humanitarian assistance after the recently signed peace accord.

The Ethiopian National Disaster Risk Management

Commission (NDRMC) said the Ethiopian government has intensified humanitarian supplies to vulnerable people in the Tigray region via four road corridors and air transport system, state-run Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) quoted NDRMC officials as saying late Saturday.

In the first round humanitarian supplies alone, more than 90 thousand quintals

of wheat and nutritious food were distributed to more than 450,000 people, according to the NDRMC. The national relief body further said more than 60 heavy vehicles loaded with humanitarian supplies have arrived at their destinations in the region.

The latest humanitarian aid provision in Tigray came after senior commanders of

the Ethiopian government and the rebel Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), de facto ruler of the Tigray region, agreed to facilitate humanitarian access in conflict-hit parts of northern Ethiopia in an agreement facilitated by the African Union (AU).

The parties to the conflict have agreed to promote unhindered humanitarian access for all in need in Tigray

and neighboring regions and facilitate the movement of humanitarian aid workers.

They have also agreed to provide security guarantees for aid workers and humanitarian organizations as well as protection for civilians in accordance with the provisions of the "permanent cessation of hostilities" agreement signed by the two sides on Nov. 2. **Xinhua**

UK to fine tech companies that fail to remove self-harm material

LONDON

BRITAIN'S government intends to make it illegal to encourage others to harm themselves online and will fine social media companies that fail to remove such material, as part of a revamp of legislation governing online behaviour.

Promoting suicide is already illegal, but Britain's digital, culture, media and sport ministry said in a statement that it now wanted to require social media firms to block a wider range of content.

"Social media firms can no longer remain silent bystanders ... and they'll face fines for allowing this abusive and destructive behaviour to continue on their platforms under our laws," Digital Secretary Michelle Donelan said.

The Conservative government said the proposals aimed to block images and videos similar to those viewed by Molly Russell, a 14-year-old whose death in 2017 sparked ongoing public concern.

In September, the coroner investigating her death ruled that social media platforms had fed content to her which "romanticised acts of self-harm by young people".

Under the proposals, social media companies will have to remove and limit users' exposure to material that deliberately encourages people to harm themselves.

Last week the government said the new legislation would also ban the distribution of sexually explicit images that have been manipulated to look like they feature someone who has not consented to appear in them.

Full details of the latest proposals - including the criminal penalties faced by people who promote self-harm, and the scale of fines faced by companies - will come next month when legislative amendments are put before parliament.

The wider legislation incorporating such penalties, known as the Online Safety Bill, has had a slow passage through parliament since its first draft in May 2021.

Earlier versions sought to ban "legal but harmful" material online, drawing criticism from tech companies and free-speech campaigners who said the definition was too vague and could be used to arbitrarily criminalise otherwise legal behaviour.

However, the bill has been strongly supported by children's and mental health charities, and by people seeking to limit racist and sexist abuse online.



This illustration picture taken on May 28, 2020 shows social media applications logos from LinkedIn, YouTube, Pinterest, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter displayed on a smartphone in Arlington, Virginia. AFP

Militants attack hotel used by officials in Somalia's capital

MOGADISHU

GUNFIRE was heard yesterday from inside a besieged hotel in the Somali capital that was attacked on the weekend, a nearby resident and a police officer said, while parliament said it had postponed a scheduled session.

The Villa Rose hotel, near the presidential residence, was stormed on Sunday by attackers of al Qaeda-linked al Shabaab, using guns and explosives, with a police officer saying at the time that some government officials escaped from its windows.

"There is still heavy gunfire inside the hotel and we hear explosions from time to time ... we are still in our houses since last night, when the siege started," Ismail Haaji, who lives near the hotel, told Reuters. Special forces units, known as Gaashaan and Haramcad, had taken over operations, said a police officer at the scene who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"The fighters who launched the attack are still fighting inside the hotel, and they are fighting with the forces of Haramcad and Gaashaan, and security forces are trying to rescue the people trapped inside the hotel," the officer added.

The number of casualties from the siege and the number of people rescued were not yet clear.

Government officials in Mogadishu frequently use the Villa Rosa hotel for meetings.

Somalia's parliament said it had postponed a scheduled session for both of its houses. "All members of parliament of both councils are being informed that today's scheduled meeting has been postponed," it said in a statement on its Facebook page.

Al Shabaab, which is seeking to topple the government and establish its own rule based on an extreme interpretation of Islamic law, frequently stages attacks in Mogadishu and elsewhere.

Agencies

Ukraine holds international meeting on food security

KIEV/MOSCOW

AN international meeting on food security under the "Grain from Ukraine" program was held in Kiev on Saturday, the presidential press service reported.

"Under the 'Grain from Ukraine' program, by the end of next spring, we plan to send at least 60 vessels from our ports - at least 10 per month - to countries at risk of famine and drought," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said in his opening speech at the meeting, noting the program is aimed at saving at least 5 million people from hunger.

The program, a separate one from the

UN-brokered Black Sea Grain Initiative, was announced by Zelensky during his virtual speech at the Group of 20 Summit earlier this month.

Zelensky also discussed his country's urgent defense needs with visiting British Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs James Cleverly, the presidential press service reported Friday.

The Ukrainian president expressed appreciation to the British government for its support, as it has provided 2.3 billion pounds (about \$2.78 billion) in defense aid this year, and he also urged Britain to provide assistance for the reconstruction of

energy infrastructure that was damaged in Russia's attacks.

Also on Friday, Zelensky said in a video message that the blackouts continue in most regions of Ukraine, including the capital Kiev, adding that there were still over 6 million people across the country suffering power outage.

"The biggest problems are in the capital, as well as in the regions of Kiev, Odesa, Lviv, Vinnytsia and Dnipropetrovsk," Zelensky said.

Meanwhile, the Associated Press fired a national security reporter this week over an "egregious" error in a story about a deadly

missile strike in Poland earlier this month.

James LaPorta was dismissed "after being deemed primarily responsible for a Nov 15 news bulletin that erroneously said Russian missiles had carried out the strike" that killed two people in Poland.

The bulletin was later retracted, and in a correction published online, the AP wrote that subsequent reporting showed the missiles were "most likely fired by Ukraine" for defense purpose.

On Saturday, nine Russian servicemen, who were in mortal danger, were returned from the territory controlled by Kiev after negotiations, the Russian Defense Ministry

said in a statement.

Russian military transport aircraft will deliver the released soldiers to Moscow for treatment and rehabilitation, the statement said.

