



Guardian BUSINESS

Value of manufactured goods exports nearly doubles in two years

Oil prices edge up as US dollar eased

Europe companies are tapping bond markets now again

NBC Bank, Jubilee partner to enhance insurance services

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Singida constructs new cattle dips



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ATCL transports 3,000 tonnes of cargo



National Pg 6
Hanspaul wins President's Manufacturer Award



Samia firm on food security, grain silos drive

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday said that launch of modern grain storage facilities will help strengthen food security, reduce post-harvest losses and improve livelihoods.

Launching the grain storage site at Makatanini in Babati District of Manyara Region built at a cost of 19bn/-, she said the facilities will allow farmers to obtain better prices of their produce, increase farmers' incomes and revenue collection for district councils.

Agriculture minister Hussein Bashi told the president at the site that the Manyara grain storage facility has capacity for 40,000 tonnes of grains.

The storage facilities are free from moisture and diseases, constructed in Rukwa and Katavi, each has capacity for 50,000 tonnes of grain, he said, noting that similar projects are implemented in Ruvuma, Njombe, Mbeya, Dodoma and Shinyanga.

The government is investing heavily in modern grain storage facilities to store up to 500,000 tonnes by December 2023 from 340,000 tonnes at present, with the new storage facilities being modern silos and warehouses.

UNIA Araj Realiczje, a investing group, constructed the Manyara, Rukwa and Katavi storage sites, with the ministry engaging Ferrum Co., of Poland to build five storage sites in specific regions.

The president launched an eight kilometre road network built at tarmac level in Babati town, which she said was going to stimulate tourism and open up various economic opportunities.

She assured the residents that the government is working on another 5km- road project for Babati, to strengthen transport services in the area.

“The president launched an eight kilometre road network built at tarmac level in Babati town, which she said was going to stimulate tourism and open up various economic opportunities

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Home Affairs deputy minister Jumanne Sagini (With jacket) looks at the illegal weapons before destroyed at Kunduchi area in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Right is Commissioner of Police Finance and Logistics Liberatus Sabasi and Left is Ubungu district commissioner Kheri James. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

Govt formulates drug resistance action plan

By Getrude Mbago

THE government is gearing up to unveil an action plan on the use and misuse of antimicrobial drugs in humans, animals and plants due to poor prescribing practices and a lack of patient adherence to medical prescriptions.

Health minister Ummu Mwalimu, in a speech read on her behalf by Prof Tumaini Nagu, the chief medical officer,

says that these drawbacks have accelerated the threat of antimicrobial resistance.

This has resulted in an increasing number of infectious diseases becoming difficult or impossible to manage with a dramatic health and economic impact, the speech affirmed.

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Court frees all Loliondo police murder suspects list

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

A total of 24 Maasai protesters who were charged with murder of police officer Cpl. Garlus Mwita who died in chaos during erecting of demarcation beacons were yesterday set free by the Arusha resident magistrate's court.

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Equity Bank, EABC tie up in capital access platform

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

AN online platform for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) seeking to access working capital from financial institutions to revive businesses is being launched by the East African Business Council (EABC). Angelina Ngalula, the

EABC chairperson, has lauded Equity Bank "for coming to the rescue with a nearly \$6bn credit package for East African SMEs to revive their businesses. She issued an appeal for SMEs to take up the credit opportunity, which is part of an ambitious roadmap to create a borderless

East Africa to boost the trade cycle. EABC had lately engaged the Equity Bank Group, with executive director Dr James Mwangi visiting Arusha to deliberate on how the EAC private sector can cooperate

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Samia firm on food security, grain silos drive

FROM PAGE 1

While heading to Manyara Region, President Samia stopped in Kondo District, Dodoma Region to greet the residents lining up the road, where she said that areas facing drought challenges, the government has supplied vehicles to build construct dams in each region to strengthen availability of water for irrigation.

Ally Makoa (Kondo Urban MP) said residents in the constituency have for years faced acute shortage but the sixth phase government was addressing the challenge.

Various projects in health, education and roads have greatly supported the development of the constituency, he said, with the minister urging farmers who have been registered to obtain subsidized fertilizer to avoid handing traders their code numbers.

The fertilizer subsidy is meant to benefits only targeted farmers, he said, pointing at high expenses for farm inputs, intoning "so make sure you utilize the opportunity."

The government doesn't expect food insecurity in the near future owing to precautionary measures to ensure sufficient stock to deliver to the market once the scarcity challenge is noticed, he said.

Farmers need to invest in drought resistant crops like cassava, sorghum and sunflower to stem challenges arising from climate change, he added



President Samia Suluhu Hassan greets Kondo residents while on her way to Babati in Manyara region for official visit yesterday. Photo: State

Court frees all Loliondo police murder suspects

FROM PAGE 1

The incident took place around the Loliondo reserve forest in Ngorongoro District back in June, with the accused set free after the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) submitted a letter of nolle prosequi, declining to proceed with the case.

State attorney Upendo Shem-

kole told the court that the DPP had no intention to continue with the case, thus submitting a plea for removal of the case from the court in accordance with Section 91(1) of the Criminal Procedure Act.

After the submission, senior resident magistrate Herieth Mhenga said the court had endorsed the submission and the case is removed, with all the 24 accused set free.

Of the 24 freed persons, 10 are ward councillors; one is a former CCM chairman for Ngorongoro District, named Nderango Laizer, while the others were listed as Molongo Paschal, Albert Selemba, Lekayoko Parmwati, Sapati Parmwati, Ingoi Olkedenyi Kanjwel, Sangau Morongeti and Morijoi Parmati.

Yet others are Morongeti Mee-ki, Kambatai Lulu, Moloimet Yohana and Joel Clemes Lessonu,

along with Simon Orosikiria, Damian Rago Laiza, Mathew Eliakimu, Luka Kursas, Taleng'o Leshoko and Kijoolu Kakeya.

Shengena Killel, Kelvin Shaso Nairoti, Wilson Killing, James Taki, Simon Saitoti and Joseph Lukumay were also among those freed, earlier facing two counts of conspiring to commit murder.

It was alleged in court that the accused jointly conspired to kill

government officials including police officers who were erecting demarcation stones around the Loliondo reserve forest area.

The second charge was the commission of murder, where it was alleged that back on June 10 at Ololosokwan in Ngorongoro District, with criminal intent, they caused the death of police officer, Cpl. Garlus Mwita (No. G4200)

Equity Bank, EABC tying up in capital accessing platform

FROM PAGE 1

with the regional bank in spurring businesses.

EABC was seeking to engage other groups in the financial service industry to support the private sector, smarting from the effects of the pandemic, climate change and the ongoing conflict in Eastern Europe.

EABC was also working to engage the partner states on policy issues with a view to accelerating the removal of trade barriers to facilitate the seamless flow of goods and services trade in the region.

With seven partner states of Burundi, DR Congo, Rwanda, Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda, the East African Community (EAC) is an emerging common market of nearly 300m people, with a combined GDP of about \$305.3bn.

It offers crucial opportunities for business and investment, the lobby group leader noted, the first lady to steer the EABC as board chairperson, unveiling a package of steps to recoup business activity hobbled by the pandemic outbreak.

"Our immediate effort is to support business recovery from the worst of pandemic effects as part of a wider strategy to help East African economies grow by leaps and bounds, she stated.

It was high time the EAC partner states did away with nationalistic policies and think more of the region for the trading bloc to compete with other regional economic communities (RECs), she asserted.

Transport and logistics are also high on the EABC agenda, as a major challenge impacting the region in terms of trade costs, which experts deem to be extremely high.

"Transporting a container from Europe to Tanzania is cheaper than ferrying it to another East African country," she said, pointing out that the

road toll alone can cost up to 4m/- (\$1,739) while a truck hauling goods to DRC from the port of Dar es Salaam takes up to 50 days to return.

"All these contribute to the high cost of doing business as well as of goods. We must work on these challenges," she stated, noting similarly that for the EAC to be competitive the high transport and logistics costs must be addressed right away.

Another EABC priority is to ensure that ports, one stop border posts and inland container depots are efficient in terms of facilitating trade while taking up the issue of standards as well as sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) requirements, as they are critical in facilitating trade across the region.

While standards are crucial in ensuring products meet quality benchmarks, they ought not to be used as a non-tariff barrier but for supporting the growth of intra-regional trade, she further noted.

The EABC leader underlined her intention to bring the various bureaus of standards together to enhance communication, bring standards requirements into harmony, by first ensuring conformity assessment and critical standards infrastructure.

She also praised the reopening of the Gatuna-Katuna border between Rwanda and Uganda, emphasizing that through public-private dialogue the region can achieve a win-win trade situation.

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a game changer, she stated, noting the recent launching of the tripartite COMESA-SADC-EABC business council in Kigali.

The palaver is meant to address the daunting challenges of non-tariff barriers, standards and logistics, along with sharing vital trade-related information and trade finance, she added.



Majohe information and knowledge centre chairperson Tabu Kilonge makes a presentation about the importance of gender in leadership training organised by the Tanzania Gender Network (TGNP) at Mabibo in Dar es Salaam on Monday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Govt formulates drug resistance action plan

FROM PAGE 1

The government in collaboration with various stakeholders has launched a five-year action plan on antimicrobial resistance to reduce or eliminate drug resistance by 2030, she said.

The action plan commences next year to end in 2028, closely engaging public and private agencies to accelerate introducing control measures, via research, surveillance and hygiene practices, along with proper sanitation and raising awareness, she said.

The speech was delivered at the opening of the second AMR symposium for the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week in Dar es Salaam yesterday, with the minister acknowledging that AMR threatens the effective prevention and treatment of an even wider range of infec-

tions from bacteria, parasites, viruses and fungi.

The action plan is directed at improving awareness of AMR among policymakers, professionals and the wider public, enhancing surveillance and research, the minister noted.

It also seeks to enhance infection prevention and exercise antimicrobial stewardship in medical prescription and administering drugs on livestock, the speech affirmed.

A good number of antibiotics and other antimicrobials are failing to cure infectious diseases earlier managed successfully, as the pathogens (microbes) have developed resistance, it stated.

In the new action plan, the government in collaboration with stakeholders will work closely to strengthen surveillance and laboratory capacity

for detection, prevention and response to AMR, the minister specified.

Members of the public need to ensure that any medications they use are well prescribed by a doctor and that the drug dose prescribed are completed, the policy outline seeks to emphasize.

Several ministries worked to organise the symposium, namely Health, Livestock and Fisheries along with Agriculture, with the secretariat based at the national multi-coordinating committee on antimicrobial resistance, in collaboration with the health promotion and system strengthening project.

It similarly involves various universities and research institutions under the 'one health' project, which an online entry says is an integrated, unifying approach to balance and

optimize the health of people, animals and the environment, based on the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is the ability of a micro-organism (like bacteria, viruses, and some parasites) to stop an antimicrobial (such as antibiotics, antivirals and antimalarial) from working against it. As a result, standard treatments become ineffective, infections persist and may spread to others.

WHO manuals affirm that antibiotics are in danger of losing their effectiveness due to over-prescribing and dispensing by healthcare professionals, misuse by patients such as not following the advice of healthcare professionals, overuse in farming and animal husbandry, poor infection control, and a lack of new antibiotics.

WHO country representative Dr Zabulon Yoti said it is estimated that multidrug-resistant infections cause approximately 700,000 deaths worldwide each year. "Unless action is taken, it is projected that the burden of deaths from AMR could reach ten million each year globally by 2050," he said, urging that

African governments work towards sustainable local financing and the implantation of AMR national action plans focused on prevention and control, clean water, sanitation and hygiene.

"As we mark the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week this year, WHO joins hands with stakeholders in a continental appeal for increased high-level political advocacy to highlight the depth of the AMR threat," he added.

Govt calls upon investigation of illegal weapons in three regions

By Guardian Correspondent

DEPUTY Minister for Home Affairs, Jumanne Sigini, has instructed the police force to investigate the presence of illegal weapons in Tabora, Tanga and Coast regions.

Speaking to journalists yesterday in Dar es Salaam at an exercise to destroy 6,208 weapons, Sigini said the government conducted a campaign to collect illegal weapons from October to November, this year.

Sagini said during that period more than 1,220 weapons were collected and the regions which had many illegal weapons were Tabora (247), Pwani (111) and Tanga (488).

According to the deputy minister, the government destroys collected illegal weapons each year which includes the ones that have been voluntarily surrendered and those seized in various operations.

"I congratulate the police force and stakeholders for

collecting the 6,208 weapons, if all these were not found, the risks to citizens, including ourselves would undoubtedly be great," he said.

"I am instructing the police force and other security agencies to investigate why these three regions have a big number of illegal weapons. You should know where they came from and put in place strategies to curb the situation," he added.

He said allowing the weapons to circulate within com-

munities would result in increased crimes as well as conflicts among citizens.

"Destruction of these weapons is a clear indication that our people will continue to live in peace because they will be able to conduct their activities without difficulty," he stated.

He said Tanzania will continue to cooperate with regional and international institutions in implementing agreements to combat illegal arms trafficking and that among the agreements signed which intend

to control the problem is the United Nations plan to combat illegal arms trade of 2001.

He said that in December 2020 stakeholders met to discuss and evaluate the implementation of the plan which included searching and collecting illegal weapons for destruction. He said countries agreed to allow citizens to continue surrendering the weapons until 2030.

"These decisions are part of the implementation of the plan to eliminate illegal weap-

ons in Africa and to control the spread of weapons within the society. This helps to strengthen peace and stability in Tanzania, Africa and the world in general," said Sigini.

Earlier, the Commissioner of Police Operations and Training, Liberatus Sabas, said the campaign they conducted in collaboration with the defense and security committees and local government leaders had helped to broaden citizens' knowledge on illegal weapons.

Sabas, who represented the

Inspector General of Police (IGP), Camillus Wambura said until October 31, this year, a total of 1,220 weapons were surrendered, among them, 18 traditional weapons, 1,049 shotguns, 122 rifles and one AK47.

"We have destroyed 6,208 weapons, of which 1,228 weapons were surrendered during the African amnesty month in 2021 and 4,760 were seized in various operations to fight crime conducted this year," he said.

Singida Municipal Council constructs new cattle dips

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

SINGIDA Municipal Council has constructed two new cattle dips worth 36m/- so as to protect livestock against diseases.

Acting head of the agriculture, livestock and fishery unit at the council, Hagai Zakaria said yesterday that each dip has cost 18m/- and has a capacity of 12,000 litres.

He said that over 12000 cows and 700 goats at Mtsi village in Mtamaa ward have started to be sent in the area for dipping while 800 cattle and 88 sheep from Manga village in Mtipa ward are also benefiting from the services. Hagai said that the dipping price for each animal is 100/- and for sheep is 50/-, funds which will be collected to purchase dipping drugs.

"Herders have responded to this very well and the exercise continues with the money that is collected there being used to purchase medicine to make it sustainable and benefit more others," he asserted.

He said that the government has been providing

subsidized drugs to all the working dips and that the Singida municipality had already received 72 litres of paranex drug.

He added that the municipal council has set aside a 10m/- budget from its internal sources for the 2022/23 fiscal year for the rehabilitation of Mtipa and Unyambwa cattle dips.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Livestock and Livestock and Fisheries has provided training to 83 fishermen on sustainable fishing, safety and listed them to join the Beach Management Unit (BMU).

Zakaria said the training aimed at building the capacity of the fishermen on the use of the best fishing tools that are legally acceptable, effects of illegal fishing, safety during fishing activities, joint protection to control crime and the importance of registering so as to get fishing licenses.

The training was conducted with the support of experts from the agriculture, livestock and fishing unit, police force as well as village and ward leaders at Mughanga.



Religious Council of Tanzania co-chairman Sheikh Hamisi Mataka (L) in discussion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania Bishop Alex Malasusa (R), director of the Council Rev Canon Thomas Muya (2nd R) and chairman of Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation Joseph Butiku outside of the meeting which involved politicians and police force in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Plane crash: TCCA- CCC urges the relatives of victims to seek advice on compensation

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority - Consumer Consultative Council (TCAA - CCC) has called upon relatives of victims of the 19 people killed in a recent plane crash in Bukoba, Kagera region which involved a Precision Air flight PW494 to visit their office for professional advice on how to claim for compensation.

TCAA-CCC executive secretary, Innocent Kyara told this paper that initial evaluations of the direct impacts of the accident on travelers using airplanes indicated that most people are still not aware of the procedures to follow in claiming victim's compensation.

"The Council believes that the existence of this vacuum without clarification in accordance with the law pro-

vides an opportunity for distortions, the consequences which can be serious, resulting in users losing trust in service providers in the air transport sector," said Kyara.

He said the issues of compensation for those affected by the plane crash are guided by the Civil Aviation Regulation of 2008, 20 and 24 when read together with others. The law has set a limit of the level of compensation not exceeding \$ 120,000 per person affected by the plane crash.

"The amount is intended to keep airlines accountable; compensation is paid by the service provider according to the travel contract including a ticket for the particular trip. We advise users to make sure they are insured when traveling with airplanes so that they are compensated when they face challenges including accidents," he said.

Kyara said that other things identified during the evaluation include the decrease in the capacity of some airlines to provide services, a situation that causes cancellation or postponement of some flights, thus causing inconvenience to customers.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam middle of this month, managing director and chief executive officer Patrick Mwanri said compensation will be paid after the completion of investigations.

Mwanri remarked that compensation and investigations are conducted in accordance with international standards involving international experts. He said the company has started to communicate with relevant families and individuals as it works on key issues.



Works and Transport deputy minister Atupele Mwakibete (in jacket) looks at the railway infrastructure from Tanga station to Tanga port. He was following-up the directive given by Vice President Dr Philip Mpango. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Government issues guidelines for 16 days of activism against GBV

By Guardian Reporter

COMMUNITY Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups minister, Dr Dorothy Gwajima, has issued guidelines to be followed at the grassroots and national levels during the forthcoming 16 days of activism against gender-based violence (GBV).

Commemoration of the activism which will be held at the national level at Leaders grounds in Dar es Salaam is set to commence on November 25th and run until December 10th, this year under a theme- 'Every life is worthy, end violence against women and children.'

Speaking yesterday at an event which was jointly organised by the government and Women in Law and Development Africa (WiLDAF) at the Kigogo Fresh market in Pugu area in Dar es Salaam, Dr Gwajima said 16 days of activism will be conducted at all levels nationwide.

"We expect national and regional committees which comprise regional administrative secretaries, district executive directors, ward executive officers as well as street and village leaders to take a leading role in marking the campaign," Dr Gwajima remarked.