Agencies

The biggest problems are in the capital, as well as in the regions of Kiev, Odesa, Lviv, Vinnytsia and

Zambian youth engaging men in menstrual hygiene programmes

LUSAKA

MENSTRUAL hygiene is a topic that is not openly discussed in Zambia due to myths and misconceptions surrounding the matter. The situation is gradually changing due to ongoing programs.

In Zambia, a large number of men and boys have incorrect information about menstruation that they use to perpetuate stigma and discrimination against younger women and girls.

It is against this backdrop that Mwinji Nakamba, an entrepreneur based in Zambia's capital Lusaka has invested in male participation in ending stigma and discrimination associated with menstruation.

Nakamba, 26, founder of Wastemat, a Zambian company that makes reusable sanitary pads has, since June this year been running sensitization programs on menstrual hygiene targeting men and school-boys.

The programs are being carried out in learning institutions within Lusaka and on various media platforms.

"The aim is to make men and boys understand that menstruation is a normal thing among adolescent girls and women of childbearing age. Stigma associated with periods can erode women and girls' confidence and cause them to miss out on many opportunities in life," she explained in a recent interview.

According to Nakamba, having men play an active role in countering myths and misconceptions around menstruation would ensure increased access to sanitary pads and other support that women and girls need to maintain good menstrual hygiene.

"It would also enable learning spaces to be more girl friendly. Girls will be free to participate in activities at school and other settings. They will not have to



Deolinda Gonçalves, 18, participated in the UNFPA and BeGirl programme in Sofala Province, Mozambique. All female participants received reusable menstrual underwear to help them manage their periods.

worry about being discriminated against just because they have their periods," she stated.

Nakamba further revealed that through the sensitization programs, a significant number of men and boys are beginning to understand that menstruation is not a disease and that having a period does not stop women and girls from go-

ing about their daily normal activities.

"It is good to note that men are now able to engage women and girls in conversations about access to sanitary pads. This is a great milestone with regard to ending menstrual poverty in Zambia," she said.

According to the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund, one in 10 girls of

school-going age in Africa misses school or drops out altogether during their menstrual cycle.

Many young girls from low-income families are unable to buy what their better-off peers consider as basic essentials. As a result, they are missing significant amounts of schooling every month.

Xinhua

No more than two diplomats remain in certain unfriendly states - Russian Foreign Ministry

MOSCOW

THE number of Russian diplomats remaining in certain unfriendly states is not above two, official spokeswoman of the Russian Foreign Ministry Maria Zakharova said on the air with the TVC TV Channel.

"As regards embassies, our diplomatic presence has actually been minimized in certain countries, largely the EU countries we announced as unfriendly. We have just one or two diplomats in certain countries," Zakharova (pictured) said.

Russia continues maintaining diplomatic presence in these countries "because citizens and compatriots are there, organizations are there that every day require the issuance of documents, certificates of birth, passports, legalization of translations, and so on.

This is a routine job that has to be done, not merely to keep some diplomatic presence. They are working every day," the spokeswoman noted.

Moscow has never been an initiator in solving problems by severance of relations, the diplomat said. "This is absurd but this is exactly what is taking place from another side," Zakharova added.

Agencies



China unveils Shenzhou-15 crew for space station mission

JIUQUAN

CHINESE astronauts Fei Junlong, Deng Qingming and Zhang Lu will carry out the Shenzhou-15 spaceflight mission, and Fei will be the commander, the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) announced at a press conference yesterday.

Fei once participated in the Shenzhou-6 spaceflight mission and both Deng and Zhang are newcomers to space, according to Ji Qiming, assistant to the CMSA director. It is the sixth flight mission of China's manned spaceflight program this year and the last one in the construction phase of China's space station, said Ji.

During their stay in orbit, the Shenzhou-15 crew will rotate with the Shenzhou-14 trio in orbit and witness the arrival of the Tianzhou-6 cargo craft and Shenzhou-16 manned spaceship.

They will also have a work handover with the Shenzhou-16 crew in orbit. He added that the trio will stay in orbit for six months and return to the ground in May next year according to the plan.

During the mission, the Shenzhou-15 crew will carry out verification of long-term residence in China's space station at its three-module configuration.

They will also unlock, install and test 15 scientific experiment cabinets, and carry out more than 40 experiments and testing in the fields of space science research and application, space medicine, and space technology.

They will conduct extravehicular activities (EVAs) three to four times and complete the installation of the Mengtian lab module extended pump sets and the exposure payload



Fei Junlong (C), Deng Qingming (R) and Zhang Lu, the three Chinese taikonauts for the upcoming Shenzhou-15 mission, meet the press at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China, Nov. 28, 2022. Xinhua

platform, said Ji.

The crew will also verify the exit mode of the cargo airlock cabin of the Mengtian module, and cooper-

ate with the ground to complete six cargo exit tasks. They will perform regular platform testing, maintenance, and space station affairs man-

agement, said Ji. The Shenzhou-15 manned spaceship is scheduled to be launched at 11:08 p.m. Tuesday (Beijing Time) from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China. The launch will be carried out with a Long March-2F carrier rocket.

After entering orbit, the Shenzhou-15 spaceship will make a fast, automated rendezvous and dock with the front port of the space station's core module, Tianhe.

The space station will then be expanded to its largest configuration with three modules and three spaceships, having a total mass of nearly 100 tonnes, Ji said.

The three modules refer to Tianhe and two lab modules Wentian and Mengtian, and the three spaceships the cargo craft Tianzhou-5 and two spaceships Shenzhou-15 and Shenzhou-14.

Xinhua

China sees accelerated speed of intelligent port construction

AN intelligent port is a port that is focused on elevating its level of intelligence on the events and the occurring in the port businesses and their context, and developing the highest level of understanding and/or control on them.

China has made active efforts to build intelligent ports and to lead the intelligent development of ports around the world.

Smart ports represent a new model of modern port transportation. They integrate traditional port businesses with cloud computing, big data, internet of things and other new-generation information technologies, and feature smart production and management, as well as a strong supportive capability.

Automated ports are an epitome of China's smart port construction, where the loading and unloading of containers, as well as horizontal transport are fully unattended.

On Oct. 13, the Section C of the Beijing Harbor District, Tianjin Port in north China's Tianjin municipality saw its container throughput exceed 1 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs). It only took the section 33 months to achieve the milestone from its commencement, the shortest in the world. As the first intelligent carbon-zero terminal in the world, it sets a new example for global ports in intelligent upgrading.

At a smart control center of the Section C, there is an ultra high-definition screen that enables operators to unload containers from trucks that are a kilometer away. It only takes around a minute to unload one container.

Operator Feng Xu told People's Daily that all the devices there are driven by electricity, which



Photo taken on Oct. 17, 2020 shows unattended operation at a container terminal of the Tianjin Port in north China's Tianjin municipality. (Photo by Zhou Wei/People's Daily Online)

has significantly lowered operational difficulty and labor intensity.

A 5G-enabled smart port project jointly developed by the Tianjin Port Group, tech-firm Huawei and telecommunication carrier China Mobile has been launched at the Section C. It builds a safe and efficient private 5G network and industrial internet that automatically sense and analyze all factors of production at the terminal, and establishes a smart management system for horizontal transportation that makes science-based decisions for all production devices. Today, all dispatching work of the Section C is done at the smart control center.

Near the Section C, there are two wind turbines that generate ceaseless green electricity for the terminal. The Section C is the first terminal in the world that is fully powered by green electricity and is 100 percent self-sufficient in the supply of green electricity.

Yang Rong, general manager of the Tianjin Port Second Container Terminal Co., Ltd., told People's Daily that the

wind turbines have been connected to the national power grid for 10 months and generated 20.77 million kilowatt hours of electricity.

At present, ports across China are accelerating the speed of intelligentization. In March 2018, the Zhoushan Port in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang province became the first in China to deploy 5G base stations in harbor areas. Today, the port has achieved an automation rate of nearly 50 percent and improved its work efficiency by over 15 percent.

Besides, the Shanghai Port, Xiamen Port and Shenzhen Port have also made a series of innovative outcomes in automation and information connectivity.

According to statistics, China has built 10 automated container terminals, and another eight are currently under construction. Both of the two figures rank first in the world.

An official with the Ministry of Transport said China, upon learning from foreign experiences, has fully grasped the key technologies in the designing and construction of automated

terminals, equipment manufacturing, integrated systems and management, turning from a follower to a global leader.

A number of automated terminals around the world adopt Chinese technologies and standard, including the Haifa Port in Israel and the second phase of the Khalifa Port in the United Arab Emirates.

In January this year, the State Council issued a development plan, encouraging ports to implement intelligent upgrading programs for their terminals. The plan also proposed to build new-generation ports such as the Haixing Port in Shenzhen and the Qinzhou Port in south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, and pilot auto-driving freight collection and distribution programs.

Jiangsu and Henan provinces have successively launched plans to build automated and intelligent ports. The Tianjin Port Group, in collaboration with multiple scientific institutions, universities and leading enterprises, established a laboratory for smart port innovation to build an industry-university-research institute ecosystem and promote digital innovation of the port business.

People's Daily

South Korea's striking truckers say no deal reached in govt talks

SEOUL

SOUTH Korea failed to reach agreement with a striking truckers' union in the first session of talks yesterday, the fifth day of a nationwide walkout, the union said, as supply chain glitches worsen and concrete runs out at building sites.

The government, which estimates daily losses at about 300 billion won (\$224 million) as supplies of cement and fuel for gas stations run short, raised its warning of cargo transport disruption to the highest level.

The lack of a resolution for the second major strike in less than six months by thousands of truckers demanding better pay and working conditions makes it more likely that the government will legally compel the strikers to return to work.

"The transport ministry's position today was that 'There is nothing the ministry can answer,'" the Cargo Truckers Solidarity Union said in a statement, adding that the next round of talks had been set for Wednesday.

The union said it had asked the government to withdraw steps toward issuing an "undemocratic and anti-constitutional" "work start order", adding that it would take a forward-looking stance on each request to reach an agreement.

The law allows use of such an order to tackle a serious transport disruption, and failure to comply can lead to punishments such as cancellation of trucker licenses and three years in jail, or a fine of up to 30 million won (\$22,550).

The strike is disrupting industrial activity at a time when Asia's fourth-largest economy, which is dependent on exports, expect a slump in growth, with the central bank having downgraded its 2023 forecast to 1.7 percent from 2.1 percent.

"We need to establish a rule of law between labor and management," President Yoon Suk-yeol said on Monday, according to his office.

Yoon, who has criticized the strike as taking the nation's logistics "hostage" in the face of an economic crisis, will hold a cabinet meeting on Tuesday to consider a "work start order" for truckers to return to their jobs, his office said.

Once the cabinet decides on the order, it will be executed without delay, Transport Minister Won Hee-ryong said.

The truckers' union has criticized the government for being unwilling to expand a minimum pay system beyond a further three years, instead of meeting union demands to make it permanent and widen its scope.

Container traffic down

Container traffic at ports was 21 percent of normal levels by 10 am (0100 GMT) on Monday, the transport ministry said, against Friday's figure of 49 percent.

The steel industry, including POSCO and Hyundai Steel, saw shipments more than halve to 22,000 tonnes on Sunday, down from the usual average of 46,000 tonnes, the transport ministry said.

Some gas stations could run out of gasoline and kerosene as early as this week, especially in large cities, despite supplies secured ahead of the strike.

That is because about 70 percent to 80 percent of truckers for major refiners, such as SK Innovation's SK Energy and S-Oil Corp, are union members on strike.

Since last week, work has halted at more than 250 building sites due to scarce concrete supplies, with most sites expected to run out by Tuesday, the transport ministry said.

The cement industry estimated an accumulated output loss of about 46.4 billion won (\$35 million) by Saturday, with shipments down to 9 percent of usual levels, the Korea Cement Association said.

"Non-union bulk cement truck owners, who are implicitly sympathetic to, or in fear of, the cargo union's illegal activities, are giving up cement transport," the lobby group said in a statement.

SPORT



Coastal Union FC's players appreciate the side's fans after the completion of its 2021/22 NBC Premier League duel against Simba SC which took place in Dar es Salaam last year and ended in a barren draw. PHOTO: COURTESY OF COASTAL UNION

Tanga out to reclaim its lost glory in sports

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

VICE President Phillip Mpango recently graced the 2022 Inter-Parastatal and Non-Parastatal Sports Federation of Tanzania (SHIMMUTA) Games opening ceremony in Tanga, with the occasion taking place at Mkwakwani Stadium.

The showdown, which climaxed last week, had taken place in the region two months after the same region had played host to the 36th edition of the Inter-Ministerial Sports Federation (SHIMIWI) Games.

With the two national tournaments taking place in a row, people from various parts of Tanga turned up in the city and made money by selling various products to people that took part in the showdown.

Tanga Regional Commissioner Omari Mgumba revealed the sports tournaments were not only leisure but also another economic opportunity, as well as a promotion of tourism.

Some sports stakeholders had, in an interview, recalled past experiences of triumphant sportsmen and women, as well as outfits based in Tanga, which are now sorely missed.

Such success, the stakeholders pointed out, came about as Tanga's economy was stable and entertainment was equally flourishing due to the region's wealth of artists, and musicians.