The minister also tasked regional commissioners to issue public statements in their areas on the 16 days of the campaign against GBV and actively participate during the climax of the commemoration.

"Commencement of the campaign will be launched on November 25, this year, and it will include members of the community taking part in parades and showcasing of placards denouncing gender-based violence," she explained.

Dr Gwajima elaborated that available statistics show that 40 per cent of women in the age bracket of between 15 and 49 years have been either physically or sexually abused once or more in their lifetime.

CONDOLENCES

The Board of Directors, Management and Employees of TOL Gases Ltd are deeply saddened by the accident that occurred on **6th November 2022** which involved Precision Air flight no **PW-494** enroute to Bukoba from Dar es Salam which claimed the lives of **19** passengers onboard.

We join hands with all Tanzanians and send our condolences to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, families and friends of the passengers that have lost their lives or have been injured and to Board of Directors, Management and employees of Precision Air Limited.

God Bless Tanzania.



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National Electoral Commission chairman, Judge Jacobs Mwambegele opens a four-day capacity building training for new commissioners/members and senior officials of the Electoral Commissions of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) through the Electoral Commissions Forum SADC member states (ECF-SADC). The training involves new members of the Electoral Commissions and officials from nine member countries of the ECF-SADC forum which are Zambia, Eswatini, Seychelles, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Lethoto, Malawi and Tanzania. The training started yesterday in Dar es Salaam. Photo: NEC

ATCL transports 3,000 tonnes of cargo annually, official says

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

AIR Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) transports 3,000 tonnes of cargo annually which is equivalent to 3,000,000 kilograms including exported and imported consignments.

This was revealed recently by the company's Acting Manager (Cargo Department), Raymond Manyika when speaking to this paper on cargo handling activities within ATCL.

Manyika said the department deals with transportation of cargo that goes outside the country and which comes from outside the country.

He said on average ATCL transport 250 tonnes which is equivalent to 250,000 kilograms per month adding that most of the cargo comes from Mumbai India which consists of medicines.

"From China we transport electronics equipment, car accessories and clothes and sometimes we took them from abroad to Tanzania. From here the consignments are distributed to Zimbabwe, Zambia, Uganda, Burundi and South Sudan," he said.

He mentioned other cargos that are transported to China as sea food and avocado from Tanzania to Mumbai India.

"There is a huge market for avocados in India; we transport huge consignments of the fruit as well as flowers from Kilimanjaro to Nairobi in Kenya and China," he said.

Speaking about the market competition, Manyika said there is a tight competition between airline companies such as Emirates, Ethiopian, Qatar Airways and KLM.

"There are other big airline companies that we share the same routes but our advantage is that we have direct flights while our competitors don't have such routes," he said giving an example of the direct route from Tanzania to China of which many passengers prefer.

ATCL has 12 flights including five Bombardier Q400, four Airbus A220, two Dreamliner B787, one Bombardier Q300 and one Q300 which is abroad for maintenance.

ATCL abroad routes include Nairobi Kenya, Entebbe Uganda, Bujumbura Burundi, Lubumbashi Congo, Harare Zimbabwe, Lusaka Zambia, Ndola, Comoro, Mumbai India and Guangzhou China.

Local routes include Dar es Salaam, Zanzibar, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Mwanza, Bukoba, Geita, Kigoma, Mpanda, Tabora, Dodoma, Mbeya, Songea and Mtwara.

TPA, TRC start implementing VP directives on Tanga Port

By Guardian Reporter

THE government through the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) and Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) has embarked on the revamping and restoration of a railway line from Tanga station to the port to ensure that cargo offloaded at the port reaches consumers in time.

The work began one day after instructions from the Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango to both TPA and TRC to revamp and restore the rail stretch during his recent inspection

visit to Tanga port.

Speaking soon after inspecting the work progress, Deputy Transport Minister, Atupele Mwakibete said the government will continue implementing directives in various projects to make sure the set goals are realised in time.

"I like to congratulate TRC and TPA for their speed in implementing instructions from government officials, and this should be a beginning for experts to perform their duties in time, because I can see here the work has begun and you

should make sure it is completed within a short time to enable it start operating," said Deputy Minister Mwakibete.

He also called both TPA and TRC to work together in the operations because achievements therefrom are largely depended upon by the two institutions and stressed upon them to hold frequent meetings to iron out various challenges that crop up.

Meanwhile, TRC acting director of operations services, Focus Sahani assured the deputy minister that

the work will be completed within two weeks and trial to start trial runs for trains.

Sahani added that TRC continues to revamp train wagons to make sure cargo through the port is dealt with in time, to enhance achievements in cargo transport between Tanga and other neighbouring regions.

While inspecting a project work at the port of Tanga's berth no 2 and ongoing deepening of the port from three meters to 13 meters, the Vice President directed authorities to

make sure the port's expansion is completed by April this year.

He said it is essential for the port to set high standards of operation to attract users, enabling the facility to operate profitably when larger vessels dock with ease, he said.

Dr Mpango directed the port manager to sort out complaints raised by traders, including cargo clearance delays compared with other ports in the region. These shortcomings push traders to use neighbouring port facilities and thus deny the country substantial

revenues, he stated.

He likewise directed the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) to enable access to relevant documents in the ongoing investigations on the fire outbreak at revenue warehouse.

There is need for in-depth investigations to find those involved, contributing loss of cargo in the warehouse, he stated, similarly asking TRA officials to plug loopholes in revenue collection and boost revenues without harassing traders.



Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) head of innovation Bertha Vedastus (C) and her colleagues display the bottle of the newly introduced Rockshore beer during the launch in Dar es Salaam on Monday evening. From (L-R) are SBL staff Nicholas Chonya, Malalia Mmassy, Samuel Kisoyombe, Jessica Sanga and Joseph Innocent. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Malawi gets \$88.3mn from IMF under 'food shock' loan window

LILONGWE

THE Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund has approved a disbursement of \$88.327 million to Malawi under the Food Shock Window of the Rapid Credit Facility.

The country became the first low-income nation to receive financing under this new mechanism.

It provides, for a year, a channel for emergency Fund financing to member countries that have urgent balance of payment needs due to acute food insecurity, a sharp increase in their food import bill, or a shock to their cereal exports.

Malawi is one of the 48 countries the IMF identified as worst affected by the global food crisis aggravated by the war in Ukraine.

The news comes days after the IMF Executive Board approved a Staff-Monitored Program.

This informal agreement with the IMF should enable the Malawian authorities to build a track record of policy implementation before it possibly implements an IMF-supported program.

The deputy managing director and acting chair of the IMF executive board strongly invited the authorities to "to swiftly implement [its] debt restructuring strategy", with the aim "to bring Malawi back to moderate risk of debt distress in the medium term."

NAIROBI

Kenya bans export of lucrative baobabs

KENYA has cancelled a licence issued to a foreign company to uproot and export baobab trees from the coastal region amid public outcry.

The Georgian company bought eight of the giant trees from local farmers.

Environmental experts have described the planned export of the trees as "biopiracy".

Authorisation for uprooting the baobabs, which can live up to 2,500 years,

was not properly obtained, the environment minister said.

Some farmers in Kilifcounty reportedly wanted to clear their land to plant maize.

It's unclear how old the trees were, but pictures shared online show uprooted trees with huge tree trunks and branches.

"We have agreed that the baobab trees should not be exported until the agree-

ments between the parties are properly regularised," Environment and Forestry Minister SoipanTuya said on Monday.

The minister's statement did not mention if all the eight trees have been uprooted, but added that action would be taken against state agents who approved the sale. The trees were reportedly being transferred to a botanical garden in Geor-

gia. There is also a big market for baobabs in Australia and South Africa.

There is concern that removal of baobabs could have a serious ecological impact as numerous species of insects, reptiles and birds rely on the trees for habitat.

Baobab fruits are also rich in vitamin C, antioxidants, calcium, potassium and fibre, which has seen them hailed as a

superfood. The tree's bark also has medicinal properties and is used in beauty products.

Baobabs can withstand adverse climatic conditions. They grow in the African savannah and some tropical areas and the baobab is said to be the longest-living flowering tree on Earth.

The species is also known as the upside down tree because of its stretching canopy resembles a root system. It produces whitish flowers which bloom at night, and its edible fruit can be up to a foot long.

US, Africa special operations command forces train in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

SPECIAL Operations Command Africa forces concluded a civil affairs joint combined exchange training alongside the Tanzania Marine Special Forces in Dar es Salaam.

The month-long training gave both the U.S. and Tanzania service members an opportunity to develop and maintain critical military-to-military connections and improve joint and allied readiness and interoperability.

"This course is very crucial for our special forces because it enables us to be better prepared for various scenarios and upcoming duties," said Tanzania Peoples Defence Forces Marine Special Forces Commander Lt. Col. Athumani Ghamura.

He added: "It is also the opportunity to share experience and knowledge between our special forces."

Joint combined exchange training is the bridge and glue which binds together the relationship between Tanzania and the U.S.

While joint exchanges between the two nations aren't new, this exercise helped develop different capabilities and incorporate elements from the civil affairs unit.

"This was the first civil affairs focused JCET in Tanzania," said U.S. Army Capt. Tyler Clarke, a civil affairs team lead.

He said: "The training focused on civil affairs and civil military operations to include civil reconnaissance, civil engagements, we discussed negotiations, mediations and tactical combat casualty care."

The JCET programme's primary purpose is to provide partner-nation special operations units specific training to promote security and stability in Africa.

"Joint combined exchange training is the bridge and glue which binds together the relationship between Tanzania and the US," said Tanzania Peoples Defence Forces Brig. Gen. Iddi Nkambi.

U.S. Africa Command and special operations forces are committed to mutually beneficial engagements with partners.



Bank of Africa Tanzania chairman Nehemiah Mchechu (2nd R) and managing director Adam Mihayo (R) in a group photo with Bank of Tanzania deputy governor, financial stability and deepening Sauda Kassim Msemo (2nd L) and director of financial sector supervision Sadati Musa moments after a meeting which focused on how Bank of Africa Tanzania is supporting financial inclusion and economic development agenda. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

High Court sentences three businessmen to death over murder

By Guardian Correspondent

THE High Court in Mwanza has sentenced to death by hanging three businessmen after it found them guilty of killing one Philemon Kimaro by stabbing and stealing his 80,000/- and a mobile phone.

The sentence was given yesterday by Judge Mwanabarak Mnyukwa after hearing evidence from both sides and became satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that they committed the offence. The businessmen are Daud Jacob Mathias aka Dau, Pastory Malaba aka Pasi and Anthony Dominic.

Earlier, prosecution told the court that on April 21 2019, Kimaro was murdered at Machinjioni area, Nyamagana District in Mwanza City by stabbing in the neck, chest and shoulders.

After the incident, the trio was sus-

pected to have committed the crime, were arrested and arraigned in court for murder, but pleaded not guilty to the charges. Judge Mnyukwa said according to the evidence tendered, the incident began at Rose Grocery where the accused, the deceased and another customer were having a drink.

It was alleged that the accused discovered that the deceased had 80,000/- in cash and a mobile phone in his pocket, and that they took him out by force and dragged him to a Masai guard post. Mnyukwa said the first accused pulled out a knife he hid in his private parts and stabbed the deceased on the chest and fell down while bleeding, they robbed him of the money and mobile phone and fled.

Judge Mnyukwa said the prosecution side called three witnesses, five exhibits and was represented by State

Attorneys, Sabina Choghogwe and Janeth Kihwelo. The three accused were represented by Advocates Steven Kajjage, Machere Mkaruka and Constantine Ramadhan. In his defence, the first accused claimed that he was arrested on May 28 2019 at around noon at Igoma area when he went to buy a cover for his mobile phone, and he was taken to Mwatex Police Station.

He was taken to the interrogation room with the Prosecution's Third witness, was ordered to sit down, given a sheet of paper on which was written a statement and ordered to sign.

He claimed that other policemen beat him with clubs and belts while threatening him to kill him if he did not sign the written statement.

In his defence he claimed that he was stabbed by something resembling a knife near the right knee, the wound

of which took him to the hospital but denied treatment. Judge Mnyukwa said the court has seen the prosecution's evidence depended on the second witness, a motorcycle (bodaboda) driver who claimed to have witnessed the identification parade in which he identified two accused.

"Apart from this evidence, the prosecution side also depended on the cautioned statement of the accused who admitted to have killed the deceased, hence in analysing these important issues, the court will abide by the evidence from both sides before giving judgement. "In the first issue regarding identification, the second prosecution witness who was the only one who witnessed the accused killing the deceased, the incident that happened at around 9:00pm whilst with his passengers in the area," said Judge Mnyukwa.

The judge said the evidence of the second witness claimed that at the murder site there was light from street lighting and the entire incident took place in 20 minutes, he recognised the first accused claiming that he had a scar near his eye, and admitted to know the first and third accused for nearly seven years as all of them were conducting their business activities in the Machinjioni area.

"The evidence must be weighed in order to remove all errors that can arise, in this case there is no doubt that murder was committed at around 9:00pm and in his testimony, the second prosecution witness recognised the accused from the light from the Masai hut. "Believing in the second witness is when he explained that he reported to the Officer in Charge of the police station a short time after the

murder incident, and I continue seeing his testimony is credible according to his oath. "It is clear that the first and third accused were identified accordingly, and among others the prosecution has been able to verify the identification of the first and third accused, as well as the cautioned statement that they had the intent to kill the accused.

"The accused pleaded not guilty to the charges without any evidence to remove them from guilt, all that were said clearly showed that the republic had proved its case against the accused hence without reasonable doubt the court finds all the accused guilty of murder as charged.

"In the circumstance I order the accused to be hanged by the neck until they die," said Judge Mnyukwa and added that they have the right to appeal.



NOTICE OF SEALED BID

40469 SQUARE METERS, 435000 SQUARE FEET (10 ACRES)
MEDELI EAST-SHOPPERS HIGHWAY, TAMBUKA RELI
DODOMA CITY COUNCIL-DODOMA TANZANIA

INVITATION FOR SEALED BIDS

Sealed Bid for the purchase of the real property herein described

The Registered Trustees Diocese of Central Tanganyika plan to sell part of its land situated at Medeli East Next to Shoppers Plaza within Dodoma City Council for investment of which the estimated area (acres) of the aforementioned plot is 10 Acres. This will be done through invitation of bids, where all interested person are invited to bid.

Bid Price:

The Board of Trustees seeks to obtain fair market value for the property and reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The estimated Fair Market Value of this property is Tsh. 80,000/- per square meter, However DCT will accept the highest bid received that meets our undisclosed minimum reserves.



Area -10 ACRES

This invitation for Sealed Bids is subject to Special Terms of Sale and instructions as provided in the Bidding document that will be available at Mackay House, 2nd Floor, Room No. 25, and 9th Street- Hospital Road within Dodoma City Council and upon payment of Tsh. 100,000 (nonrefundable).

Condition of Property

The property is offered for sale and will be sold "As Is" and "Where Is" basis without representation, warranty or guaranty as to quality, title, character, condition, size, or kind or that the same is in condition or fit to be used for the purpose for which intended, and no claim for any allowance or deduction upon such grounds will be considered after the bid opening.

Mailings

All bids should be placed in a sealed envelope and mailed to the located address as specified below. Displayed prominently somewhere on the front of envelope should be read: MEDELI BID-11-2022.

Chairman,

Registered Trustees, Diocese of Central Tanganyika
9TH Street, Mackay House- Hospital Road.
P.o.Box 15 Email: jonasmwiligwa@gmail.com / jacobshayo@gmail.com
+255 757 103 418 or +255 675 774 864.

Deadline is 5th day of December 2022.

www.nbc.co.tz

TENDER NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE PROVISION OF VARIOUS SERVICES

1. National Bank of Commerce Limited has set aside funds for the procurement of various services during financial year 2023/2024, it is intended that, part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the various contracts.
2. Request for proposal is open to all eligible service providers with proven experience and capacity to offer the required services. Interested eligible bidders are invited to apply for the provision of below list of services;
 - i. Retail Credit Models
 - ii. Internal Fraud Monitoring Tool
3. Request for Proposal documents can be downloaded from the website www.nbc.co.tz and then click 'Procurement' to access the document.
4. All Proposals in one original and one copy set properly filled in, and enclosed in sealed envelope marked as per service name written on the RFP Document and should be addressed to; **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE LIMITED, HEAD OFFICE BUILDING, 6th FLOOR, and P. O. BOX 1863 DAR ES SALAAM.**
5. Sealed applications and Bids must be submitted not later than **Tuesday, 13th December 2022 at 1600 hrs.** Proposal shall be delivered by hand to the Tender Box located at reception of Head Office building, ground Floor along Sokoine Drive /Azikiwe Street.

**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE LIMITED**



REA, three other firms to connect rural schools, health centres and water sources with electricity

By Correspondent Maulid Mbaga

RURAL Energy Agency (REA) has signed an agreement with three firms, including OK Electrical, for electric power distribution projects in essential rural areas including schools, health centres, hospitals and at water sources.

The implementation of the project is funded by the European Union (EU) is 2020 it granted Tanzania Euro 15 million (37bn/-) in support of the government, which enabled REA to implement the ongoing power distribution in the various areas of the country.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam on Monday soon after signing the agreement, REA Managing Director, Hassan Saidy stressed upon the contractors to make sure the project is completed in the agreed time.

He said the project is very important, adding that they will not tolerate any contractor delaying it.

He also stressed that the contractor must use quality construction materials to satisfy the aim of the government and that of development partners in solving challenges facing people in rural areas.

"Once you sign the agreement, there won't be any excuse such that we have no poles, etc. I believe that you did research in the project areas

and knew where the equipment is to be sourced from," he said.

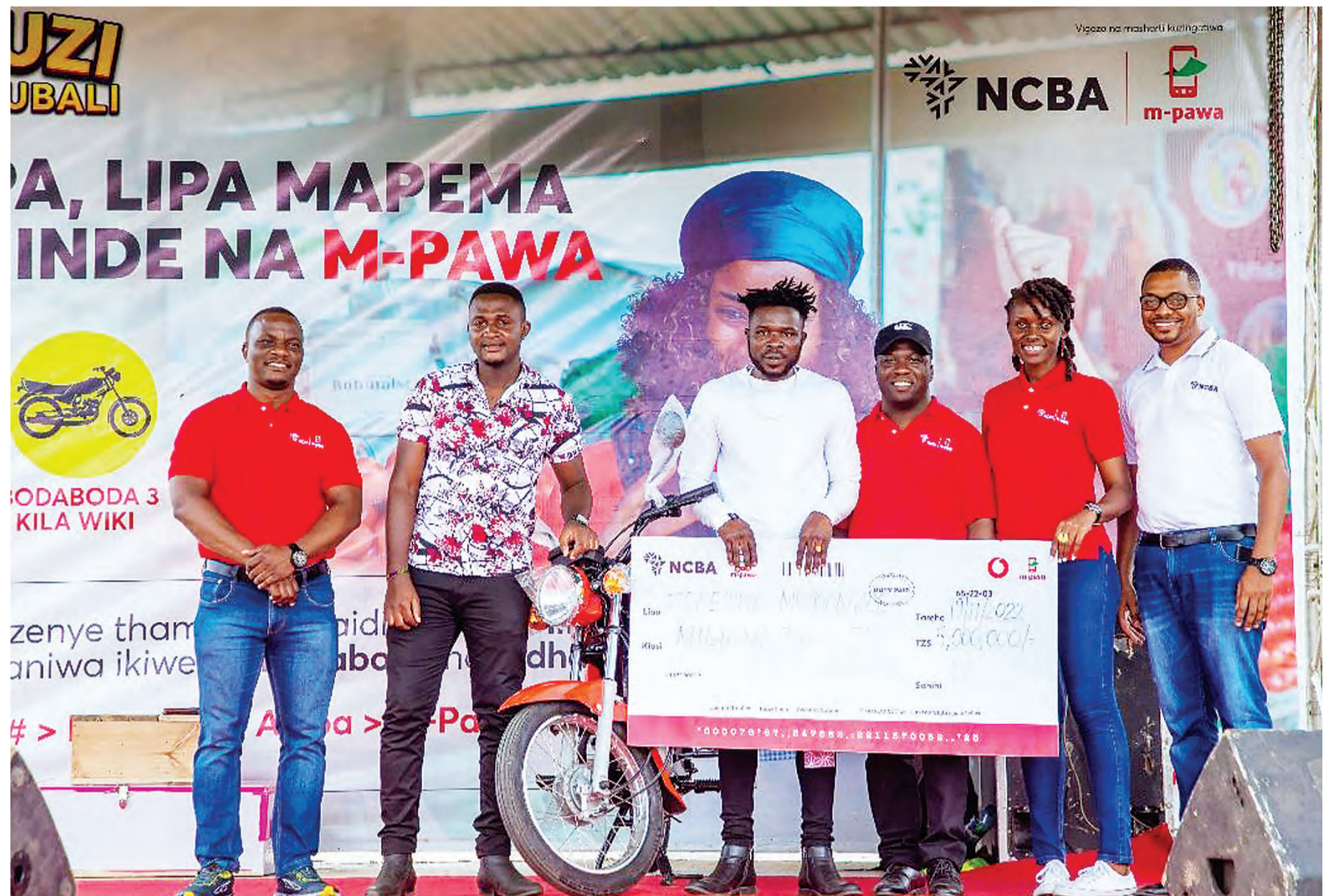
He added: "We shall closely follow up all project procedures by 100 per cent and we at REA are assuring you that we shall abide by our commitments including paying project money in time, but you should also do your part."

Representative from OK Electrical, Mrisho Masud, speaking on behalf of other contractors assured REA and development partners that they will complete the project within the time agreed upon and to acceptable work standards as per the contract agreement.

"I assure you that this is a strategic project with which we want to connect power to health centres, schools, hospitals and water sources, hence we are going to reduce operating costs for other projects including those for water that have been using electric generators," Masud said.

Project Manager from EU, Francis Songela said the signed contract agreements are special in sending power to the listed areas, saying that it is part of the EU's contribution to Tanzania's energy development sector.

He said upon completion, six hospitals, 57 health centres and 363 water projects in rural areas will be connected to electric power.



Peter Kimweri (L), head of NCBA Bank's internal audit unit, pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend's presentation of awards to winners of the M-Pawa campaign dubbed: 'Chuzi Limekubi'. Looking on are Martin Simbeye (2nd-L), who had won a motorcycle and Zebedayo Mwasongole (3rd-L) who had won 5m/-. Others are NCBA head of digital banking Frederick Limbeghalawa (4th-L) and other staff members. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Hanspaul Group wins President's Manufacturer Award

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame

THE company which has been making Tanzania proud by exporting specially designed Safari vehicles has won the President's Manufacturer of the Year 2022 Award.

For the eighth year now the Arusha-based Hanspaul Group emerged as the winner of the annual Confederation of Tanzania Industries' President's Manufacturer

Awards.

Vice President, Philip Mpango graced the awards winning gala in Dar es Salaam, promising the government's dedicated support to industrial development in Tanzania.

And at this year's President's Manufacturer of the Year Awards gala Hanspaul Group earned an award for each of the entities' four subsidiary companies with the accolade being dedicated to the late

Balbir Kaur Hanspaul.

Operating from the Themi Hills Industrial Area of Arusha, Hanspaul is also the pioneer of electric vehicles in Tanzania with the environmentally friendly initiative in transportation gaining traction, especially in the tourism industry.

The Hanspaul group's entities that contributed to the realization of the award include the latest entry, E - Motion Africa Limited,

which outfits Electric Vehicles and Dharam Singh Hanspaul and Sons which deals with construction and steel structure buildings and pre-engineered structures.

There is also the Hanspaul Industries Limited producing paper, cartons and paper packaging, as well as the Hanspaul Automechs Limited dealing with the conversion of Safari and Special Purpose Vehicles.

The Awards are usually organised and issued through the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI).

Hanspaul Group Chief Executive Officer Satbir Singh Hanspaul thanked the organisers for recognising his firm's contribution to the development of the industrial sector.

He also lauded the government, under President Samia Suluhu Hassan for recognising contributions

from the private sector in building the country's economy through industrial development.

The CEO dedicated the award to his mother Balbir Kaur Hanspaul, who passed away recently.

"This is quite an honour and the outstanding recognition gives us more zest for motivation and we promise to achieve even more in the future," added Satbir Singh Hanspaul.



Chinese national with the Fire and Rescue Service in Shinyanga region put out fire yesterday that broke out inside the Jeilong factory which produces cooking oil located at Nhelegani Kizumbi Ward in Shinyanga municipality. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Use ICT to help herders, livestock experts advised

By Guardian Reporter

THE country's livestock experts have been called on to ensure they put to good use the Information Communications Technology (ICT) in order to reach more livestock keepers to solve the challenges they face.

Abdallah Ulega, Livestock and Fisheries deputy minister made the remarks in a visit to Misungwi District, Mwanza Region while opening a revision training seminar for some livestock experts starting from the village to regional level from the west Lake Zone incorporating Mwanza, Kagera and Geita regions and organised by the ministry.

Ulega said the number the existing livestock experts in the country is not sufficient to reach every herder in time.

He added that due to advances made in technology many herders have mobile phones, hence if well utilised in collaboration with the available livestock experts via the M-Kilimo system regarding the provision of extension services, it would be quite easy and fast to solve the challenges they face.

"Our livestock should utilise well the available technology when communicating with herders because we cannot station a livestock expert in every village," he said.

He also called upon them to make sure they set targets for themselves to deal with a few herders at a time to follow closely by providing them with education on better livestock keeping practices.

He said in doing so, the livestock experts can also be able to reach herders who in turn will teach other herders about better livestock keeping practices including having their own areas complete with title deeds.

The Ministry's Director of Research, Training and Extension Services, Dr Angelo Mwilawa said the ministry's responsibility is to spread the better and right technology to bring positive results to various stakeholders in livestock management as well as reaching livestock keepers in their own areas.

She added that during the training, various topics were submitted, including those regarding the huge transformation being implemented in the livestock sector as well as big changes made in the 2006 Livestock Policy which ensures livestock experts are empowered.

Local firm launches special plant to convert salt water into sweet water

By Guardian Reporter

IN order to increase the availability of clean drinking water in the country, Tamgo Tanzania Limited has developed a special plant to convert salt water into sweet water.

The firm engaging in modern technology of water solutions, solar energy (solar system) and generators has been officially launched in Tanzania.

Speaking during the launch, Tamgo's head of water division, Damian Massenge said that the plant is using technology known as

Reverse Osmosis (RO) and is now available in the country at a cheaper price when comparing importation costs.

Massenge said the plant removes salt and other minerals from the water and turns it into sweet water for domestic use and irrigation. "This is good news for people who are leaving in coastal regions like Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Lindi, Mtwara or any area that has salty water. We have also solutions on other technologies based on generators and solar systems," he said.

These machines are now assembled here

in the country, so it has made their availability easier and reduced the cost, unlike in previous years when they were imported," he said. Tamgo Tanzania Limited Operations Manager, Henrik Nielsen said their firm aimed at providing high quality and modern equipment based on three products.

He said the firm has also invested heavily in modern technology which leads them to dominate the market. "We are proud to be in the Tanzania market after acquiring Merrywater. We have experience of over 30 years in the business and that is why we have de-

cid to expand our market in Tanzania," he said. He added, "We know there is a lot of competition in the market, but our main focus is to provide the best and most modern services as we have done in other countries with the business," said Nielsen.

Meanwhile, the firm's Tanzania Country Manager Tarek Mostafa, said they were proud of the large investment in water treatment technology, generators, and solar energy in all the countries they operate.

He said customers should expect to be given a diverse range of best-in-class products

and services that fall within two categories of power solutions and water solutions.

He said the firm strives to manage, control, and implement standard and customised solutions within the field of water technology applicable to local conditions.

He said, "Our partner companies are local or worldwide market leaders in their respective fields. Our policy is to provide clients with reliable advice, top quality equipment, equivalent high standard of workmanship, availability of genuine spare parts and efficient after sales service."

PS warns against wanton burning of solid waste

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Permanent Secretary in the Vice-President's Office (Union and Environment), Mary Maganga has appealed to countries implementing projects for reducing the production of Unintentional POPs (uP-OPs) toxic chemicals from wanton burning of solid waste to take precautions against environmental degradation.

He said the toxin that survives in the environment for a long period has the capability to spread quickly.

The deputy PS made the appeal in Dar es Salaam on Monday when opening a workshop for SADC countries that implement the project.

She called upon the countries to make sure they attain the implementation target by incorporating important zonal reports in regard to the wanton burning of solid waste by having a database.

She also said the people of the project's beneficiary nations should be educated on the adverse effects of the wanton burning of solid waste and the steps being taken

by each country to fight the effects of such burning.

"The aim of the training in this workshop is to develop the understanding and knowledge of participants in regard to the reduction and control of wanton burning of solid waste and steps for dealing with challenges on the management of toxic chemicals as well as setting joint targets in reducing uP-OPs production," she added.

The workshops brought together participants from seven SADC countries implementing the project, including Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia.



The aim of the training in this workshop is to develop the understanding and knowledge of participants in regard to the reduction and control of wanton



Malembo Farm director general, Malembo Lucas (L) presents an award to JSH Farm Limited Husna Saïdy during the Young CEO Round Table Africa, held in Dar es Salaam on Monday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

UNFPA pledges to offer education on correct use of census statistics

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

IN order to ensure that Tanzanians recognise the correct use of the Population and Housing Census results conducted last August 23, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has pledged to work together with the government in providing education.

Addressing reporters here on Monday soon after holding discussions with UNFPA Deputy Country

Director Wilfred Ochan, Population and Housing Census Commissar Anne Makinda said Census results are supposed to bring about benefits to the people in regard to the provision of development activities and social services.

Makinda said among the institutions that assisted in making the Census a success was UNFPA because globally they are the ones dealing with population issues.

She added UNFPA was assisting

with technical issues, and equipment and involved other nations including the sourcing of 600 tablets from South Korea, 200 from UN-Women and China.

Wilfred Ochan has been appointed to work in Ghana to become the population representative, hence he came to say farewell to us,' said Makinda.

She added: "He has pledged that they will continue to assist us so that our people understand the use of

the statistics as we are not well conversant in their use, even though as for now we want that to become very apparent." She further said they will use the census statistics for their planning, follow up on various development activities so as to enable them to become incorporated in the government budget as well as a pledge to provide Tanzania with Euro 200,000. The Government Chief statistician, Dr Albina Chuwa said "Tanzania has very hospita-

ble people just as in the case of the people of Ghana, hence I hope he is going to assist in representing Tanzania's image as it is," she added.

Dr Chuwa said in regard to statistics, Tanzania is now an expert and developing economically according to Africa's statistics.

"All these achievements are a result of having transparent communications which are very important to us and also we are proud of having a person like Anna Makinda, the

census Commissar for Tanzania mainland," she said. UNFPA Deputy Country Representative who is finishing his tenure in the country, Wilfred Ochan thanked the government for his participation in the Census because he learned a lot of big, good things.

"In Ghana, we are going to conduct its digital census in May 2023, even though we are a bit late, but we are going to learn from what happened here," he said.



Vodacom M-Pesa service provider Filbert Mushi (L) explains the operations to customers who visited the firm's pavilion during the ongoing financial services week at national level in Mwanza yesterday. The firm has been in the forefront to ensure that it pushes the agenda of taking the nation to the digital world by simplifying payment services through mobile phones. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Sudan experiences worst dengue fever outbreak for more than a decade

JUBA

MORE than 1,400 people in Sudan have been diagnosed with dengue fever this year in the worst outbreak in the country for more than a decade.

Half of the country's 18 states have registered cases and nine deaths recorded, including one child, according to the World Health Organization (WHO) suspect the true number to be far higher.

Dr Muntasir Osman, the director general of emergencies at the federal ministry of health, said 2022 had seen "the largest spread of the fever geographically in the history of the country" with 1,430 cases registered.

Dengue fever is spread by infected mosquitoes usually found near still water sources or in water storage tanks. It has flu-like symptoms and can sometimes cause organ failure and death.

Osman blamed the heavy rains and a lack of "preventive" measures such as bed nets and insect repellents. "For economic reasons the country has lost

many essential jobs in terms of preventive medicines. We no longer have the staff that used to work in observational health or workers who used to prepare things before a problem could happen."

After last October's military coup, Sudan is in turmoil, aggravated by failed harvests and rising food prices.

Nima Saeed Abid, WHO's chief in Sudan, said the confirmed cases were "the tip of the iceberg".

"Some [people] present with mild cases, others consult traditional healers or just rely on home remedies and therefore do not report to the health facilities. What is reported to the health facilities are the most severe cases that require admission or medical care," he said.

North Kordofan, North Darfur and White Nile states are seeing dengue for the first time.

In North Kordofan state's capital, El Obeid, photos of patients lying on the ground as hospitals run out of beds have circulated on social media. There are at least 1,200 cases suspected in North Kor-

dofan, with 393 confirmed.

Dr Ibtihal Ibrahim, of the ministry of health in North Kordofan, said she kept her sick child with dengue at home.

"It's not only my child, my entire neighbourhood is full of sick people with fever, but they stayed at home to get natural remedies and some of them got drugs by themselves. They are treating themselves," she said.

Ibrahim said medicine prices had soared. "I bought drips for my son with 3,500 Sudanese pounds (£5.20), which, just a few weeks ago, were only 600 pounds (90p)."

The WHO says dengue cases have increased eightfold over the past 20 years, due in part to better reporting of the disease. Research published in The Lancet Planetary Health last year suggested global warming was resulting in both malaria and dengue "being found in more areas, gradually emerging in previously unaffected places, and re-emerging in places where they had subsided"

TRA in Kilimanjaro collects over 227bn/- in 2021/22 FY

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THE Tanzania Revenues Authority (TRA) in Kilimanjaro Region has collected 227.72bn/- in the 2021/2022 financial year surpassing the set target of collecting 210.52bn/-.

TRA Kilimanjaro Regional Manager, Masawa Masatu made the statement when speaking at an event to recognise and celebrate the most compliant businesses and individual taxpayers in remitting their taxes held on Monday this week.


"Our tax collections in the previous year are equivalent to 108 percent of the set target; the success is due to sincere cooperation that TRA has received and continues to receive from the business community," he said.

Masatu noted that in the 2022/2023 fiscal year, TRA in the region has already collected 89.48bn/- between July and October 2022, which is equivalent to 109 percent of the target to collect 82.3/- during the specific period.

He said the event was organised to acknowledge the cooperation provided by businessmen and individuals in paying government taxes which he said contributes to the country's economic development as well as individual citizens. "We appreciate all taxpayers; we will be implementing a number of activities towards the climax of the week which will be on November 25," he added.

Earlier, Moshi District Commissioner, Abbas Kayanda commended TRA management for coming up with the idea of recognizing 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 and make them continue to cooperate with you. This kind of relationship makes it easier for you to collect taxes. May I call upon other public institutions to emulate TRA to build good relationships between service providers and those who are served," said the DC.



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

Head of Finance, Tanzania

The incumbent will be responsible for looking after Financial Management, Planning and Budgeting functions of the the Aga Khan University – Tanzania (AKUTZ). This position will be based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Position responsibilities:

- 1. Financial Management & Control**
 - Collaborate, design, implement and review finance systems, policies and procedures to ensure continuous improvement and contemporary relevant practices.
 - Ensure that University is fully compliant with tax law, financial law and standards in Tanzania.
 - Ensuring all liabilities and assets are recorded accurately
 - Forecasting cash flow projections and monitoring this into the book of accounts.
 - Monitoring the accruals, pre-payments, and creditors' days.
 - Analysing the variances and generating reports on findings and recommendations.
 - Supervise payments in all currencies made to suppliers and staff ensuring complete compliance with the institutional policy and legal requirements.
 - Monitor and manage fixed assets, inventory, treasury functions and inter-entity transactions.
 - Overall responsibility of students' accounting functions, including proper recording in general ledger and correspondence with parents, granting agencies and students for timely payment of fees due.
 - Supervise monthly payroll for timely payment to staff, ensure all deductions for loans and advances are made, statutory deductions are done properly and paid in time to the statutory bodies
 - File VAT returns, duty and other exemptions with relevant authorities on daily basis and keep complete track to ensure timely collection and distribution to vendors.
- 2. Planning, budgeting and reporting**
 - Supervise timely and accurate closing of monthly/annual accounts and supervise grant audits.
 - Liaise with external and internal auditors for annual and periodic audits.
 - Preparation of Financial statements as per International Accounting Standards and other management templates/reports.
 - Prepare annual budgets and 5 years/15 years rolling budgets for all AKUTZ entities in consultation with Entity Heads.
 - Prepare feasibility/costing studies required for services/programmes.
 - Prepare grant budgets in consultation with project leads / entity heads.
 - Ensure financial compliance with granting agencies' policies & procedures and prepare monthly/annual grant reports.
- 3. Construction Projects and Accounting**
 - Work with Project Director to develop annual budgets of construction projects.
 - Prepare and review monthly financial reports and ensure accuracy of financial information shared through ERP system.
 - Manage cash flow and working capital requirement of the project.
 - Oversing payments and accruals of various construction activities and record them in financial system as per the best practices.
 - Analytical review of monthly budget variance report of construction projects.