They noted that with the government once again having offered Tanga the great honour to play host to such high-profile national sports tournaments within a short time, the gesture is an indication that the region has a conducive environment for the promotion of sports.

The region, the stakeholders revealed, has favourable facilities for accommodation and sports, adding that such a situation will enable it to bring back its lost glory in sports.

According to stakeholders sponsors and investors will likely be prompted to invest in various economic and sports aspects in the region.

They noted that Tanga was, in the 1960s right up to the 1990s, a region regarded as a sports and recreational hub boasting many talented musicians as well as soccer players that had featured for domestic football big guns, Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, Simba SC, Tanzania senior national soccer team, Taifa Stars.

There were moreover competent soccer squads based in Tanga which were battling it out in the Premier League, then known as First Division League.

The footballers include Zakaria Kinanda (Coastal Union, Bandari Mtware, Taifa Stars) that passed away, Issa Athumani (Muheza Shooting, Kagera Stars, Yanga) that has passed away, Kasongo Athumani (Muheza Shooting, Sigara, Simba SC), Juma Kajembe (African Sports), and Hassan Matan (Muheza Shooting, Coastal Union, Simba SC, Sigara).

There were also Mohamed Salim (Coastal Union), Joseph Lazaro (Coastal Union, Yanga) who is now Coastal Union assistant coach, Juma Mgunda (Simba SC interim head coach) played at Coastal Union in 1988, Raphael John Semti

(Coastal Union), and Elisha John Semti (African Sports) and many more.

There was neither any soccer academy in Tanga nurturing footballers nor a music training institute nurturing musicians but the establishment of a vibrant industrial economy was the reason behind the emergence of sports and music talents.

Such growth and the flourishing of the industrial economy were one of many reasons why people from other parts of Tanzania headed to the region for employment and their talents were spotted and honed.

The famous soccer players in the region joined various First Division League sides whilst working for sisal plantations, harbours as well as public parastatal and government agencies.

From having expansive sisal plantations to flourishing industries, it was a vivid case of a region with industrial growth, a situation that motivated industries and sisal plantation managers, through trade workers' unions, to establish recreation units that included traditional dance groups, arts groups, and sports clubs.

Leyla Hatibu that has passed on was, during her life, a gifted singer for Tanzania One Theatre (TOT) Taarab troupe having joined them from Magereza Band, and prominent senior Taarab singer, Shakila, are some of the renowned artists hailing from Tanga.

Before moving to Magereza Band, Leyla was picked from Bandari traditional dance group, popularly known as Kibisa.

Others include prominent comedian Amri Athumani popularly known as 'King Majuto' that has passed away, Msondo Ngoma Music Band's popular singer Moshi William 'TX' that has also passed away, and many more.

Gradually the sports tournaments flourished in Tanga and due to the region's potential, some sports players and artists got employed, as there were plenty of resources and industries in Tanga.

Former African Sports Club player, Elisha John Semti, noted Tanga was once much better as life in the region was enjoyable thanks to the presence of lots of entertainment.

Semti stated the recent SHIMIWI and SHIMMUTA games which brought together various people, have fostered brotherhood, inter-marriages, and other good values that uphold national unity.

He explained that the two sports tournaments and art concerts have influenced Tanga residents to turn up at the venues hosting the showdowns.

He moreover pointed out that money circulation was good during the sports tournaments because people made them a platform for economic activities.

Semti noted: "There were inter-sisal plantations leagues for netball and football, as well as inter-public parastatal, central and local governments events throughout the year with people enjoying a lot, many people have been employed through their talents regardless of their respective education levels."

SPORTS

City rivals have divergent reasons for squad reinforcement in mini registration window



Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo (C) takes a spot kick when the squad took on Ghana in a 2022 World Cup clash held in Qatar last week. AGENCIES

By Correspondent John Kimbute

THE need to revamp the city rivals' squads, and thus fielding a more reliable first team on each occasion is strongly felt among the fan base and club leader of the respective city rivals' sides.

One distinction however is that a basic rule is being followed and it may not disappear too soon, that Simba SC is worried about the ability of the side to put up a consistent winning pattern of play in the local Premier League.

It is an ailment that Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, dimly knows about.

Yet they are equally under pressure to revamp the club as they graduated to the group stage of the CAF Confederation Cup tournament by a hairbreadth, while their next-street rivals comfortably strolled into the group stage of the higher-rated tournament.

Back home the fan base had lost hope and the leadership had taken a preliminary step of disowning the coach and hiring someone else, a club veteran with an excellent CV.

As is always the case with coaching, it would at best be a new experiment, no club or national side gets a coach to solve all their problems.

After his position was now assured for the current season and definitely into the next, were head coach Nasreddine Nabi to get any exciting results in the group stage, the issue is shifting to squad reinforcement.

How far the side can go in recruiting is a different matter, as it needs a mixed strategy of local recruiting and foreign picks as the latter are increasing the repository of club hopes.

The best local players in the two club sides are just a few who please the fans,

while a stretch of them have their club days hanging by the noose, and it is unclear how this is going to be done.

The difference however is that the seeming star-studded Msimbazi Street side has at best put up a timid performance in the local premier league, and some would say it is outright disappointing.

The focus of the fan base and critics is the areas where the side shows weaknesses and what sort of players can sort out the problem, such that registration would have to focus on that area as well.

Yet it is a bit testy which side is desperate for players at the moment, as it often depends on who is talking.

There is a clear voice at Yanga on the need for squad reinforcement, it is that of the coach, while their next street rivals have a more confusing environment, as their first task is to recruit a professional coach.

There is an apparent need for a reliable head coach to whom the club goals can be expressed and his tenure be tied to achieving those goals, which can't be done at present.

The former Coastal Union head coach now acting as Msimbazi Street outfit manager lacks the CV to be given tasks, as only Premier League tasks correspond to his CV, continental tourneys being new.

It hence implies that Msimbazi Street outfit has a short time to solve two things at once, which means it might not be able to finish the job or do it in ways that aren't to everyone's liking.

Ordinarily, a club first recruits a coach and then the latter picks up the players he wants, but that would prolong the squad weakness that is visible at present.

This means they either postpone reinforcing the squad while picking a new coach or allow the interim coach to pick a few players to beef it up.

The current scenario goes somewhat beyond getting Lobi Manzoki to reinforce the squad, assuming that the trail hasn't thinned out already.

Earlier it was expected that his contract with whoever it is runs out in October, and nothing has come out of it, so perhaps it is January.