Skills, Qualifications and Experience

- Qualified Accountant – ACCA, CPA (T), ACA, ACMA, CIMA;
- Masters of Commerce degree or equivalent;
- 5+ years of experience in a large organization (100+ employees) with exposure to financial planning, reporting, analysis, construction and grant budgets and day to day accounting functions. Having supervisory skills/experience of managing a team of 5-10 people will be a definite advantage.
- Prior experience in either University or an Academic setup will be added advantage
- Strong command over MS Office (Excel, Word, Powerpoint)
- Excellent people management skills
- Strong knowledge of IFRS and IAS and their application.

How to Apply

If you meet the criteria for this position, please email your application with updated resume/CV and a cover letter addressed to the **Global Director Talent Acquisition, Human resources** at hr.recruitment@aku.edu.

The deadline for submitting application is **Wednesday 07th December, 2022**

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. For further information, please visit <http://www.aku.edu>

www.aku.edu

A quality education must involve more than teaching to the test

THE World Bank Development Report in 2018 says learning is to realise education's promise. In the report, it warns of a "learning crisis" in global education. According to this report, millions of young students from developing countries face the prospect of lost opportunity and lower wages in life because of the quality of education they are getting in primary and secondary schools is poor. The report further warns that schooling without learning is both a wasted development opportunity and a great injustice to young people around the world.

People acquire education for such purposes as the desire to know, to earn recognition, to be certified fit for a job and to earn a living. But, in line with Spencer's postulation, there is - as there should be - a higher and ideal purpose of education.

There is no human society that does not have a system of education to nurture members of the community so they can be responsible and value-adding citizens. Every human community has its unique structure, system, process and procedure to educate its members from childhood. Obviously, an educated (enlightened) person is vastly more beneficial to himself and to the community than one Webster's describes as "destitute of education". It is also necessary to educate members of the community because the cohesion and survival of the community is sustained by an adherence by its members to extant comprehensive code of behaviour.

Education is a refining process with, as opined by former UN secretary-general Kofi Annan,

"immense power" to transform the whole being.

In truth, one who is 'education processed', meaning in learning and in character, cannot be the same thereafter, I would even say that the process of our education is akin to a process of emerging from darkness into light. There should be no end to our education because we never fully come into complete knowledge or into full light.

It is said that to know more is to be more. In the history of Mankind, the 'ignorance choice' is not the norm. Instead, the desire-nay, the yearning- to know in order to enlarge perception and understanding of the self and the world is instinctive to man. There are two broad types of education: the formal, structured education that is given and received 'in school, where a person may learn basic academic or trade skills'; and the informal education that is given and received as part of the process of nurture, growing up within the family and living in the community. Informal education may also be acquired by voluntary self-education including general reading.

The building block of education is knowledge of facts and figures. But mere knowledge of facts and figures will not do; it must lead to understanding - the ability to, in the words of Francis Bacon the philosopher, 'weigh and consider' the diverse and complex relations between data, and to grasp both immediate and underlying and meanings and motives. But even that will not do. The ultimate end of knowledge and understanding is wisdom.

Creating a friendly environment for business cannot be left to regulators

HIGH level policy makers are seeking greater initiative from institutions handling business startups and the like to create a friendlier and business-enabling mood when investors come too their offices, by 'shunning selfishness.' A deputy to the permanent secretary in the Investment portfolio issued this appeal when gracing the opening of a five-day workshop for members of Fair Competition Commission (FCC) and Fair Competition Tribunal (FCT). That appeal was quite relevant there.

Reports said that the workshop was angled at reviewing laws governing the work of those institutions to pick out facilitating elements for startups and consolidation, or if there are encumbrances to their efforts.

There is plenty in the statutes creating various regulatory bodies which encumber startups and even established business entities, for the reason that they aren't seeking fair play within the private sector alone. At time regulatory bodies shield state agencies trying to wield influence or guarantee operational advantages by using collateral regulatory levers, by another

While the spirit of the policy maker's intervention was positive, a gap opened up in what was postulated, namely to apparently leave it to the specific authorities to design what to do. This may have been a partially inaccurate impression given by the tone of the remarks, or how they were lifted by the media, since as a matter of fact regulatory organisation (as a rule of gravitation) will remain in their comfort zone until something nudges them from outside. They can't be blamed, it is nature.

In other words as it is the case in other policy initiatives where the government forms a taskforce to advise on what should be done, regulatory agencies can only be part of the breadth of opinion and expertise to be consulted, and unavoidably form part of the task force, to help evaluate suggestions to see if there are visible technical weaknesses, etc. The rest is handled by other members of such a task force, as the selection of such a panel has to do with the government being aware of the distribution of sentiments or technical approaches among top level experts in this or that direction. After the right people are found, they are given terms of reference and tasked with building a scenario in regulatory frame work to succeed.

This specific workshop was anchored in reviewing laws governing the institutions and challenges they encounter when working on appeals and the need to improve that situation.

It wasn't evident that other actors were in place to more forcefully put across the feelings of the private sector in regulation or fair competition, or this work may await greater readiness on the part of regulators as to what needs to be done, and if the government is satisfied with it. How can secluded competition commissioners sort out why investors leave due to 'selfishness,' if it is really so?

One thing that the concerned ministry may have to sort out first is whether the current legislation, the Fair Competition Act, 2003 (No. 8 of 2003) is really meant to promote and protect effective competition in trade and commerce.

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Global emergency of child exploitation, abuse needs global action - UN experts

By Anwarul K. Chowdhury

UN experts last week urged intensified efforts to combat persisting prevalence of violence, exploitation, abuse, trafficking, torture and harmful practices against children, and stressed the importance of healing and justice for victims and survivors. Marking the first World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence, the experts made the following statement:

"Child sexual exploitation, abuse and violence is a global emergency, which requires a concerted global response. Millions of children worldwide continue to be the victims of such crimes. Today is a reminder for States and the international community to increase public awareness of this phenomenon. This is an opportunity to eliminate all forms of child sexual exploitation, abuse and violence, both online and offline, to enhance the protection of children and to bring perpetrators of exploitation and abuse to justice.

In the global context of multiple challenges such as the post-COVID-19 pandemic, conflicts, climate change and disasters, inadequate action or measures to address the root causes, such as rising inequalities, deepening poverty, and structural discrimination on intersecting grounds, continue to exacerbate the situations that expose children to exploitation, abuse and violence. Child victims and survivors of such crimes can face long-lasting negative impacts on their physical, mental, and sexual health and development. Such trauma on children may even amount to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

We are particularly concerned that individuals, institutions and agencies that are meant to care, protect and provide for children sometimes perpetuate this violence. We urge states to substantiate the best interests of the child as well as take measures to promote physical, psychological recovery and social reintegration of child victims and survivors, in an environment which fosters the health, self-respect and dignity of the child, while addressing weaknesses in protection systems.

The rights of child victims and survivors are often left out of the process of redressing harms and reparation, which exposes them to the peril of secondary victimization. States must therefore ensure that the views of children are heard and that their perspective is taken into consideration during the course of reparation.

Genuine remedy for the child victims and survivors, in line with the UN Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation, would mean



ensuring the delivery of various forms of reparation, including restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-recurrence. Towards this end, states, international and regional entities, community actors including faith-based leaders, civil society organisations, and the private sector, must integrate a child-centred, trauma-informed and gender-sensitive lens while delivering reparation for child victims and survivors. Greater awareness of child sexual abuse, child trafficking, exploitation and violence should be a part of public health policies and programmes, including through educational institutions.

A robust legal framework, accountability measures and adequate trainings to law enforcement officials and the justice sector on child sensitive measures should be ensured. States parties should also prioritise collaboration at regional and international levels to prevent child sexual exploitation and violence, as well as protect child victims and survivors impacted by the transnational nature of such crimes.

At the close juncture to mark the 33rd anniversary since the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on 20 November, we urge all States to take steps towards ratifying and implementing expeditiously the CRC and its three optional protocols."

In 2021, an independent mission reported on cases concerning WHO personnel responding to the tenth Ebola virus epidemic in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. That was not enough of a warning bell for the WHO staff and its leadership. Now this.

During some years of that period, the staff worked for UNICEF, known for its longstanding, unblemished record of care and dedication for the world's children.

These and many other such cases, particularly UN peacekeepers and other staff of UN peace operations encouraged the US government to announce on 26 October that it has established its engagement principles for use by all federal agencies engaging with the United Nations and other International Organisations on the prevention and response to incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment.

These principles reflect the US government's "commitment to increase US engagement in a clear and consistent manner" and to "promote accountability and transparency" in response to such issues. This is the first time a member state has publicly declared a set of "engagement principles" to work with the UN in an area of utmost importance which puts the UN's credibility at stake.

More so, as it is announced by the largest contributor to the UN budget and a veto-wielding member of the UN.

Substantively, there are many positive aspects of these principles in putting the UN on guard. But at the same time, if various member states start announcing such "engagement principles" in various areas and issues and insist on pursuing those in the context of UN's work, a chaotic situation is bound to emerge.

The UN has yet to make its position known on the US announcement which in effect is an expression of the latter's frustration about the way the UN has been handling the sexual exploitation abuse cases in a rather lackadaisical manner over the years.

Its much-touted zero-tolerance and no-impunity policies have not improved the situation to the satisfaction of many well-wishers of the UN. Zero-tolerance policy is applied by the UN system entities as if they are using a zebra-crossing on a street which does not have any traffic lights.

The non-governmental entity the Code Blue Campaign is the most articulate and persistent actor with regard to the sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) issues and incidents in the UN system as a whole.

The campaign, steered by Stephen Lewis and Paula Donovan as the co-founders, surely deserves the global community's wholehearted appreciation and highest commendation for its laudable work. It has correctly emphasized that "... unjust UN policies and practices have, over decades, resulted in a culture of impunity for sexual "misconduct" ranging from breaches of UN rules to grave crimes. This represents a contravention of the UN Charter." The labyrinthine rules, regulations, procedures, channels of communication of the UN make the mockery of the due-process and timely justice. These have been taken advantage of by the perpetrators time and again.

As most of the SEA incidents happen at the field levels, nationalities and personal equations play a big role in delaying or denying justice.

The victim-centred approach of the UN in handling SEA cases has been manipulated by the perpetrators and their organisational colleagues to detract attention from

their seriousness.

Not only the victims should get the utmost attention, so should be the abusers because upholding of the justice is also UN's responsibility.

Also, UN watchers become curious whenever media publish such SEA related reports, the UN authorities invariably mentions the concerned staff is on leave or administrative leave. When these cases are in the public domain, the abusers are merrily enjoying the leave with full pay.

It is also known that during the leave the abusers have tried to settle the matter with the victims or their families with lucrative temptations. The leave has also been used to wipe off the evidence of the crime. These have happened in several cases with the full knowledge of the supervisors.

What a travesty of the victim-centred approach!

The head of the UN peace operations where the SEA cases take place should be asked by the Secretary-General to explain the occurrence as a part of his or her direct responsibility. Unless such drastic measures are taken the SEA would continue in the UN system. Another unexpected dimension of the victim-centred approach is that the abuser-peacekeepers are sent back home for dispensation of justice as per the agreement between the troops contributing countries (TCC) and the UN. Sending them home is one of the biggest reasons for the continuation of SEA in the peace operations.

The victim is not present in that kind varied national military justice situation and no evidence are available except UN-cleared reports to show or suppress the extent of abuse. Again, a travesty of justice supported by the upholder of the global rule of law!

The UN Secretary-General would be well-advised to propose to the Security Council a change in the clause of the agreement that UN signs with the TCCs which incorporates for repatriation of abuser-peacekeepers to their home countries. If a TCC refuse to do so, the agreement would not be signed.

A functional, quick-justice global tribunal should be set up with the mandate to try the peacekeepers as decided by the UN. If the International Criminal Court (ICC) can try heads state or government for crimes against humanity, why the UN peacekeepers cannot be tried for SEA? That would be a true victim-centred approach!

Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury (pictured) is a former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the United Nations; former Ambassador of Bangladesh to the UN and President of the Security Council

Sadly, many people think of the past, fear the future but forget the present

PSYCHOLOGY experts and motivational speakers all over the world have their work cut out for them. For, many people seem to think too much about the past, fear what the future holds and ignore the present. If this does not change, many people will continue squandering awesome opportunities available in the now.

"Most people are too busy looking at the past and worrying about the future to ever live meaningfully in the present. Don't be most people. Be Awesome You" remarked British inspirational speaker Kirit Pankhania, one of the people who want this mindset to change.

Among your friends, can you count those who enjoy the present moment regardless of their socio-economic situation? Are they the majority or minority? Unfortunately, experts warn that most of us live in the past and future than present moment.

This is completely opposite of the purpose of life because we should live in the present by making peace with our past and future.

Living in the present moment means letting go of the past and not waiting for the future. Living your life fully in the present is important because it makes you happier, healthier, more energetic and free from stress and mentally stronger.

When we do more than one task at a time, we tire ourselves and can't enjoy life. All of our attention should be focused on the present moment, with no distractions and worries about past and future.

Life is a series of moments and experiences. We are only able to live our life to the fullest when we are fully present in the now. Be fully present in every moment of life. When your mind is elsewhere, you don't live that moment of life.

Most of us don't live to the full extent because when we are with someone, we think of someone else. It should be the opposite: try to enjoy the company of the person you are with instead of thinking about someone else who is not present. Let those who are not present wait for their time with you later or in the future.

Experts recommend that you should keep your mind in one place and enjoy the person you are with, the place you are or the work you are doing. Thinking about everything else spoils the joy at that moment and makes you feel you have missed out on life.

Always all of our attention should be focused on the present moment with no distractions and worries about the past or future. Fully appreciate the present moment, be fully present in every moment of your life. Being fully present allows you to enjoy the moment. Simply put, live now without any stressor or anxiety of past and future.

Forgive past hurtful experiences. Make peace with the past. People who hurt you in the past may have no idea about your pain and suffering they caused. So, just forgive them for your peace and happiness, not theirs. Dream about future but you have to work hard in the present to make that dream come true in future.

Why is it so hard to live in the moment? It is because the past has already happened and the future is not yet



to come. It's time to shift your focus and learn to live in the present moment. When you're stuck on what has already passed, you deny yourself the opportunities and possibilities in this present moment.

If there's bad memory you're holding onto, let it go. If you're holding onto resentment because of an unhappy childhood or anything, let it go. If you're holding onto anger because you made a terrible mistake, let it go. If you're holding onto doubt because you tried and failed, let it go.

Letting go is key to accepting what has passed so that your focus can arrive at the present moment.

If you feel that someone has hurt you, forgiveness can seem nearly impossible. How can you forgive when you're experiencing deep hurt, anger and even resentment? But remember, always holding onto the past might lead you to miss incredible opportunities in the present moment. To get rid of past bitterness, you can choose writing or any other form of art to express your grievances and the way they hurt you but do not hold back the negative emotions.

No matter how well you prepare, plan for your future, the future is never guaranteed. Especially in these present times, much of the future holds uncertainty. Constantly worrying about the

future can blind you from the countless blessings touching your life today. So, plan for the future but keep yourself grounded in the present.

Pressing Issues
With
Chaitra Chatterjee

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We need to harness the power of partnerships to achieve the global goals

By Lucy Rweyemamu

THE power of partnerships provides individuals, communities, governments, institutions and the world at large, with the necessary tools to make major changes in creating a sustainable and just world while transforming lives. It is through these meaningful and purposeful partnerships, combined with a mutual consensus around issues that sustainable development can be achieved.

Extensive research shows that a simple shift in perspective can help one discover the power and joy of partnerships in creating sustainable relationships, solutions and development.

It is through partnerships that there can be an increase in knowledge, expertise and resources that are needed to lift up a business or a service to greater heights. COVID-19 has taught us that strong international cooperation is needed now more than ever to ensure that countries have the means to recover from the pandemic, build back better and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Many organizations and institutions worldwide enter into partnership agreements because it is through them and by working together that all involved can benefit while bringing results that could not be achieved by a single partner operating alone and reducing duplication of efforts.

A successful partnership enhances the impact and effectiveness of action through combined and more efficient use of resources, promotes innovation, and is distinguished by a strong commitment from each partner.

In addition to the above, co-operation within a partnership is collaborative. Thus, it becomes effective if the partners share a strategic vision, pursue compatible targets and are all equal members in a predetermined organisational structure.

Not only that but also partnerships need to develop a long-term strategy



if they are to work effectively and have a lasting effect. In other words, the partnership should be able to bring together different actors in collaborative action as well as in collaborative efforts to effect change.

In recognizing the power of partnership, the government of Tanzania harnesses the Public Private Partnership (PPP) in bringing about socioeconomic development. PPP frameworks in the country provide important instruments for attracting investments.

There are noteworthy investments in education that have been implemented successfully by various private and not-for-profit organizations in partnership with the government.

One such partnerships is between the government and the Aga Khan University, Institute for Educational Development, East Africa (AKU-IED EA). An ongoing educational intervention by AKU-IED EA is a project known as the Foundations for Learning (F4L).

This endeavour is implemented in the country in partnership with the government through the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology as well as the President's Office (Regional Administration and the Local Government) in improving the quality of education in Tanzania.

There is no doubt that a successful development agenda requires inclusive partnerships at the global, national, regional and local levels.

It should be built on principles and values, a shared vision and shared goals. AKU-IED EA places people and the planet at the heart of the initiative, working towards improving the quality of education in Tanzania and the East Africa region at large.

As we strive to realize Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the 2030 Agenda, specifically SDG Goal 4 on quality education, the achievement of these goals can only happen through strong global partnerships alongside cooperation at all levels.

If anyone or any institutions is determined to mobilize the means required to implement the SDGs, then that determination can only be achieved through a revitalised global partnership for sustainable development based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focussed in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people.

Although SDG 17 talks about partnerships as the goal, all the other SDGs depend on it as nothing can be achieved without strong and inclusive partnerships.

Therefore, in order to reach these goals, governments, the private sector, academics, and citizens must work together. For everyone to benefit, everyone needs to contribute. By everyone here I refer to people from all walks of life regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, gender, status, prestige, importance or distinction.

Speaking of everyone at the professional level, there is no doubt that teamwork is a critical aspect of business partnerships. Learning how to work with others and inspiring those around us to work as a team promotes healthy and lasting professional relationships.

If we can all consider each other as partners, then we will be able to push forward the mission and vision within our organizations and institutions while taking ownership of the same along with the strategic goals.