It is the only big-name signing that could make a conceivable difference at the Msimbazi Street squad at the moment, while admittedly no players were being mentioned at Yanga, but Nabi would have a few.

It would thus appear there is a greater crisis at the Msimbazi Street squad rather than the Jangwani Street squad, as the latter is more comfortable in the Premier League and expect nearly the same miracle in the next stage of the continental tournament.

The head coach though is not as persuaded, knowing that miracles don't happen every other day, and the currently buoyant mood could fall apart with disappointment.

So he is likely to be in a rush for player recruitment, while the fans don't appear to have noticed the problem sufficiently, at least since the Tunis miracle, a restart. So it can be expected that the Msimbazi Street outfit would look for a new coach more assiduously to get the best out of the players and even insert a new mood, along with either some signings or finishing up the Cesar Manzoki stale business.

The news is that the lackluster run in the Premier League may have sealed confirmation chances of Juma Mgunda in that position even until the end of the season. CAF success is now stale...

Dar set for 2022 Swahili Fashion Week & Awards

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadonga

THIS year's edition of Swahili Fashion Week & Awards will be held in Dar es Salaam next month, the show's organizers disclosed yesterday.

Mustafa Hassanali, Swahili Fashion Week's founder, said this year's show is the 15th edition and will be held from December 2-4 at Parthenon Hall/Greek Hellenic Club with more than 50 designers from East Africa and beyond set to showcase their creations.

Hassanali noted: "Swahili Fashion Week & Awards will take place from December 2-4 at Parthenon Hall/ Greek Hellenic Club at Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road, marking the 15th edition and set to bring together more than 50 designers from across East Africa and beyond, truly attesting the global positioning of this world-class platform."

"The Swahili Fashion Week begins as multifaceted three days of fashion, beauty, and lifestyle event compound with unforgettable performances and diverse culture which continues to put Tanzania in an international spotlight," the veteran designer said.

"Thus, this year it will provide a platform for more than 50 fashion and accessory designers from Swahili-speaking countries and beyond to showcase their talent, market their creativity, and network with their clientele and the international fashion industry. This is aimed at emphasizing to the region that fashion is an income generating creative industry, meanwhile promoting a "Made in Africa" concept," he said.

Hassanali quoted the African proverb 'if you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far go together', saying the goal of developing the African fashion space remains at the forefront of what they are aiming to do, and through the platform and its wide media exposure, the consumer in Tanzania, Africa and diaspora at large is seeing that there's an alternative to the imported brands.

The organizer pointed out: "We always aim to strengthen brand value, championing the 'Made in Africa' concept and building global brands with African roots."

The 15th Edition of Swahili Fashion Week, Hassanali noted, will continue to be the highlight of fashion weeks in Africa

with local, regional, and international designers garnering millions of impressions from national and international media since its inception in 2008.

Swahili Fashion Week has been the premier creative platform for designers from Swahili Speaking countries and beyond who showcase their collections to a global audience at par.

"The platform intends to encourage talented designers to use the platform as a stepping stone to the next level in the fashion world. We also have the Washington Benbella Emerging Designers Competition, where 15 young and talented designers will be able to showcase their innovative and creative designs to the world," he said.

He urged the public to support the fashion industry and proudly wear made in Africa, especially those made in Tanzania, citing that the local talents need to be nurtured to evolve into synonymously globally recognized brand names, noting charity begins at home.

Kedmon Mapana, National Arts Council (BASATA) Executive Secretary, said the government is committed to supporting the creative industry as it is the source of employment for many people.

He disclosed that plans are underway to see that next year the government and Swahili Fashion Week have joined forces for a unique initiative.

"The government is committed to seeing that the creative industry is fully used as a source of employment to our youths... we are closing working together with Swahili Fashion Week & Awards, next year we will come up with something very big," he said.

This year's show theme is 'Celebrating 15 years of Swahili Fashion Week', the fashion week will simultaneously celebrate the excellence of the finest in the fashion industry in Tanzania and East Africa as a whole, where during the event there shall be an award ceremony, wherein winners in 29 categories will be announced.

The Swahili Fashion Week is organized by 361 Degrees, hosted by Onomo Hotel Dar es Salaam and sponsored by the Italian Embassy in Tanzania, Desperado, Hugo Domingo, Fashion Association of Tanzania (FAT), BASATA, and others.

Last chance for Belgium's 'too old' golden generation at World Cup

DOHA, Qatar

BELGIUM'S much vaunted team have one last chance to extend their final World Cup together this week after crashing to defeat by Morocco, with coach Roberto Martinez and his players under mounting pressure.

Anything other than victory against Croatia on Thursday could see the world's second-ranked side heading home after the group stage.

Kevin De Bruyne said in an interview with The Guardian before the 2-0 loss to Morocco that his team was "too old" and had "no chance" of winning the World Cup.

Martinez insisted after the game that it might have been a "double bluff" from the Manchester City star, but if he was being serious, it would have been hard to disagree based on their performances in Qatar so far.

Spainiard Martinez has largely stuck by the experienced players who have reached at least the quarter-finals at each of the past four major tournaments.

In the game against Morocco and the fortunate 1-0 win over Canada, Belgium were overran, outpaced and offered no real threat going forward.

The absence of record goalscorer Romelu Lukaku through injury has been a blow, but even his introduction late on against Morocco was born of desperation and the Inter Milan man offered very little.

The last six years have provided the best spell of sustained success in Belgium's history, with the third-place finish at the 2018 World Cup in Russia the closest the current team have come to lifting a major title.

Ten of the 14 players who featured in the semi-final loss to eventual winners France four years ago are still in the squad.

Seven of the starting XI against Morocco are in their 30s – Thibaut Courtois, Jan Vertonghen, Toby Alderweireld, Thomas Meunier, Axel Witsel, De Bruyne and captain Eden Hazard.

The Red Devils' attacking style of play has vanished after cruising through qualifying unbeaten.

The Belgian press has been extremely critical of the team, with website HLN saying "there must be new blood".

- 'Nothing to lose' -

AFP

Netherlands under Van Gaal on cusp of advancing at World Cup

DOHA, Qatar

THE Netherlands is on the verge of reaching the knockout stage at the World Cup and an overwhelming favorite in its final Group A match on Tuesday against host nation Qatar.

If the Dutch advance it will put more focus on 71-year-old coach Louis van Gaal, who stepped out of retirement just over a year ago to take over the national team while being treated for aggressive prostate cancer.

Host nation Qatar has lost its first two matches and already missed its chance to move on from the group stage. For the Netherlands a draw will suffice to advance and put the Netherlands into contention again in a World Cup after failing to qualify four years ago. The Dutch could even get through with a loss if Ecuador beats Senegal in the other Group A match.