As the saying goes, 'nothing about us without us'. We can leverage on the power of partnership starting from the indigenous grassroots level in transforming the world to a better place.

The author is a senior manager at the Institute for Educational Development, Aga Khan University. Opinions expressed are solely those of the writer.

By Shingai Nyoka

Zimbabwe without Robert Mugabe: What has changed?

A CLIMATE of fear still lingers in Zimbabwe, five years after long-time ruler Robert Mugabe was deposed. As the country marks this milestone, few people are willing to speak openly about whether the government that took power has honoured its promise of transformation, either in terms of raising living standards or guaranteeing human rights.

"I mind my own business," one street vendor tells the BBC, who does not want to be named. "People who speak their minds - some end up in prison. So, I keep things to myself and do what I have to do to survive."

Little has changed in this regard since President Mugabe's departure. Many ordinary people and critics still face arrest for insulting the president, say human rights lawyers.

Tendai (not his real name) sells groceries out of his car boot - washing powder, deodorant, snacks, and cooking oil are all neatly stacked up. Even though he is a university graduate with a double major in marketing and human resources management, he says being a street vendor is the only way he can earn his living because there are no jobs available.

"Things are the same or even worse since Robert Mugabe left. But while it might sound far-fetched, I still have hope about the future," he adds.

Inflation today is 268% - many times higher than it was when Mr Mugabe left office, according to data from Zimbabwe's national statistics body. Meanwhile, the proportion of Zimbabweans in extreme poverty has almost doubled - from 30% in 2017 to 50% during the coronavirus pandemic, says the World Bank.

This has driven more people into desperation.

Harare is teeming with informal traders, including more and more middle-class people selling goods from their cars. One woman sells fresh meat out of plastic bins in her van, to customers who arrive on foot or by car for smaller and smaller rations of meat - some paying as little as \$0.50 (£0.42) at a time.

"Personally, I wasn't one of the people who was happy when Mugabe resigned. People didn't know that they were celebrating coming disaster," the meat vendor tells the BBC.

Praise and promises

Harare's streets erupted as people celebrated Mr Mugabe's resignation on 21 November 2017. A week earlier tanks had rolled onto the capital's streets as the military seized the public broadcaster and placed the 93-year-old president under house arrest.

Mr Mugabe's former vice-president, Emmerson Mnangagwa, emerged as the hero who stood up to the strongman. He vowed to end poisonous and polarising domestic politics, to turn around the economy and repair fractured relations with Western nations.

However, sceptics pointed out that he had worked closely with Mr Mugabe for many years and had been accused of playing an instrumental role in some of the worst atrocities of the Mugabe era, and wondered whether he was really the man to deliver change. Mr Mugabe's Zanu-PF party remained



Robert Mugabe was president for 37 years until 2017

in power.

"I went into government because I loved my country and not the coup," said award-winning author and lawyer Petina Gappah, during an online discussion held by political think-tank SAPES Trust to review the post-coup era.

She had been recruited as an advisor on international re-engagement in the ministry of foreign affairs but lasted just 18 months. She says she left in sorrow, not in anger and in disappointment, not bitterness.

"Some leaders called it a miracle, we had sense that that something fresh was coming - unfortunately it didn't come," she said.

Last week's visit by a Commonwealth delegation considering Zimbabwe's readmission suggests there has been a positive shift since President Mugabe left. Such a visit would previously have been unthinkable.

Zimbabwe pulled out of the body in 2003 blaming what it called an "Anglo-Saxon unholy alliance against

Zimbabwe". The year before, Zimbabwe had been suspended for human rights violations including violent takeovers of white-owned farms and the persecution of opposition members.

Zimbabwe's re-entry to the Commonwealth would be a symbolic win for President Mnangagwa's government - a sign that its quarrel with the UK over land was over, analysts have told Gappah.

The main opposition party - the Citizen's Coalition for Change (CCC) - wants pre-conditions set before Zimbabwe before can re-join, citing the continuing persecution of its members, journalists and other government critics.

In the week of the Commonwealth visit, 15 CCC members including member of parliament Godfrey Sithole were finally released on bail after spending five months in jail for allegedly inciting public violence in clashes with government supporters in Nyatsime, south of Harare, which they say are politically motivat-

ed. Job Sikhala, another legislator, remains behind bars on the same charges.

While the Commonwealth delegation led by assistant secretary general Luis Franceschi said Zimbabwe had made "very impressive progress" in meeting the conditions, member countries will have to consider whether economic, human rights and electoral reforms are sufficient for readmission.

At this stage, the Zimbabwean government remains hopeful. "We have done everything that is possible to be readmitted - there are countries in the Commonwealth that are comparable to us," says Zanu-PF spokesman Nick Mangwana.

Sensitive to bigger business

However, some businesses say there has been a positive shift. GDP is up from \$17.5bn (£14.8bn) in 2017, to \$20.2bn last year.

"This government is more sensitive to the needs of business. They could do more but you can't compare it to the previous government," says Kurai Matsheza, who is the president of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries manufacturing lobby.

He says there are fewer company closures than in the Mugabe era, adding, "the policy shifts, the price controls are not at the same level they used to be".

The government has attracted hundreds of millions of dollars in investment, mainly in mining. Platinum giant Zimplats will invest \$1.8bn over the next 10 years, following negotiations with government. Meanwhile, Chinese miner Zhejiang Huayou Cobalt is set to

invest \$300m in its lithium mine.

A steel project that stalled under Mugabe has been revived. The horticulture industry that had collapsed is now back following investment in irrigation. Wheat production is at a 17-year high. Roads and dams are being repaired and constructed.

However, this is not yet translating into enough jobs to prevent young Zimbabweans from doing everything they can to go elsewhere to make lives for themselves.

So what is the government doing about it?

"Now 50% percent of revenue is going into capital investment - to improve lives you have to improve outcomes so government had to put in enablers, which is infrastructure," says government spokesman Mr Mangwana.

"The World Bank says the country has reached middle-income status, which means incomes have improved. We have not arrived at our destination, what we have is work in progress," he adds.

But Ranga Mberi, editor of business news website Newswire, says more is needed. "While it is good to talk about growth and investment in mining, what matters is what's on the food table and in people's pockets."

"Inflation is the big issue that people will judge him [Mnangagwa] by," he adds.

"The test is that everything has to translate to full stomachs. And that is the big test for Mr Mnangagwa going into 2023."

BBC



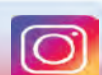
Bigger businesses may be faring better but inflation is hurting informal traders

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
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



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COP27: Historic forum but fails to address fossil fuels menace

SHARM EL-SHEIKH

THE two-week United Nations climate summit that was in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt ended on Sunday in jubilation as the Parties agreed to fund Loss and Damage for vulnerable countries but ignored the science on the root cause for climate change - fossil fuels extraction and use.

This year's conference, reading from the same script as last year's, a coal phase down is mentioned, but a last minute effort to expand this to phasing out all fossil fuels fell short of including oil and gas as well. Instead, there is a new mention of inclusion of 'low-emission' energy sources at the Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan.

While countries most vulnerable to climate change are happy with the creation of a funding mechanism for climate related Loss and Damage, detractors on fossil fuels are disappointed that 27 years since the first Conference of Parties (COP), leaders still fail to agree to phase out fossil fuels.

Predictably so, as an analysis done in the first week of COP27 by Global Witness showed that about 636 fossil fuel lobbyists had infiltrated the conference, an increase of 25 per cent compared to last year's summit.

Power Shift Africa boss, Mohamed Adow said that in regards to fossil fuels, this year's COP was 'copying and pasting the outcome from COP26 in Glasgow.

"It's deeply saddening that countries couldn't agree to commit to a phase down of all fossil fuels, not just coal, as contained in the Glasgow Pact. The science is clear, the impacts are getting worse and we know that renewables are the future. Polluting countries need to leave coal, oil and gas in the ground if we're going to keep global heating from running out of control," he said.

Tasneem Essop, Executive Director for the Climate Action Network International, described COP27 as a "historic victory for climate justice on African soil" with the Loss and Damage text, but a COP that also "failed to address the root causes of climate change" by excluding a push to phase out all fossil fuels

"The worlds' most vulnerable call COP27 a 'missed opportunity' due to an inability to include "all fossil fuels" in the final text and to agree on a peaking of emissions before 2025," he said in a statement.

While Kenya has branded itself as a powerhouse on renewable energy having 90 percent of its electricity and 74 percent of its overall energy



from renewable sources, President William Ruto said this month that the country will shift to renewable energy by 2028.

In a new twist, the President while launching Devki Company in Kwale said that coal needs to be explored in the country, 'to benefit the people of the Republic of Kenya.'

"We need to ask ourselves the rationale of importing coal from other countries when we have our own coal, and we can ensure that the people from Kitui benefit from the resources that are currently going to south Africa and other parts of the world, so that we can balance our issues on green energy and balance our benefits," he said.

Environmentalists in the country have in the past years fought tooth and nail to ensure coal is not explored.

The latest attempt of exploration in the country was in Lamu but the Kenya National Environment Tribunal rescinded the licence that had been granted to Amu Power Company.

As the president now touts coal exploration, the International Energy Agency released a new report on Energy day at COP27 showing that the global demand for coal has skyrocketed and that countries need a 90 per cent drop in coal use globally by 2050.

Lisa Fischer, a gas climate expert at Independent Climate Think said that it is time for countries to move on from coal.

"Global gas use is expected to reach its peak this decade, no matter how high the level of climate ambition. Solar, wind batteries, digital technologies combined are ready to form a powerful package that outcompetes gas in the power sector. A transition from coal to gas has never been less necessary, where you see it, it is an indicator of how outdated an energy planning department is, not of energy fundamentals," said Lisa.

Philbert Aganyo, Climate Activist affiliated to GreenFaith, a civil organization championing for climate justice told the Nation that Africa could not be cowed but maintain their stance against fossil fuels.

"We cannot transition from fossil fuels to green energy overnight. When the strategies come from the top, then we can set a timeline on when we can clear the fossil fuels. We say that they should remain in the ground, where they are," said Philbert.

While there is an ongoing call for a Fossil Fuels Non-Proliferation Treaty, its realization remains a pipe dream as the climate summit expected to push for it, failed to back it in its cover decision.

SADC executive secretary reaffirms region's unwavering commitment to peace, security

By Guardian Reporter

EXECUTIVE secretary of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Elias Magosi has reaffirmed the region's unwavering commitment of ensuring lasting peace and security as one of the top priorities to the regional development agenda.

The Executive Secretary said this during his recent three-day visit in Mozambique where he visited personnel and facilities of the SADC Mission in Mozambique (SAMIM) to encourage the troops and appreciate the progress of the mission.

Addressing the SAMIM troops in their areas of operation in the districts of Mueda, Macomia, Nangade and Pemba, Magosi thanked the troops for their service and sacrifices on behalf of over 350 million SADC citizens.

He emphasised that serving in SAMIM is a noble calling to protect lives of children and women who bear the brunt of the impact of terrorism and violent extremism.

Magosi urged SAMIM troops to continue operating professionally to sustain the gains made since the deployment of the mission in June, 2021 to pave way for durable peace, security and socio-economic development in the effected districts of the Cabo Delgado Province and the SADC region as a whole.

He said while commendable progress has been made to deny terrorists' freedom of movement and allowing the population to access social services, the work of eliminating acts of terrorism is not completed.

He encouraged SAMIM personnel never to waiver in the pursuit of eliminating acts of terrorism and violent extremism that threaten peace, security and prosperity of the region.

Speaking to the SAMIM personnel who are receiving treatment in the hospital, the Executive Secretary thanked them for their bravery and willingness to serve and wished them speedy recovery.

Magosi thanked doctors, nurses and support staff for taking care of those injured as well as

those suffering from various illnesses while in the mission. He also paid tribute to the SAMIM personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Upon arrival at one of the operation areas, he witnessed first-hand the SAMIM troops pursuing the terrorists who had attempted an attack but retreated, an indication of the continuing threat that terrorists pose to the population.

He pledged support to continue supporting the Mission to effectively execute its mandate of supporting the Republic of Mozambique to restore peace and security.

Head of the Mission, Ambassador Prof Mpho Molomo and SAMIM Force Commander, Major General Xolani Mankayi expressed gratitude to the Executive Secretary for the courageous visit to the SAMIM operation area and underscored that the visit, will go a long way in boosting the morale of the troops and supporting personnel.

Prof Mpho Molomo said the visit demonstrates the value that the Executive Secretary and the SADC leadership attach to the work of SAMIM and emphasised that the SADC region can only prosper in a safe and secure environment where infrastructure and investments are secured and citizens are free to undertake their social and economic activities, especially during this cashew harvesting season in the Northern part of Mozambique.

During the visit, the Executive Secretary paid a courtesy call on Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of Mozambique who expressed gratitude to SADC for continued support to Mozambique and pledged his Government's continued cooperation and support to the Mission.

SAMIM comprises troops and personnel from SADC Member States namely, Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, working in collaboration with the Forças Armadas de Defesa de Moçambique (FADM) and other troops deployed to Cabo Delgado.



UNHCR: Burundi needs more support to give returnees and refugees a fresh start

BUJUMBURA

"SINCE my return, I have had a roof over my head," said Helena Ntakirabutimana, who came back to Burundi in 2020. "But without land to cultivate, I have difficulty finding food every day."

The 72-year-old grandmother first sought refuge in Tanzania half a century ago when inter-ethnic violence roiled the country. She stayed away for decades, before returning in 2008, by which time she had become a mother of 12 children.

However, Ntakirabutimana was forced to flee again in 2015 when political unrest led to widespread violent clashes.

She returned for a second and, she hopes, final time two years ago to live in Musenyi, in the hills 150 kilometres south of the capital Bujumbura. Burundi's current peace and stability made Ntakirabutimana's return possible, but life remains a struggle,

with jobs scarce and the economy weak.

Ntakirabutimana's neighbours willingly share their own meagre resources with her, and while she is grateful for both the shelter and security she now enjoys, she lacks much else. "A small plot of land to cultivate, or some capital to start a small business, is what I need most right now," she said. The economic insecurity faced by returnees has meant her children have remained in exile in Tanzania.

Ramadhani Chongera, 40, was overjoyed when he recently returned to Burundi after years living as a refugee in Tanzania with his wife and three children. Willing and eager to work, he too has been confronted by the difficult economic realities of life in Burundi, and of integration.

"We came back empty-handed, but with the hope of being able to have a home and the opportunities that will allow us to rebuild our lives in our country," he said. But

the difficulty of finding work means he struggles to feel part of the society and the community to which he has returned.

UNHCR calls for support for Burundian returnees and Congolese refugees in Burundi (Walter Kigali, videographer, editor/ Faith Kasina, Donna Omulo, producer)

"Having the opportunity to work to earn our daily bread would undoubtedly help our reintegration, and allow us to feel like ordinary Burundians," Chongera said.

In addition to welcoming its returning citizens, Burundi also hosts more than 87,000 refugees and asylum seekers from other countries, the majority from neighbouring Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The Nyankanda refugee camp in the east of the country is home to some 10,000 Congolese refugees who work alongside their Burundian neighbours, building solidarity through shared activities such as baking, fish farming, and carpentry.

Pascaline Sango Ngena, 49, fled violence in her village of Kafulo in DRC's South Kivu province in 2019, before settling in Nyankanda camp with her six children.

Despite the daily challenges of refugee life, Ngena has thrown herself into the camp community supervising a sewing team that shares the proceeds from fabric sales among its members, in addition to contributing to enhanced social cohesion between Congolese refugees and their host community, through projects that benefit both, such as a tree-planting. "We plant trees to green our environment and reduce the impact of deforestation around the camp," Ngena said. "The trees also provide fruits that help improve the children's nutrition."

"While waiting for the security situation to improve and for us to be able to return home, we are doing our best to live harmoniously with the communities that have so generously welcomed us," Ngena said.

During a recent visit to Nyankanda camp, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees, Kelly T. Clements, was impressed by the dynamism and collaboration between Congolese refugees and their Burundian hosts. "Congolese refugees are very creative," she said, adding "the collaboration was exemplary".

But Clements said more had to be done, both for refugees hosted in Burundi and for Burundians, such as Ntakirabutimana and Chongera, who have recently returned to their home country. Expanding partnerships with development partners, international financial institutions and the private sector will be key.

However, the funding needed to improve integration prospects and find lasting solutions for both returnees and refugees is yet to be secured. UNHCR has so far raised only a third of the US\$80.5 million needed to fund its activities in Burundi this year.

BUSINESS



FILE PHOTO: Oil pump jacks at Vaca Muerta in Argentina

Oil prices edge up as US dollar eased

SINGAPORE

Oil prices inched higher on Tuesday as the dollar eased, but global recession worries and concerns about China's rising COVID-19 case numbers denting demand from the world's top crude oil importer weighed on sentiment.

Brent crude futures rose 44 cents, or 0.5%, to \$87.89 by 0513 GMT. U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures for January began trading Tuesday, rising 30 cents, or 0.4%, to \$80.34 a barrel.

Both benchmarks had dived more than \$5 a barrel on Monday, hitting 10-month lows, after the Wall Street Journal (WSJ) reported an increase of up to 500,000 barrels per day would be considered at the OPEC+ meeting on Dec. 4.

Prices rebounded quickly in full after Saudi Arabian energy minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman said the kingdom is sticking with output cuts and not discussing a potential oil output increase with other OPEC oil producers, state news agency SPA reported, denying the WSJ report.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies (OPEC+) recently cut production targets and the energy minister of de facto leader Saudi Arabia said this month that the group will remain cautious on oil production because of uncertainty about the global economy.

The pullback in the U.S. dollar was the main factor supporting oil prices after Monday's rebound, CMC Markets analyst Tina Teng said. A weaker greenback makes oil cheaper for

holders of other currencies.

Concerns over oil demand amid the U.S. Federal Reserve's interest rate tightening and China's strict COVID lockdown policies are outweighing potential positive price drivers like a European Union embargo on Russian oil set to start on Dec. 5, Stephen Innes, managing partner at SPI Asset Management, said in a note.

The ban, in retaliation to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, will be followed by a halt on oil products imports in February.

A G7 plan also set to take effect on Dec. 5 will allow shipping services providers to help to export Russian oil, but only at enforced low prices.

"The critical risk to a price cap policy is the potential for Russian retaliation, which would turn this into an additional bullish shock for the oil market," Innes said.

But in the meantime, China's fresh nationwide spike in COVID cases has deepened concerns about its economy.

Beijing shut parks and museums on Tuesday and more Chinese cities resumed mass testing. The Chinese capital on Monday warned that it is facing its most severe test of the pandemic and tightened rules for entering the city.

In the United States, crude oil stocks were estimated to have dropped by about 2.2 million barrels in the week to Nov. 18, a preliminary Reuters poll showed on Monday.

The front-month Brent crude futures spread narrowed sharply last week, while WTI flipped into contango, which suggests supply concerns are easing.

Value of manufactured goods exports nearly doubles in two years

By Guardian Reporter

The value of manufactured goods exports hit US\$1.5 billion during the year ending September this year, nearly double of the amount recorded in 2020, signaling progressive move towards achieving industrialization drive by 2025.

According to Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Bank of Tanzania (BoT) computations, the amount was more than half of the value of exported gold and nearly double of the value of traditional exports.

The computations shows two years ago, the value of traditional exports and those of manufactured goods exports were almost the same, although the value traditional exports went down to US\$0.7bn in September this year from US\$0.8bn recorded in September 2020.

This indicates that manufacturing sector is expanding production in a time when the local and global economies are recovering from the impact of Covid-19 pandemic which was first reported in December 2019.

Manufacturers say there have been an expansions of production of manufactured goods, with expanding exports mainly neighbouring countries.

Banks' lending to manufacturing activities has also intensified as data shows it recorded the growth of 39.6 percent during the year ending September this year, the second highest growing behind agriculture,



Most of the manufacturing activities in Tanzania centered on simple consumer products such as foods, beverages, tobacco, textiles, chemicals, plastic, wood and steel allied products File Photo

from 4 percent recorded in September last year.

The reports show out of 100/- credit issued by commercial banks, 11/- is going to manufacturing sector, the third largest beneficiary behind personal loans which account for 38 percent and trade with 15 percent share.

This indicates that out of 24trn/- loans extended to private sector, about 2.6trn/- have been extended to manufacturing sector, which also

accounts for 8 percent share of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

According to International Trade Administration (ITA) the manufacturing sector in Tanzania is still relatively small but has a significant contribution to the country's overall GDP.

Over the past decade the sector has averaged 8 percent of GDP and 4 percent annual growth rate.

Most of the manufacturing activities in

Tanzania centered on simple consumer products such as foods, beverages, tobacco, textiles, chemicals, plastic, wood and steel allied products.

The recent development agenda in the country, including National Development Vision 2025 has brought industrial development back as one of the country's policy priorities.

Policy makers have made it a point to lead the process of trans-

forming the country's economy from low productivity and low growth to high productivity and dynamic economy, associated with structural change and sustained income growth.

However, ITA notes that various technological, financial, policy, and administrative constraints remain unresolved and therefore, limiting faster industrial growth and transformation.

NBC Bank, Jubilee partner to enhance insurance services

By Guardian Reporter

As part of its efforts to strengthen insurance services across the country, the National Bank of Commerce (NBC) in partnership with Jubilee Allianz General Insurance, has trained more than 100 insurance agencies to enhance the serviced penetration countrywide.

Speaking during the launch of the 4 days training to insurance agencies yesterday, the NBC Bank Managing Director, Mr. Theobald Sabi (pictured), said the bank has embarked on a strategic plan

to ensure a full utilization of technology and digital systems continue to be the key parts of the bank's service delivery.

"To ensure the bank deliver the best and quality insurance services, we have embarked on a strategic plan that will ensure a full utilization of technology and digital banking systems continue to be the bank's key parts of service delivery so as to enhance penetration across the country," said Mr. Sabi.

Currently, Tanzania has the lowest insurance penetration in East Africa,

which stands at less than 1 per cent.

With the widest network of insurance agencies spread in almost all regions in the country, Mr Sabi said the NBC Bank is positioned to provide bancassurance services to reach more people both customers and non-customers.

He also reiterated that the agents will now use a special system developed by the bank and its partners to ease the bank's insurance service delivery. "Our insurance services or our insurance sales through you agents will

be done through a special system developed by the bank and its partners to ensure that the service becomes easy for you as insurance sellers but also becomes friendly for insurance users or citizens in general," he noted.

On his part, the Commissioner of Insurance, Dr. Baghayo Saqware, in his remarks, he applauded NBC Bank and Jubilee Alliance for fulfilling the government's call to expand the penetration of insurance services and products in the country.

Dr. Saqware noted that

in May 2022, the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and Planning issued a guideline that directs companies and insurance service providers to register insurance sales force executives in the country.

"What NBC Bank and Jubilee Alliance did is a response to register insurance sales force executives in the country who will spread to sell insurance throughout Tanzania. I congratulate them for their action," he noted.

Europe companies are tapping bond markets now again

LONDON

European companies are again looking to sell bonds after months of turbulence in world markets as investors warm up to riskier debt, offering the final opportunity to raise money before the year ends.

Surging inflation, rapid interest rate hikes and a darkening economic outlook have weighed on bond sales from Europe's top-rated corporate issuers.

Yet tentative signs are emerging that supply and investor appetite are picking up, especially as signals that inflation might be peaking bring some stability to volatile markets.

German housing giant Vonovia last week raised 1.5 billion euros (\$1.54 billion) amid strong investor demand in primary markets, a bright spark for a beleaguered property sector.

"If we concentrate on the past couple of weeks, now this is a good entry point," said Giulio Baratta, head of investment grade finance at Debt Capital Markets, EMEA at BNP Paribas. "Vonovia, for instance, came at a decent yield and the fact that it is a lead player (meant) the deal was successful without much question around the real estate sector."

The Vonovia sale was nearly six times oversubscribed.

Also noteworthy was a 750 million euro hybrid bond sale from Spanish telecoms firm Telefonica, the first offering of its kind in Europe in two months.

Hybrid bonds, which combine debt and equity features, in particular have suffered as such bonds are generally seen as riskier to hold than regular corporate investment grade bonds.

During the ultra-low rate environment of the past decade, companies typically used the called date on a hybrid bond to refinance debt at super low borrowing rates.

But that option has been less appealing as rates rise hard and fast to contain inflation. The European Central Bank has hiked rates by 200 basis points since July; the Federal Reserve is in the midst of the swiftest tightening of U.S. monetary policy in 40 years.

There were no hybrid bond deals in June and July, and only one transaction in September before Telefonica's offering.

New hybrid bond sales total just over 10 billion euros so far this year, compared with 30 billion euros for the whole of 2021. In the broader market, investment grade corporate issuers have raised 258 billion euros so far this year compared with 322 billion euros in 2021, according to Refinitiv data.



Morogoro village earns 251mn/- from selling charcoal

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

MLILINGWA village in Tununguo ward, Morogoro District Council in Morogoro region has earned a total of 251,339,500/- from selling 20,107 bags of charcoal produced in 93 plots allocated for sustainable charcoal and timber production at its land forest reserve in the last four years.

Mlilingwa Village Executive Officer, (VEO) Vicent Clement said this yesterday the collected revenue has enabled the village to implement various development projects in business, education and health sectors.

This has been possible through the 'Conserving Forests through Sustainable, forest-based Enterprise Support in Tanzania' (CoForEST) 2019-2022 project which is ending this month.

Clement was speaking to journalists from different media organizations who visited the village to see the impacts of the project implementations.

He said the project is being implemented by Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) in collaboration with Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA), with funding from Swiss Age for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

The project was officially introduced in 2016 to help villagers engagement



Mlilingwa Village Executive Officer, Vicent Clement (1st L) reading a report on what has been achieved through CoForEST project. Village Chairman Salum Said (2nd R) and right is the District Natural Resource and Environmental Conservation Officer (DNRECO) Wahida Beleko. Photo by Beatrice Philemon

in forest management in sustainable charcoal making and timber production, forest conservation, generate incomes for rural communities and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Through the funds, he said, the village has managed to provide Community Health Fund (CHF) worth 10,470,000/- to 349 households, built three classrooms worth 19,881,700/- at Ruvumo extension school, construct one classroom and one teacher's office worth 25,715,000/- at Mlilingwa primary school, build four pit latrines and village office worth 8,153,000/-, construction of six pit latrines at Mlilingwa primary school worth 6,813,000/-, one motorcycle worth 2,150,000/-.

Also the village has purchased 11 bicycle worth 1,210,000/- for transport

facilities to conduct patrol inside the Mlilingwa village land forest reserve, construct two teacher's houses worth 54,334,700/- at Ruvumo extension school and allocate 38,610,000/- for forest conservation and administration issues.

He lauded MJUMITA and TFCG for introducing the project, saying, villagers were also trained on conservation agriculture, through the knowledge gained from TFCG, their production has increased from 24 to 68 sacks per acre.

Also villagers have been able to establish different projects to raise their incomes that includes "Bosi kuku" project dealing with poultry farming and carpentry business.

Mlilingwa village has 850 households with 3551 residents.

For his part, Mlilingwa Village gov-

ernment Chairman, Salum Said said so far 70m/- are now deposited at the Village bank account.

The funds will be used to build teacher's house and make renovation of nurses house and they want to empower youth to access obtain licences to allow them obtain their needs and engage in sustainable charcoal making.

He lauded TFCG, MJUMITA and SDC for introducing the village because everyone is now aware of forest conservation.

"Before MJUMITA and TFCG team up and train people on forest management, the situation were very bad, deforestation was very high, women were not attending village meeting and even in decision making," he said.

For his part Morogoro region natural resource officer, Joseph Chuwa

lauded TFCG and MJUMITA to make sure forest conservation was conducted properly in Morogoro Region.

TFCG and MJUMITA intervention joins government effort in Conserving environment and transforming people's livelihoods.

"We're very proud of what has been achieved so far in our region, MJUMITA and TFCG have done a commendable job to provide capacity building to communities, village government leaders and village natural resource committee members on forest conservation and how they can use forests available within their village land to earn cash to implement village development projects in their localities and how can conserve forests and benefit from it.

Also have helped them to save forests that are disappearing at an alarming rate and communities are now using few trees for charcoal making something that was not the case in the past.

"We are now receiving different people from other foreign countries including Zambia visiting in our region to learn from us how we have managed to reach where we are today to conserve our forests and benefit from it," he said.

According to Chuwa, during 2021/2022, 30 villages in Morogoro have managed to collect revenue amounting 1.6bn/- from sustainable charcoal making and timber harvesting.

The region will scale -up this model in other villages to allow them understand the importance of forests conservation, the benefit it has for them and will conduct a visit in Kilosa, Mvomero and Morogoro districts.

So far Morogoro region has 129 forests covering a total of 262,524 hectares.

IMF approves US\$88.3 million for Malawi govt

WASHINGTON

The International Monetary Fund said its executive board on Monday approved an \$88.3 million disbursement to Malawi under the new "food shock window" emergency lending facility launched in response to food price spikes and shortages caused by Russia's war in Ukraine.

The IMF also said the executive board assessed that a previously approved staff-monitored policy program for Malawi linked to the food shock loan is "sufficiently robust to meet the stated objectives" and was expected to build a track record of policy implementation that could lead to a more formal IMF "upper credit tranche-quality" loan arrangement.

The IMF said the food shock loan, part of the IMF's Rapid Credit Facility, would help the east African country address urgent balance-of-payments needs brought on by rising food import and fertilizer costs and a falling currency.

"Malawi is facing a challenging economic and humanitarian situation, with foreign exchange shortages and an exchange rate misalignment leading to a sharp decline in imports including fuel, fertilizer, medicine, and food," IMF Deputy Managing Director Bo Li said in a statement.

Li said that while debt is sustainable on a forward-looking basis, risks to the program are high and it was important to swiftly implement a debt restructuring strategy.

"The credible process underway to restructure the authorities' debt to commercial creditors, which in itself would restore debt sustainability albeit with high risk, is welcome," Li said. "Swift progress is also needed on the reprofiling of official bilateral debt."

Cotton smallholder farmers to benefit from WFP project

By Francis Kajubi

COTTON smallholder farmers in Mwanza region are expected to benefit from sustainable income generation project by the World Food Programme (WFP).

The project dubbed 'Beyond Cotton Project' is implemented under the custodian of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) and Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB), the Brazilian Cooperation Agency and coordinated by WFP.

Speaking during a signing ceremony of the project's implementation collaboration agreement between WFP, TCB and TARI in Mwanza yesterday, Sarah Gordon-Gibson Country Director said around 8,400 smallholder farmers will be supported in Misungwi, Kwimba and Magu districts.

She said they will benefit from skills and services to increase their profit from cotton sales, cotton-processed products and divers-



WFP country director and representative Sarah Gordon-Gibson (centre) addresses the press in Mwanza yesterday. On the left is TCB acting director general TCB director of regulatory services James Shimbe and on the right is TARI director general Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo. Photo: Courtesy of WFP.

ified food crops which will enhance their food and nutrition security. Of the targeted beneficiaries, 50 percent are youth, 30 percent women and 20 percent are a total budget of US\$930,118 (2.17billion/-).

"It is our hope that this project will transform the lives of the smallholder farmers. WFP in Tanzania and WFP Center of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil - appreciate the strong engagement of TARI and TCB since 2019, and we look forward to our strong partnership," said Gibson.

The project seeks to increase the productivity of cotton farming and intercropping of cotton with other food crops, as well as to strengthen value chains, link farmers to premium markets and guarantee nutrition security.

In July this year, the World Food Programme's five-year Country Strategic Plan started.

The Plan will support the economic, social, and environmental issues of food and nutrition security for the people served by WFP through several activities, which will contribute to sustaining in-

clusive economic growth through market-based interventions among other aspects.

The other aspects targeted in the strategic plan are strengthening human capital and increased affordability of healthy diets, and promoting climate change adaptation and environmental restoration.

Sustainable Development Goal 2, which is to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture, is at the heart of WFP's mandate. And one of the best ways to achieve SDG2 is to expand our investment in agriculture.

She said in countries like Tanzania, where the agricultural sector is dominated by smallholder farmers, supporting and empowering smallholder farmers is the right thing to do if sustainable rural development is to be realized.

Equity Group's net profit jumps 26.6 pct to Sh33.3 billion in nine months

NAIROBI

Equity Group reported a 26.61 percent growth in net profit for nine months through September on increased earnings from interest and non-funded income streams.

Profit after tax and minority interest hit Sh33.35 billion compared with Sh26.34 billion in the same period last year, the lender said Tuesday.

Interest earnings from lending rose 23.43 percent to Sh59.84 billion, while

non-interest income from transactions went up 32.06 percent to Sh42.22 billion.

Equity's loan book expanded 20.55 percent to Sh673.91 billion, while customer deposits increased 15.07 percent to Sh1,007 trillion.

The lender, Kenya's largest by market share, reported a 31.73 percent growth in operating costs to Sh57.74 billion.

Earlier this month, Equity Bank Group has been named the top lender in the region by capitalisation, reflecting the room it has to fund businesses.

The ranking by African Business, based on the tier-one capital buffer, has placed Equity ahead of its rivals in East Africa.

The lender's stock of \$1.558 billion (Sh188.52 billion) in capital, retained earnings and cash reserves last year has placed it in position 24 in Africa, according to East Africa's Top Banks 2022 survey findings.

Equity has been ranked ahead of its main competitor KCB Group with a capital base of \$1.233 billion (Sh149.19 billion) and Ethiopia Commercial Bank's

\$929 million (Sh112.41 billion).

"One key indicator of the weakness of the Eastern African banking sector is the fact that the size of capital needed to secure the final position in our regional Top 20 is the lowest of all the other regions at \$159 million," authors of the report wrote.

"For Kenyan banks at least, more rapid bank growth could come from the resumption of their expansion into other markets."



EquityGroup CEO James Mwangi during the release of the lender's quarter 3 results at the bank's headquarters on November 22, 2022. PHOTO | NMG

WORLD

UK's Sunak rebuffs call to ease stance on migration, Brexit

BIRMINGHAM

BRITISH Prime Minister Rishi Sunak pushed back on Monday against calls from companies to improve trade ties with the European Union and liberalize immigration to help boost growth, saying Brexit had already benefited the country.

Sunak told business leaders at a Confederation of British Industry (CBI) conference he was "unequivocal" that Britain should pursue its own agenda on regulation and migration.

Earlier, the CBI said Britain should create a programme of temporary work visas to boost economic growth and also resolve a dispute with the EU over trade rules in Northern Ireland.

"On trade, let me be unequivocal about this: under my leadership, the United Kingdom will not pursue any relationship with Europe that relies on

alignment with EU laws," Sunak said.

Britain's grim economic outlook, marked by stagnant business investment and sluggish post-Brexit trade, has sparked talk from businesses and economists of closer ties with the EU and a more relaxed approach to immigration as easy ways to boost growth.

Finance minister Jeremy Hunt last week said he was confident Britain would be able to remove "the vast majority" of barriers to trade with the EU, without rejoining its single market.

On Monday, Sunak struck a different tone.

He said Britain's exit from the EU had helped bring more flexibility on business regulation and had been necessary to secure "proper control" of the country's borders.

"We need regulatory regimes that are fit for the future, that ensure that this country can be leaders in those indus-



Conservative Party leadership candidate Rishi Sunak leaves the campaign office in London, Oct 24, 2022. File photo

tries that are going to create the jobs and the growth of the future. And having the regulatory freedom to do that is an important opportunity of Brexit," Sunak said.

Sunak emphasised the need to tackle illegal immigration to build trust in Britain's migration system - one that he hoped would be a beacon for talent around the world.

Can't get the staff

Speaking minutes earlier on the same stage, CBI Director General Tony Danker said businesses were suffering labour shortages that could be addressed with a better immigration system.

"We don't have enough Brits to go round for the vacancies that exist, and there's a skills mismatch in any case," Danker said.

"Let's have economic migration in

areas where we aren't going to get the people and skills at home anytime soon. In return, let's make those visas fixed-term," Danker said.

Danker also called on the government to sort out a dispute with the EU over how the bloc's rules should apply in Northern Ireland, which prompted the EU to suspend cooperation in areas such as scientific research.

"I say to Brexiteers, the best guarantor of Brexit is an economy that grows. Its biggest risk is one that doesn't," Danker said.

Last week Britain's budget watchdog said the country was already probably in recession, and gave a subdued medium-term growth forecast which showed a greater reliance on immigration to boost output than it had predicted earlier this year.

European ministers tackle sharp increase in space funding

PARIS

EUROPEAN ministers are meeting in Paris to negotiate a more than 25% funding boost for space over the next three years as Europe seeks to maintain a lead in Earth observation, expand navigation services and remain a key partner in exploration.

The European Space Agency is asking its 22 nations to back a budget of 18.7 billion euros for 2023-25, up from 14.5 billion euros at its last triennial summit, in 2019, against a backdrop of pressure on public finances as well as the conflict in Ukraine.