In the round of 16, the Netherlands would face one of the top two teams from Group B, where England is the favorite with Iran, Wales, and the United States scrambling for a spot.

Van Gaal said before the World Cup that the Netherlands can win it all, although few see this as one of the country's best teams.

No powerful soccer nation has come up short at the World Cup as often as the Dutch, who have been the runners-up three times: in 1974 against West Germany, in 1978 facing Argentina, and in 2010 vs. Spain.

The Dutch also finished third in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil after losing a shootout against Argentina in the semifinals.

After being out of the game for several years, Van Gaal came out of retirement and replaced Frank de Boer in August of 2021. He said he did it out of duty. "Because, simply, no one else was available at that time," Van Gaal said.

Van Gaal's matter-of-fact courage

Martinez believes that being in a last chance saloon will bring the best out of his ageing team.

"In the last game we have to play to win it and as if we have nothing to lose," he said.

"If we win against Croatia we're (still) in the World Cup and that's a big motivation."

On the eve of the Morocco defeat, Hazard also said he thought Belgium's best chance of becoming world champions had been and gone.

There have been rumours of disharmony in the squad, with Vertonghen appearing to sarcastically hit out at the 31-year-old De Bruyne's comments.

"A lot of things go through my mind now, but those are things that are best not said on camera," he told broadcaster TV Sporza.

"Maybe also we attack badly because the guys (forwards) are too old."

Martinez admitted his players were playing "without joy" and with a "fear of losing", but he has left many bright, younger talents sitting on the bench.

Brighton's Leandro Trossard, who has scored seven goals for Brighton in the Premier League this season, featured only as a second-half substitute against Canada and Morocco.

Hazard started both games, but is a shadow of the player he was before he left Chelsea for Real Madrid in 2019.

Veterans Vertonghen and Alderweireld, now playing their club football back home with Anderlecht and Antwerp respectively, have been preferred to in-form Leicester centre-back Wout Faes and Rennes' Arthur Theate.

The 33-year-old Witsel has struggled in both matches, but the younger legs of Youri Tielemans and Amadou Onana have yet to be united in midfield.

Martinez has indicated he will not make wholesale changes and said he only withdrew Hazard on the hour mark on Sunday – for the 35-year-old Dries Mertens – to keep him fresh for challenges to come.

Lose on Thursday, though, and it would be the end of an era for Belgian football.

AFP

Aboubakar saves Cameroon in 3-3 tie with Serbia at World Cup

AL WAKRAH, Qatar

SUBSTITUTE Vincent Aboubakar scored one goal and created another as Cameroon rallied from 3-1 down to draw 3-3 with Serbia at the World Cup on Monday.

He lobbed goalkeeper Vanja Milinkovic-Savic in the 64th minute and then set up striker Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting two minutes later.

The thrilling draw was the first game at the World Cup in Qatar in which both teams gave up a lead.

But the result suited neither side.

They each have one point after two Group G matches and either Brazil or Switzerland can qualify with a win when they meet later Monday.

Cameroon led through central defender Jean-Charles Castelletto's 29th minute tap-in but also conceded twice in quick succession.

Strahinja Pavlovic scored the equalizer on a header in the first minute of first-half stoppage time and, two minutes later, midfielder Sergej Milinkovic-Savic struck from 20 meters.

Striker Aleksandar Mitrovic made it 3-1 in the 53rd at Al Janoub Stadium.

Cameroon coach Rigobert Song dropped goalkeeper Andre Onana for the match. It was not immediately clear why Onana was left out amid reports it was for disciplinary reasons.

Onana, who has 34 international caps and plays for Inter Milan, responded by posting the lineup on Instagram.

His absence overshadowed a fine comeback performance when all the talk should have been about Aboubakar.

Aboubakar, the top scorer at last year's African Cup of Nations, turned the game when he came off the bench in the 55th minute.

First, he calmly guided the ball over goalkeeper Milinkovic-Savic. The goal was given offside but awarded following a video review.

Then, a quick break sliced open the Serbian defense as Aboubakar sprinted down the right and squared the ball to give Choupo-Moting an easy goal.

Both sides lost their opening games, with Serbia beaten 2-0 by Brazil and Cameroon losing 1-0 to Switzerland.

Cameroon took the lead when Pierre Kunde's corner from the left was flicked on by Nicolas Nkoulou to the back post and found his fellow central defender Castelletto



Cameroon's Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting, left, scores his side's third goal during the World Cup group G soccer match between Cameroon and Serbia, at the Al Janoub Stadium in Al Wakrah, Qatar, Monday, Nov. 28, 2022. (AP Photo)

unmarked.

Castelletto dropped to his knees to kiss the grass then pointed to the sky, as the entire bench swarmed across the field to engulf him in celebration.

The Serbian bench did the same when central defender Pavlovic headed the equalizer from a free kick by Dusan Tadic.

Serbia's second goal came after Napoli's highly-rated midfielder Andre-Frank Zambo Anguissa got into a tangle trying to clear the ball.

The ball found its way to Sergej Milinkovic-Savic on the edge of the penalty area, who shot into the bottom right corner.

Mitrovic then made no mistake as Serbia prized open Cameroon with three passes and he stroked the ball into an empty net for his seventh goal in six games for his nation and 51st overall.

Then it was the turn of Serbia's defense to fall apart.

Meanwhile, in Doha, if England needs any added motivation in its final World Cup group game against Wales today, they only need to watch a certain video from 2016.

Footage of Wales players celebrating wildly as their UK neighbor crashed out of the European Championship after losing to Iceland went viral at the time.

England was humiliated. Wales,

which lost 2-1 to the Three Lions in the group stage but went on to reach the semifinal, was jubilant.

Much has changed since then – a point England forward Marcus Rashford made ahead of the Group B match.

"I don't think it takes a genius to see how we've improved since 2016. For me it feels like a completely different team. We've come on so much. We've learned a lot about ourselves along the way," he said.

"Back in 2016, if you look at that performance when we got knocked out the Euros, it is a million miles off where we are now. You cannot really compare the two situations."

That sentiment is backed up by England's tournament performances over the last four years – reaching the semifinals of the World Cup in 2018 and the final of last year's European Championship, which it lost on penalties to Italy.

England is among the favorites to triumph in Qatar and only needs a point against Wales to guarantee qualification to the knockout stages. Depending on goal difference, England could still progress even if it loses that match.

For Wales, the jeopardy is much higher. Bottom of the group with one point from its first two

matches, Wales must win to have any chance of reaching the round of 16 at its first World Cup since 1958.

"That's the hurt at the moment," said midfielder Joe Allen. "It's a feeling of missed opportunity in the first two games."