"There are lots of views in the member states ... and willingness to find the way forward," Anna Rathman, who chairs the agency's council, said on the eve of the Nov 22-23 talks.

Days after the uncrewed launch of NASA's new moon rocket carrying a European service module, the Paris gathering will review plans for a new logistics lander for the moon, Argonaut.

Other initiatives include extending Europe's global navigation system into low Earth orbit and kickstarting a new satellite mission, Harmony, to expand climate research.

Ministers will seek to close a narrow funding gap for Ariane 6

rockets and discuss the future of emerging micro-launchers.

ESA nations will also discuss a "zero-debris" approach to space at a time when the Ukraine conflict has highlighted the rapid expansion of constellations such as SpaceX's Starlink.

In a recent interview, ESA Director General Josef Aschbacher urged rapid global action to tackle congestion in low Earth orbit including a ban on tests of anti-satellite weapons.

Although rare, such tests have fuelled concerns about the militarization of space, which sits uncomfortably alongside commercial and other peaceful uses for space, without which, Aschbacher told Reuters, "society would crumble".

Even without such threats, the sheer number of satellites and fragments of debris in low Earth orbit is a challenge.

"There will be accidents; this is to be expected ... The question is how much energy is put into avoiding accidents," Aschbacher said.

"It's a problem for everyone; I think first and foremost for those who operate large constellations ... This is an issue that needs to be tackled at a global level with everyone involved."



Participants arrive at the Sharm el-Sheikh International Convention Centre, during the COP27 climate conference in Egypt's Red Sea resort city of the same name, on Nov 17, 2022. (MOHAMMED ABED / AFP)

Space commercialization

Aschbacher also highlighted a drive to ensure that by 2030 all satellites would be put in orbit sustainably, with a plan for disposing of them safely at the ends of their working lives.

"If you take something into a national park, you have to take it out in terms of garbage. I see orbits in a similar way; if we put a satellite in, we need to guarantee to take it out."

Europe aims to improve its share of the commercialization of space, dominated by US firms such as SpaceX.

Private investment in space soared 86% between 2017 and 2021 globally, but just 14% in Europe.

European firms have raised "nowhere near" as much capital as in the United States, where public agencies typically allow companies to sign long-term contracts and attract more private partners, according to the European Space Policy Institute.

While focusing on public budgets, ESA says it has made some 18 agreements with venture-capital firms to promote space.

Agencies

UN urges military action, good governance to defeat violent extremism in W. Africa

ACCRA

THE United Nations (UN) on Monday urged West African states to adopt a mixture of military action and good governance to defeat the scourge of violent extremism and terrorism in the region.

Giovane Biha, the Acting

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for West Africa and the Sahel, made this call in the Ghanaian capital Accra during the opening of the ministerial session of the Accra Initiative.

"Given the complex and dynamic nature of threats posed by violent extremists, there is a

need to ensure a consistent response that combines the military approach with long-term interventions aiming to address the governance deficits noted in affected communities," said Biha.

Such an approach, she said will require improved coordination at the national level be-

tween the relevant ministries, agencies, and departments and across borders.

Biha further called for a united front to address the vulnerabilities and strengthen resilience to defeat this scourge which remains a serious threat to peace and stability in the region.

"Because the threat is region-

al, our responses must also be the result of strong and constant coordination while being more adaptable and holistic." "Please, be assured that the UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel is willing and ready to continue to provide constant support in the framework of our core mandate," she said. *Xinhua*

France shocked by second schoolgirl rape and murder in a month

PARIS

FRANCE was shocked by the rape and murder of a 14-year-old girl in the south of the country, just weeks after the brutal killing of a 12-year-old girl in Paris.

Police on Friday arrested a 31-year-old man suspected of raping and killing the girl, named Vanesa, after forcing her into his car as she left school in Tonneins, France that day. He left the body in an abandoned house and was quickly identified through security camera footage, authorities said.

The prosecutor in Agen, southern France, told reporters on Saturday that when police went to arrest the man at his flat in the southern city of Marmande, he said, "I know why you are here" and confessed.

Authorities said the man was sentenced to a 15-day suspended jail term for sexual aggression towards another minor in 2006, when the suspect was just 15 years old.

The murder comes just weeks after France was rocked by the brutal killing of a 12-year-old girl named Lola, whose battered body was found in a suitcase outside her Paris home.

The main suspect in that case, a 24-year-old woman, has been accused of murder, rape and acts of torture.

Lola's murder became a source of political tension, with opposition parties seizing on the profile of the suspect - an illegal immigrant - to call for tougher immigration policies.

In both cases, the far-right opposition has criticized judicial and political authorities as being soft on crime and not doing enough to keep dangerous individuals off the streets.

Dante Rinaudo, mayor of Tonneins, told reporters on Monday that the girl's parents, who are of Colombian origin, want to bury their daughter in Grenada, Spain, where the family had lived several years before moving to France.

He said he launched an online fundraiser to support the family and would organize a march for the victim on Friday.

Agencies

Russia, Tajikistan creating joint air defenses amid growing regional tension - ambassador

DUSHANBE

THE creation of an integrated regional air defense system between Russia and Tajikistan is imperative as the situation in the region is becoming increasingly strained, Russia's Ambassador to Dushanbe Semyon Grigoryev told TASS on Monday.

Grigoryev presented his credentials to President of Tajikistan Emomali Rakhmonov on November 21.

"The contractual framework for this [the creation of a joint air defense system by Russia and Tajikistan] already exists. Our countries agree that this cooperation is needed because the situation in the region shows a trend towards the growth of tension," the ambassador said in his first interview to TASS.

The Russia-Tajikistan air defense system "will be created under the supervision of the defense ministries of both countries," the ambassador added.

Deputy Chairman of the Air Defense Coordination Committee under the CIS Defense Ministers' Council Colonel-General Yuri Grekhov said in April that a draft list of military authorities and command centers (command posts) of military units and formations assigned to the Russia-Tajikistan joint regional air defense system had been worked out and was at the approval stage in the air defense department of Russia's Central Military District to implement the agreement on joint regional air defenses.

Russia and Tajikistan ratified an agreement on creating a joint air defense system in December 2021. Considering that Russia and Tajikistan do not share a common border, the parties to the agreement will designate a separate collective security district in the region within the bounds of the territory and the airspace of Tajikistan.

Agencies



CHINESE President Xi Jinping and Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha on Nov. 19 agreed to build a more stable, prosperous and sustainable China-Thailand community with a shared future.

Xi's visit to Thailand is his first trip to Thailand as the President of China. During his meeting with Prayut, Xi congratulated Thailand on its success in hosting the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting, stressing the thousand-year-old friendship between China and Thailand and the fraternity between the two peoples.

In the past 10 years since China and Thailand established a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership, traditional friendship between the two countries has continued to flourish, their comprehensive strategic coop-

China, Thailand to enrich connotation of their family-like relations

eration has continued to deepen and bilateral relations have entered a new stage of development, Xi noted. Standing at a new historical starting point, Xi said, China is willing to carry forward the special friendship between China and Thailand, which are "as close as one family," add new meaning to the friendship, open up a new era of bilateral ties and bring more benefits to their people. Both sides reaffirmed commitment to further enhancing mutual trust, understanding and support on major issues of principle concerning national sovereignty, unification and territorial integrity.

They issued the Joint Statement between the People's Republic of China and the Kingdom of Thailand on Working towards a China-Thailand

Community with a Shared Future for Enhanced Stability, Prosperity and Sustainability, which charted the course for the future development of their bilateral relations. The building of a China-Thailand community with a shared future reflects the high-level development of the bilateral relations between the two countries, and will build a stronger international force for building a community with a shared future for mankind.

The family-like relations between China and Thailand lay a solid foundation for the two countries to deepen practical cooperation.

Leaders of the two countries jointly witnessed the signing of a Joint Action Plan on China-Thailand Strategic Cooperation between the Government of the People's Republic of China and

the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand (2022-2026), a Cooperation Plan between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on Jointly Promoting the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, and cooperation documents on economy, trade, investment, e-commerce and scientific and technological innovation.

These documents will help the two countries work together for more fruitful cooperation in various fields, seek greater synergy between their development strategies and jointly advance high-quality Belt and Road cooperation to deliver new results.

Guided by the leaders of the two countries,

China and Thailand will strengthen cooperation in traditional fields such as investment, trade, tourism, infrastructure and industrial parks, and at the same time cultivate new growth areas and drive progress in new fields of cooperation such as digital economy, new energy vehicles and technological innovation.

The two sides will speed up China-Thailand-Laos tripartite railway cooperation, advance the China-Thailand-Laos Connectivity Development Corridor Outlook, step up efforts to crack down on cross-border crimes, strengthen youth exchanges, and deepen livelihood cooperation, which will help enrich the connotation of the China-Thailand community with a shared future.

People's Daily

COP27: Climate costs deal struck but no fossil fuel progress

By Georgina Rannard

A HISTORIC deal has been struck at the UN's COP27 summit that will see rich nations pay poorer countries for the damage and economic losses caused by climate change.

It ends almost 30 years of waiting by nations facing huge climate impacts.

But developed nations left dissatisfied over progress on cutting fossil fuels.

"A clear commitment to phase-out all fossil fuels? Not in this text," said the UK's Alok Sharma, who was president of the previous COP summit in Glasgow.

This year's talks in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, came close to collapse, and overran by two days.

Luke-warm applause met the historic moment the "loss and damage fund" was agreed in the early hours of Sunday, as a confusing and often chaotic 48 hours left delegates exhausted.

It is, though, a huge symbolic and political statement from developed nations that long resisted a fund that covers climate impacts like flooding and drought.

The summit began two weeks ago with powerful statements from vulnerable nations. "We will not give up... the alternative consigns us to a watery grave," Bahamas Prime Minister Philip Davis said.

On Sunday, Pakistan's climate minister Sherry Rehman, who negotiated for the bloc of developing countries plus China, told journalists she was very happy with the agreement.

"I am confident we have turned a corner in how we work together to achieve climate goals," she said.

The devastating floods in at-risk nation Pakistan this summer, which killed about 1,700 people with estimated damages of \$40 billion, have been a powerful backdrop at this summit.

On Sunday, Antigua and Barbuda environment minister Molwyn Joseph, and chair of the Alliance of Small Island States, said the deal was a "win for the entire world" and "restored global faith in this critical process dedicated to ensuring no one is left behind".

But nations and groups including UK, EU, and New Zealand left Egypt unhappy with compromises on fossil fuels and curbing climate change.

"I'm incredibly disappointed that we weren't able to go further," UK lead negotiator Alok Sharma told journalists after talks concluded.

Countries that fought to weaken the ambition to rapidly cut greenhouse gas emissions - gases that warm the planet - need to look at-risk nations "in the eye," he said.

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak welcomed the progress made at COP27 but said "more must be done" to tackle climate change.

The final overarching deal did not include commitments to "phase down" or reduce use of fossil fuels.

It also included ambiguous new language about "low emissions energy" - which experts here say could open the door to some fossil fuels being considered part of a green energy future.

New Zealand's climate minister told BBC News that there were "strong attempts by the petrol states to roll back" on agreements, but that developed countries



"held the line".

Nations, including the G20 group, are anxious for the world to urgently cut fossil fuel use.

But developing nations like India - or those reliant on oil and gas - push back, because they want to exploit their reserves, as western countries did historically.

As the clock ticked on, richer nations appeared to concede - despite a last-minute intervention by Switzerland.

Expectations were low at the beginning of COP27 - it was meant to be an "action" summit that implemented agreements made last year, but would not reach anything new.

But the loss and damage deal could be

the most significant development since the Paris Agreement.

For almost as long as the UN has discussed climate change, developed nations worried about signing a blank cheque for climate impacts.

Now they have committed to payments - though the details remain to be worked out.

It tops off a conference marked with deadlock, and punctuated by dramatic moments - including Brazil's President-elect Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's first appearance on the global stage since his recent election win.

Speaking to rapturous crowds, he told COP27 that Brazil is back on the climate stage, promising to end deforestation

and restore the Amazon.

It gave an injection of hope that many activists and observers of climate talks say is lacking at UN summits.

But fossil fuel delegates remained in force - up 25% on last year - while experts said women participants were too few.

And in the large tents where nations, experts and NGOs laid out their stands, the first Children and Youth Pavilion at a COP radiated energy, hope and frustration.

Meanwhile, on the sidelines of COP27, a deal that promises to pay \$20 billion to Indonesia to transition away from coal was celebrated as one of the concrete success of the summit.

Russia's mission to preserve European culture, says film director Konchalovsky

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S mission is to preserve the golden age of European culture, as Russia may be its sole remaining guardian, Russian world-renowned film director Andrey Konchalovsky said on Monday.

"I think that Russia's mission is to preserve European culture, and not let it die. Russia is not only an inheritor of Europe's great culture, but, maybe, today it is its only and main champion," he said in a video address to the participants of a roundtable meeting at the Russian State Duma (lower parliament house) dedicated to the establishment of the public movement Russia's Cultural Front.

The director noted that he supports the idea of such a movement and is set to join it. "Russia will be carrying the flag of European civilization for the world," he stressed.

World-famous conductor and artistic director of St. Petersburg's Mariinsky Theater Valery Gergiev voiced support for the idea of establishing such a movement. "Only by becoming united, we, people of culture, can withstand the aggressive intrusion of the alien evil anti-culture," he said.

According to writer Zakhar Prilepin, Russia is in a situation where cultural institutions are not attuned to share people's problems and hardships. "They are set up to derive profit this or that way, often thriving on human foibles, entertaining and amusing people," he said, adding that there is demand for a different kind of cultural content in society and added that there are people in the country who are ready to create such content.

Musician Yury Bashmet also welcomed the establishment of Russia's Cultural Front. "It is important, timely and valuable. Russia and Russian culture should preserve their deep roots - we have incredibly strong traditions," he said.

Dmitry Pestov, a film and theater actor and a member of the Russian State Duma, also supported the idea of such a movement. "We need prohibitive measures, censorship. We need expert councils, but what is most important - we need to cultivate new seedlings of contemporary Russian culture and art, which have managed to surface through the concrete of these last 30 years. We must help them, finance them, nourish and cherish them," he stressed.

Shandong province builds intelligent expressways to improve mobility experience

THE Tai'an-Zaozhuang section of the Beijing-Taipai Expressway, which is the first intelligent expressway in east China's Shandong province, has been in operation for over a year.

Everything about it, from road surfacing to the services it provides, mirrors how "smart" this expressway is.

For instance, when the night falls, road reflectors are glimmering at sections where lanes merge together and early-warning devices would play a voice prompt reminding drivers to slow down. Besides, Chinese characters meaning "stay cautious about merging traffic" would be observed on the road surface.

Yang Tao, a truck driver who always runs between Tai'an and Qufu, two cities of Shandong Province, told People's Daily that visual and audio prompts are prevalent along the section between Tai'an and Zaozhuang, especially in key merging and diverging areas.

"I always drive at night. I'd be very cautious whenever I see such prompts," Yang said.

"The Beijing-Taipai Expressway crosses central Shandong province, which features complicated geology and climate. To ensure the safety of vehicles in all weather conditions, we installed light-emitting signs, glow-in-the-rain lane markings, and other warning devices along the road," said Lv Xinjian, director of the project office responsible for upgrading the Tai'an-Zaozhuang section.

According to him, the section also employs radar sensing technology to detect road conditions under adverse weather conditions such as rain, snow, hail and fog to ensure safe and smooth traffic.

At a gas station in the service



Photo shows the Tai'an-Zaozhuang section of the Beijing-Taipai Expressway in east China's Shandong province. File photo

area of Ningyang county along the expressway, a black box can be observed on the canopy. It recognizes vehicles and enables frictionless payment.

"The Ningyang service area is a major intelligent service area along the Beijing-Taipai Expressway. It employs multiple smart devices to offer individualized catering, shopping and car washing services for passengers," said Ji Yang, director of the information center of the Shandong High-Speed Service Development Group Co., Ltd.

Yang Tao said once he had a car breakdown on the expressway and rescuers arrived in less than 10 minutes after he called the breakdown service.

A cloud control system at an intelligent dispatching center of the Beijing-Taipai Express-

way discovers vehicle breakdowns and locates them at the earliest time possible, according to Chen Yu, a staff member of the dispatching center.

"We would take actions in accordance with the severity of accidents," Chen added.

The cloud control system, as the "brain" of the Beijing-Taipai Expressway, is connected with over 1,600 sets of intelligent equipment of 39 types. It is able to make quick response to all kinds of emergencies happening along the expressway, inform road management departments, and remind other vehicles passing by to avoid possible secondary accidents.

Lv told People's Daily that the traffic flow of the Beijing-Taipai Expressway has increased 106 percent year on year, with an average vehicle

speed increase of 16.2 percent.

The number of total accidents and those happening in dangerous sections dropped 31.45 percent and 35.83 percent, respectively, from a year ago, he added.

Currently, the second intelligent expressway of Shandong province is under construction. Connecting the province's Jinan and Weifang, it fully learns from the advanced experiences in designing, construction, and maintenance gained by the Beijing-Taipai Expressway.

The new expressway would use the same "brain" with the Beijing-Taipai Expressway, which puts available resources to effective use, said Zhang Wei, deputy head of the engineering management department of Shandong High-Speed Company Limited.

People's Daily

Republican states seek to preserve Trump-era US border curbs

WASHINGTON

A coalition of states with Republican attorneys general took legal steps on Monday to retain pandemic border curbs recently ruled unlawful by a US judge, aiming to preserve a policy that lets the government expel hundreds of thousands of migrants.

Fifteen states asked US District Judge Emmet Sullivan to let them join litigation over the policy, known as Title 42, which has been in effect since March 2020, at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

First implemented as a public health policy by the administration of former Republican President Donald Trump and continued by President Joe Biden, a Democrat, Title 42 allows US authorities to rapidly send migrants caught at the US-Mexico border back to Mexico, or other countries, without the chance to claim US asylum.

Sullivan, in the District of Columbia, ruled on Nov 15 that the order violated federal regulatory law and the government asked for five weeks to prepare to end it.

But now the states' motion sets the stage for a protracted legal battle that throws the future of the policy in doubt.

A record number of migrants have been apprehended at the border since Biden took office in January 2021 and Republicans say ending Title 42 will draw even more crossers.

After Sullivan's ruling, the Biden administration said it was making plans to manage the border without the order. The case was originally brought by asylum-seeking families against the US government, claiming migrants sent back to Mexico face serious harm.

The states said in their motion to intervene in the case that border states like Arizona and Texas would face "increased migrant flows" and that wherever migrants end up, "they will impose financial burdens on the states involuntarily hosting them."