"Our focus now moves onto getting on the training pitch, putting in the work and preparing for the performance of our lives against England," he added.

Wales will be looking for inspiration from Gareth Bale if it is to win against England for the first time since 1984.

The Los Angeles FC forward came into the tournament on the back of just one game since the start of October and has looked labored in his performances.

Meanwhile, England's Harry Kane is yet to score at this World Cup and was off the pace in his team's 0-0 draw with the United States after hurting his ankle in the previous game against Iran.

The Golden Boot winner from 2018 is just three goals away from overtaking Wayne Rooney's total of 53 to become his nation's all time leading scorer.

"He's enjoying his football," said Rashford. "But for any forward you want to be scoring goals. I'm sure if he keeps doing what he's doing he'll score."

AP

Political foes Iran, US ready for 2022 World Cup battle

DOHA

TWENTY-FOUR years after their first World Cup meeting billed as the "Mother of all football matches", Iran and the United States face off in a politically-charged showdown today with a place in the knockout rounds up for grabs.

Decades of mutual enmity between the arch geopolitical foes is the backdrop to what promises to be a white-hot sporting occasion at Doha's Al Thumama Stadium.

In the context of the tournament, the stakes are simple – a win for either team secures a place in the last 16 while defeat will guarantee elimination.

But the wider significance of the Group B contest is less clear-cut.

The United States and Iran have been bitter ideological enemies for more than four decades, severing diplomatic relations after the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Quite what bearing that has on a 90-minute World Cup football match involving 22 players remains to be seen.

United States coach Gregg Berhalter has been at pains to dampen down suggestions that the game carries a political dimension.

"I envision the game being hotly contested for the fact that both teams want to advance to the next round – not because of politics or because of relations between our countries," Berhalter said.

"We're soccer players and we're going to compete and they're going to compete and that's it."

Yet Berhalter's desire for politics to be absent from the occasion may be wishful thinking.

A rare public relations gaffe by US Soccer – posting a modified version of Iran's national flag on the US team's social media feeds in what it said was a gesture of solidarity with Iranian women protesters – has infuriated football authorities in Tehran.

The offending post was removed from official US Soccer feeds on Sunday after the Iran Football Federation lodged a complaint with world governing body FIFA.

The controversy almost certainly guarantees that what was already shaping as a nail-biting showdown on Tuesday is likely to carry a crackle of political tension.

- Handshakes and roses -

That was certainly the case when Iran and the USA met for the first time at the 1998 World Cup in France, the Iranians claiming a memorable 2-1 victory at the Stade Gerland in Lyon.

Political intrigue seeped into the build-up to the match with a row over the pre-game rituals.

Iran, the designated away team, refused to abide by the standard FIFA protocol of walking over to the Ameri-

can players for the handshake before kick-off. That potential flashpoint was deftly defused by Swiss referee Urs Meier, who suggested that the two teams pose for a joint team photo.

Iran's players, who presented US players with bouquets of white roses to symbolise peace, happily complied, linking arms with their American counterparts.

Iran coach Jalal Talebi and veteran defender Mohammad Khakpour would later reveal how much the Iranians had invested emotionally in the game, viewed in some quarters as a battle against representatives of the "Great Satan."

"Just imagine being told for six months, repeatedly, that this game is the most important game in our history, which it really was," Talebi said in a 2018 interview.

Khakpour added: "I personally was contacted by people whose family members had been martyred, those who had lost children in the Iran-Iraq war. Fathers, mothers, called and said 'This game really does matter to us. You have to go and win this game

for us." The USA's coach at the 1998 World Cup, Steve Sampson, has since expressed regret that he did not use the political tensions between the two countries as a motivator.

"We were asked by FIFA, by US Soccer, by the organising committee in France, to make it about football, and not about politics. And I went along with that," Sampson told Time magazine.

"In hindsight, I would have made it about politics. A coach's job is to use any and every tool available to him to prepare his team."

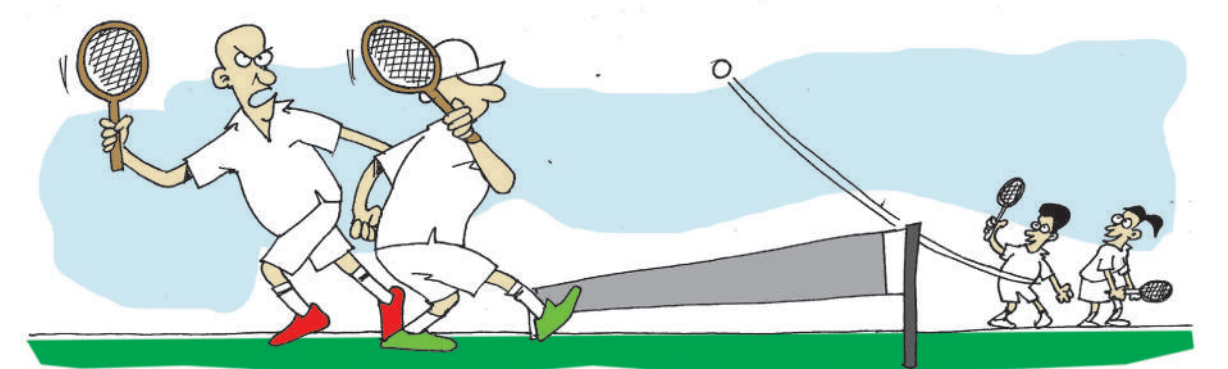
Yet the American class of 2022 insist that politics won't come into the latest instalment of the US-Iran World Cup rivalry.

"The emotional side of having to win to get to the next round is enough to be up for it," US defender Tim Ream said on Sunday. "I don't think we have to worry about anything else."

"What is on the line is advancing into the knockout stages. And if that's not enough then I think we have issues."

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**Aboubakar saves Cameroon
in 3-3 tie with Serbia at World Cup**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Fiston Mayele. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Fiston Mayele breaks clear of Phiri in 2022/23 golden boot race

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

FISTON Mayele scored another brace as Young Africans SC got the job done against Mbeya City FC to propel the outfit three points clear at the top of the 2022/23 NBC Premier League table after guiding his outfit to a 2-0 win at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday.

The Congolese international scored in both halves to take his tally to 10 goals from 11 league games to extend the champions' advantage at the top of the table.

With his 10 goals and one assist, the footballer who earlier had a spell at AS Vita Club of DR Congo has been involved in 49% of goals netted by his outfit, alias Yanga, this season.

Three matches ago Mayele was four goals behind the then-leading top scorer, Mbeya City FC's striker Sixtus Sabilo.

After three matches the Yanga goal-getter is three goals ahead of Sabilo. The leading goal scorer's tremendous form has seen him score seven goals in his last three games.

He ended his four-game league drought with a hat-trick against Singida Big Stars then followed it with back-to-back braces against Dodoma Jiji FC and Mbeya City FC to go two goals clear at the top.

With Yanga having two games in hand, he has a good opportunity to leave his closest challengers out of sight.

A brace from Moses Phiri helped Simba SC to a comfortable 3-1 win at Polisi Tanzania to move.

Phiri's double took him to eight goals for the season - a fantastic early-season return for the Zambian international.

Sabilo trails in third place with seven goals for the campaign, ahead of the duo of Namungo FC's Reliants Lusajo and Azam FC's Idris Mbombo who have scored six goals for their respective clubs.

Coastal Union's Cameroonian attacking midfielder Moubarrack Hamza is on five goals.

There are as many as six players each with four goals. They include Yanga's midfielder Feisal Salum and Simba SC's forward John Bocco.

They are separated only by matches played or, where that number is the same, by actual minutes on the pitch this season.

Last season's golden boot winner George Mpole is still stuck on two goals. The Geita Gold FC striker has not played in the last seven games due to an injury and falling out with the team's management but has since returned to training.

This week will see Yanga's stars Mayele and Salum take on Ihefu SC on Tuesday, whilst Lusajo and his outfit Namungo FC take on Singida Big Stars.

Meanwhile, Sabilo will hope to get back to scoring ways when Mbeya City FC locks horns with KMC FC consisting of forward Matheo Anthony who has four goals.

Yanga and Ihefu SC in top vs bottom clash in 2022/23 NBC Premier League

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TOP meets the bottom in today's 2022/23 NBC Premier League match as Young Africans SC, the league's runaway leaders, take on Ihefu SC, the basement team in the top flight as both sides seek three points for very different reasons.

Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, wants the three points to stay out front and clear of their title challengers and, despite having played two fewer games, the squad knows there is no room for complacency.

They head to the Sokoine Stadium this afternoon knowing a win will see them move three points clear of one of their closest rivals, Azam FC.

The defending champions have enjoyed an unbeaten start to the season, winning 10 and drawing two of their first 12 NBC Premier League matches and making it to the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup group stage, achieving the feat for the first time since 2018.

Against Ihefu SC, Yanga will go into the encounter full of confidence in their away form as they look to extend their unbeaten run in the league to half a century of games.

Yanga has won all six out of six away games in the NBC Premier League this season.

The quality of Yanga's attack continues to make the difference and, in particular, Fiston Mayele, who has now scored 19 goals in 18 games this season in all competitions.

Meanwhile, hosts Ihefu SC are in a very different situation as head coach Juma Mwambusi's side is in the relegation zone and has only managed to pick up nine points in total since the start of the season.

They come into the clash on the back of a 1-0 defeat to Geita Gold FC that was preceded by four losses in a row in the league.

Ihefu SC has struggled for goals, having only found the back of the net nine times in their 13 league games, with three of those goals coming from striker Jaffary Kibaya who is the team's leading goal scorer this season.

To compound their problems, it does not bode well for Ihefu SC's defense which has looked fragile in recent games, with Mwambusi's side shipping 16 goals in 13 games.



Yanga's Congolese winger Ducael Maloko (L) dribbles past Mbeya City FC center-back Brown Mwankemwa as the outfits took on each other in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League duel that took place in Dar es Salaam last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

They have suffered three defeats from six home matches so far this season, losing to Ruvu Shooting, Namungo FC, and Polisi Tanzania.

In head-to-head terms, this will be the

third top-flight league meeting of Ihefu SC and Yanga.

They have also clashed in the Azam Sports Federation Cup. Yanga boasts a perfect record against Ihefu SC.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



TSA lauds swimmers' exploits in 2022 African Zone Three Championships

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA Swimming Association (TSA) Technical Committee has said the country swimmers have a bright future in the game after winning the 2022 African Zone Three Championships held at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club swimming pool.

The championships featured other nine countries whereby swimmers making Tanzania's national team, alias 'Tanzanite', triumphed after collecting 3,061 points in the tough and thrilling competition.

Tanzania fielded 63 swimmers who also led the event after collecting many medals compared to other countries. Tanzania won a total of 110 medals.

According to the results released by the competition organizers, Kenya who collected 2,768 points ended second, followed by Uganda in third place with 2,521.50 points, and Zambia in fourth place having collected 1,878 points.

South Africa won fifth place with 1,385 points, while Burundi was ranked sixth with 653 points and South Sudan finished in seventh place with 213 points.

Djibouti (87 points), Rwanda (67 points), and Ethiopia with 47 points finished eighth, ninth, and 10th respectively in the competition sponsored by Kilombo Sugar Company through the Bwana Sukari brand.

Other sponsors are JustFit, Kahawa Café, Spark Rehabilitation, Gymkhana Club, International School of Tanganyika, FK International School, Hopac Hawks, Pepsi, Travelport, Azam, Stanmag Logistics, Wood Lab Décor, Burger 53, F&L Juice, G1 Security, Leo Club of Tanzania District 4HIC, Suraksha Team, Pyramid consumers, Four Points by Sheraton, Crown Hotel, Aura Suites, and Protea Hotel Mariot-Courtyard.

In medals count, Tanzanian collected a total of 38 gold, 38 silver, and 34 bronze medals followed by Kenya which got a total of 108 medals of which 46 are gold, 32 silver, and 30 bronze.

Uganda got a total of 85 medals of which 28 are gold, 25 are silver, and 32 are bronze. Zambia got a total of 56 medals, 22 (gold), 21 (silver), and 13 bronze.

South Africa got a total of 30 medals of which eight are gold, eight silver, and 14 are bronze.

Burundi, Sudan, and Rwanda took the sixth, seventh and eighth places respectively by winning a total of 20, 10, and three medals, while Ethiopia, Djibouti, and South Sudan could not win them.

The competition's organizing committee chairperson, Hadija Shebe, congratulated the swimmers and all participating teams for making it possible for Tanzania to emerge victorious for the third time in history.

Tanzania first won the title in 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda, and the following year in the competition held in this country.

She said the swimmers showed they can scale great heights if they will step up their efforts in the game.

"They have done their best and I am sure they will make the country proud in the international competition if they will increase their efforts," the official said.

The TSA leader also congratulated the members of the committee for taking charge of the preparation for the competition.

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 5SPORTS (I)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:00 Hot Spot
16:30 Zote Kuntu
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (I)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 Club Bangers

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

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06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
14:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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