If Sullivan allows the states to intervene in a case, they can challenge his decision to invalidate the policy at the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The states could also take the matter to the US Supreme Court, where there is a majority of conservative justices.



A group of migrants look for a place to cross the Rio Grande in Piedras Negras, Mexico on November, 16, 2022. (SERGIO FLORES / AFP)



Aruti Aces B squad's cricketer, Hamza Ally, put the man of the match performance to propel his outfit to an impressive seven-wicket victory over Unisoft Rising Stars in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Saifee T10 Cup tournament tie that took place last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF ARUTIA CES

Aruti Aces B cricketers defeat Unisoft Rising Stars in 2022 DC T10 Saifee Cup

By Guardian Reporter

PROMISING cricketer Hamza Ally put in a solid showing with the bat to catapult the Aruti Aces B side to a seven-wicket win over Unisoft Rising Stars in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Saifee T10 Cup tournament's duel that was held last weekend.

The duel's eventual winners will be reveling in having the up-and-coming cricketer in their fold following the latter's scintillating showing which had the player nailing 64 runs not out in impressive innings.

Aruti Aces B squad's cricketers that lost their previous game in the 2022 Saifee T10 Cup showdown, came back strongly in the last weekend tie.

Having won the toss and invited Unisoft Rising Stars to bat, the Aruti Aces B team restricted their opponents to 85/5 in the scheduled 10 overs.

Unisoft Rising Stars' batting unit happened to be scoring at the rate of knots, struggling to face ferocious Aruti Aces B outfit's bowlers.

Somewhat Aruti Aces B squad resorted to deploying spinners to pin Unisoft Rising Stars down and that saw the batters managing to register 27 runs in the first two overs following some impressive bowling.

Opener Amritbir Singh was one of the batsmen with meaningful contributions with the bat when Unisoft Rising Stars took the crease, ending his innings with 32 runs which included six fours.

Top-order batsman Julius Edson Fugara was the other performer with a two-digit figure, making his way back with 17 runs whilst nailing three boundaries.

Jatin Prajapati was the bowler with significant contribution when Aruti Aces B fielded, as the cricketer notched two wickets, conceding 16 runs in two overs.

During the chase, Aruti Aces B cricketers were not going well early on as opener Asif Butt and veteran Ajith Shetty were both back in the hut with the squad having reached 26 runs in four overs.

The other opener, Ally, single-handedly had Aruti Aces B cricketers wrestling back control of the tie having posted 22 runs in the fifth over.

The promising cricketer ultimately closed the game in the eighth over by scoring a scintillating 64 runs not out laced with three sixes and nine fours.

Aruti Aces B squad smoothly reached the target, having scored 86 runs in eight overs, with seven wickets to spare.

All set for National Boxing Club Championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

FOURTEEN boxing clubs have lined up for this year's National Club Championships, as the showdown got underway at National Indoor Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Monday.

Open Boxing Federation Of Tanzania (OBFT) secretary-general Lukelo Willilo said the championships are expected to be very tough and competitive.

He said the four-day National Club Championships have attracted more than 94 boxers from the 14 clubs and on Sunday, OBFT conducted medicals and held the official draw.

Willilo mentioned clubs taking part in the championships as defending champions MMJKT, Ngome JWTZ, Iringa Boxing Club, Kagera, Yombayamba Boxing Club, JKT Kibiti, and

JKT Mgulani.

Urafiki Boxing Club, JKT Chang'ombe, Green Warriors, Dago Stars, Burundi boxing squad, Band Coy, and Navy are the other competitors.

He thanked the Burundi Boxing Federation for allowing its team to compete in the championships, saying it is a sign of a landmark relationship between the two countries.

The OBFT leader pointed out: "We are very happy that the Burundi Boxing Federation has allowed its team to take part in the championships, this is a sign of a good and strong relationship that exists between the two countries."

"The Burundi team is accompanied by its president Erick Ndayishimiye and secretary-general," he said.

Senegal national soccer team suffers a cruel blow

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

DAYS ahead of the 2022 World Cup finals' big kick-off last Sunday one of Africa's representatives, Senegal, suffered a brutal blow to their prospects at the unfailingly exciting football spectacle.

Indeed, the saddening setback came in the form of the gloomy news that Senegal's best player, Sadio Mane would miss the entire World Cup due to a leg injury.

The news has doubtlessly plunged many African football fans into misery as Senegal and Mane had been tipped to spectacularly challenge the big guns at the football festival in Qatar.

However, as the famous adage goes, what's done is done. The fact of the matter then is that, if Senegal is still seriously intent on having a great World Cup, then they will have to cast their obvious disappointment aside and train their sights on delivering a sterling performance in the most taxing football championship on the world sporting stage.

Undoubtedly, the road ahead for Senegal sans Mane at the ongoing World Cup is littered with obstacles that will require an immense feeling of togetherness to overcome.

While we're still pondering on the World Cup, it should be noted that the continent has bright hopes that a few of our representatives will be able to have an utterly fabulous tournament.

Lest we forget, our allotted five world cup representatives are to visit Cameroon, Tunisia, Ghana, Senegal, and Morocco.

Indeed, since the experience of such high-stakes championships is massively helpful for competing



Senegal's national soccer team.

teams, one dearly hopes that Cameroon's, Senegal's, and Ghana's erstwhile campaigns at the World Cup will stand them in good stead during the unique football event.

Cameroon advanced to the quarterfinals of the world cup in Italy in 1990, Senegal replicated that feat at the 2002 World Cup in Japan and South Korea, while Ghana memorably progressed to the quarterfinals of the quadrennial football extravaganza in 2010 in South Africa.

So, while the jury is still out on whether any African team can rewrite the history books in Qatar, we can at

least be assured of one thing, watching our representatives take a stab at achieving World Cup glory will provide nail-biting, edge-of-the-seat excitement.

Let us now switch our focus to domestic table tennis, which is an enchanting sport that has unquestionably fallen on some very hard times.

Indeed, one never even hears of any local table tennis competition being staged these days and this has been the sorry state of affairs in the sport for the past few years.

One gigantic bright spot for the sport though, occurred

in 2019 when Alisa Bhojani became the very first Tanzanian to compete in the girls' singles category of the prestigious African Youth, Junior, and Cadet table tennis championship.

Sadly though, that huge stride forward for local table tennis failed to act as the catalyst for any subsequent and encouraging moves where the development of the sport is concerned.

Admittedly, given the pitiful status quo in local table tennis, it will require quite a herculean effort to rescue the sport from the dire straits that it is mired in.



American professional basketball player, Alysha Clark (R), issues instructions to Tanzania's U-18 female ballers at a training which took place at Gymkhana Club's courts in Dar es Salaam last week. Alysha, now the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) Washington Mystics baller, had visited Tanzania as a U.S. Department of State sports envoy to hold training for female ballers. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT IMANI NATHANIEL

Filbert Bayi set to launch his book in Tanzania

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S athletics legend Filbert Bayi has revealed he has plans to launch his book titled 'Cath Me If You Can' in the country.

The autobiography book was first launched when Bayi attended the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, England but in an interview, the athletics legend said he also has plans to launch it in his home country.

In the interview, Bayi said the 'Cath Me If You Can' which was sponsored by United States of America (USA) company Soultice Publishing, chronicles his life from his village in Karatu, Arusha to earning recognition in the sport at the international level.

The book, which is currently available on Amazon, explains how Bayi, the first Tanzanian to win an Olympic medal, has managed to overcome challenges on and off the track.

Bayi noted: "The book was launched in the United Kingdom (UK) in the just-ended Commonwealth Games in Birmingham but I'm thinking of launching it here at home."

"Once everything is ready, the public will be informed but I would love on the day of the launch the guest of honour should be President Samia Suluhu Hassan," Bayi revealed.

Bayi explains further in the book that he always believes that an athlete's coach is also the athlete.

The book which has three

main parts mirrors Bayi's life and it also highlights the strength of women.

Bayi who is regarded as one of the most successful athletes of his time to date, clearly mentioned that he lost his father when he was a toddler and he grew up with a single mother and later married Anna.

He said Anna was the woman who helped him reach where he is today.

"To my strongest, smartest, greatest partner and most loving lady, a man could ever have," Bayi said of his late wife Anna who was once Chairperson of the Tanzania Netball Association (Chaneta) during her life.

In the book, Bayi also acknowledged the role his colleagues including former Athletics Tan-

zania (AT) secretary-general Suleiman Nyambui, athlete Sebastian Coe and coach Ron Davis played in making him a great athlete.

The 'Cath Me If You Can' author is regarded as one of the best athletes his country has produced. He revolutionized 1500 meters race by clocking 3:32:16 in the 1974 Commonwealth Games held in Christchurch, New Zealand.

That record stood for 48 years and it was broken in the recent Commonwealth Games by Oliver Hoare.

Bayi is the current Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) secretary-general and he also runs a school and foundation which have contributed a lot to athletics development in the country.

Brazil getting ready to dance at the World Cup

DOHA, Qatar

BRAZILIAN players are hoping to do a lot of dancing at the World Cup in Qatar.

The five-time world champions are feeling jubilant ahead of their debut against Serbia on Thursday, so much that the dance celebrations are all prepared and rehearsed.

Not one, not two, not three – but all 10 of them. “To tell you the truth, we already have dances prepared for up to the 10th goal,” Brazil forward Raphinha said Monday. “We have some 10 dances prepared for each match, one for the first, one for the second, one for the third ... If we score more than 10, then we’ll have to start innovating.”

Brazil brought an offensive-minded squad to Qatar, with Raphinha among the nine forwards picked by coach Tite to try to give Brazil its first World Cup title in two decades.

Another is Vinicius Júnior, who earlier this season was thrown into a controversy over his dances after his goals with Real Madrid. He and teammate Rodrygo kept dancing despite the criticism in Spain, though, and had promised more of the same when they got to the national team at the World Cup.

Raphinha and Neymar were among those who publicly showed their support to Vinicius Júnior at the time.

Striker Richarlison, Brazil’s leading scorer this year, said he hopes the “goals will come naturally” for him and his teammates at the World Cup.

“When you wear the No. 9 jersey with the Brazilian national team, all you want to do is score goals,” he said. “With these teammates, I’m sure the goals will come.”

The other forwards picked by Tite were Pedro, Antony, Gabriel Jesus and Gabriel Martinelli

Richarlison, Raphinha and Neymar are set to start on Thursday against Serbia, but there was still doubt about how Tite would set up his attack for the opener. The coach could use either midfielder Lucas Paquetá in a more attacking position, or Vinicius Júnior up front.

“With Vinicius we gain more speed on the attack, while with Paquetá we have more control near the midfield,” Raphinha said. “But Brazil has a characteristic of always being offensive-minded, no matter who gets to play.”

AP

‘Angry’ Van Gaal looking for a joyous World Cup farewell

DOHA, Qatar

THIS year’s World Cup wasn’t part of the plan for Louis van Gaal. In fact, it was a major inconvenience.

He was retired when the Dutch soccer federation asked him last year to coach the national team for a third time. He was days away from turning 70. And he was also being treated for aggressive prostate cancer.

He still took the job. “Because, simply, no one else was available at that time,” Van Gaal said.

So started the final assignment for one of soccer’s most successful coaches, a man who has taken charge of and won trophies with Ajax, Barcelona, Bayern Munich and Manchester United and who has now extended his coaching career past 30 years by answering his country’s call for the World Cup in Qatar.

Van Gaal may have initially stepped up more out of a sense of duty than any burning personal ambition to get back into the game. It’s still opened up one more chance to win the big prize for Netherlands, which has lost three World Cup finals and went out in the semifinals in 2014 in a penalty shootout when Van Gaal was coach the last time.

The current team beat Senegal 2-0 in its World Cup opener on Monday, giving Van Gaal a 38th win as Dutch coach, a national record and another indicator of his pedigree.

Might that milestone be the start of a fairytale run through this World Cup for the man they call the Iron Tulip?

Maybe, but if it is to be a glorious final chapter for Van Gaal the coach, who has said he will definitely retire after this World Cup, it will be no fairytale. It’ll rather be reward for a lot of hard work if Van Gaal’s reputation as one of the sternest disciplinarians and most intense men in the game still holds, even after a five-year retirement and a health scare as serious as cancer.

It does. Van Gaal smirked, just slightly, when his reputation was raised again at this World Cup. It was suggested to him that he’d been “angry” for an entire spell as coach of Barcelona earlier in his career, for example. It was surely time to mellow a little.

“I never changed. I never changed as a person,” Van Gaal said. “Perhaps I may have gained some experience. There was the conclusion that some things could be done different. But at the end of the day I have never changed over the course of my career.”

And he doesn’t expect to now, even if he’s 71 and the oldest coach at this World Cup. His fierce recent criticism of giving the World Cup to Qatar is proof of that.

His current players have no problem with that character, which captain Virgil van Dijk referred to as “direct” although Van Gaal is sometimes angry and almost always stern.

AP

Netherlands strike late to beat Senegal on World Cup return

DOHA

LATE goals by Cody Gakpo and Davy Klaassen gave the Netherlands a 2-0 victory over African champions Senegal on Monday on their return to the World Cup stage.

With Senegal missing injured star man Sadio Mane and the Dutch without their main attacking threat Memphis Depay at kick-off, the Group A encounter in Doha looked set to end in a goalless draw.

But with just six minutes remaining PSV Eindhoven forward Gakpo got up in front of Senegal goalkeeper Edouard Mendy to head in a floated Frenkie de Jong cross from the left.

Substitute Klaassen then secured the victory deep in injury time, following up to score after Mendy had saved from Depay, who had also come off the bench.

The result leaves the Netherlands level at the top of the group with Ecuador, who beat hosts Qatar 2-0 in the tournament’s opening match on Sunday.

Louis van Gaal’s side play Ecuador on Friday, while Senegal now face a must-win contest against Qatar.

Senegal saw Bayern Munich superstar Mane – who came second in this year’s Ballon d’Or – pull out of the squad with a leg injury on the eve of the tournament.

His absence was clear-



Davy Klaassen of the Netherlands scores his side second goal during the World Cup, group A soccer match between Senegal and Netherlands at the Al Thumama Stadium in Doha, Qatar, Monday, Nov. 21, 2022. (AP Photo)

ly felt as the contest at Al Thumama Stadium – played out to the backdrop of the non-stop drumming and dancing of the Senegal support, but also in front of a considerable number of empty seats – never lived up to its billing.

Everton midfielder Idrissa Gana Gueye came closest to scoring for Senegal with a strike on the half-volley from the edge of the box that was beaten away by Netherlands goalkeeper Andries Noppert in the 73rd minute.

Noppert, the giant Heerenveen goalkeeper who was making his international debut, also excelled with saves from Boulaye Dia and Pape Gueye in the second half as the Netherlands played their first World Cup game in eight years.

The three-time runners-up were semi-finalists under Van Gaal in Brazil in 2014 before failing to qualify for the

last World Cup in Russia in 2018.

The Dutch team was captained by Virgil van Dijk, who was making his debut at a major international tournament on the occasion of his 50th cap.

With Matthijs de Ligt and Nathan Ake alongside him, they were mostly comfortable at the back but had created little going forward before Barcelona forward Depay – who scored 12 times in qualifying – came on for the final half-hour.

With Depay not able to start after spending two months on the sidelines, it fell to former Tottenham Hotspur striker Vincent Janssen to spearhead the Netherlands attack but he failed to make a major impact.

Yet Gakpo finally broke the deadlock and, as Senegal pushed for an equaliser, Depay played his part in Ajax midfielder Klaassen’s goal that

clinched the points in the ninth added minute.

Meanwhile, Gareth Bale rescued Wales with a late penalty to snatch a 1-1 draw with the United States in their World Cup Group B clash on Monday in Qatar.

Welsh skipper Bale lashed home an 82nd-minute spot kick after earning the penalty moments earlier when defender Walker Zimmerman crashed into the former Real Madrid star.

It cancelled out Tim Weah’s superb first-half goal for the Americans which had threatened to ruin Wales’s return to the World Cup after a 64-year absence.

Bale’s equaliser triggered roars from a large and raucous contingent of Wales fans in a crowd of 43,418 fans at the Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium on the outskirts of Doha.

Until that moment it looked as if Wales were heading for a defeat, struggling to break

down a skillful and energetic US squad that is the second youngest at the tournament.

Wales were outplayed for long periods of the first half, with manager Rob Page’s decision not to start towering centre-forward Kieffer Moore depriving them of an attacking outlet.

Instead it was the US who made all the early running, with Chelsea’s Christian Pulisic a constant darting menace.

The positive early play almost resulted in a goal after just nine minutes when Sergino Dest played in Weah down the right.

The Lille winger’s cross caused panic in the Welsh area as Joe Rodon powered a header that cannoned off goalkeeper Wayne Hennessey’s midriff. The danger was not over as Pulisic gathered and crossed for Norwich striker Josh Sargent, who beat Rodon easily but headed just wide.

The early US exuberance led to a flurry of cards for the Americans early on, with Dest and Weston McKennie both booked in quick succession for a pair of wild tackles on Neco Williams.

The relentless US pressing game meant Wales were unable to construct anything in midfield, where Aaron Ramsey and Ethan Ampadu were rarely afforded time or space.

The breakthrough came on 36 minutes.

Good hold-up play by Sargent near halfway sent Pulisic accelerating towards goal before picking out Weah who had darted in behind goal.

The son of African football icon George Weah showed terrific composure, dinking a cool finish with the outside of his right foot over Hennessey for a goal that was no less than the positive US opening deserved.

Wales were in disciplinary trouble again soon afterwards, Bale earning a yellow card for clattering into Yunus Musah on 40 minutes.

Chris Mepham joined the Welsh captain in the book after hauling Pulisic down near half-time.

Page brought on Moore at half-time for Daniel James and the substitution immediately started to have an effect.

Tottenham’s Ben Davies almost headed Wales level on 64 minutes but was denied by US goalkeeper Matt Turner with an acrobatic parry over the bar.

Moore powered a header just over from the ensuing corner.

The US dropped deeper and Wales pressed more aggressively as they chased an equaliser.

On 80 minutes Ramsey surged down the right and cut back for Bale, who shielded the ball and tempted Zimmerman into a wild lunge.

AFP

Top US diplomat in Qatar for soccer, talks amid Iran tension

DOHA, Qatar

AMERICA’S top diplomat landed in Qatar on Monday to take in a World Cup match and hold talks as regional tensions remain high amid Iran’s rapid advancement of its nuclear program and nationwide protests shaking the Islamic Republic.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, a self-acknowledged “great mediocre” soccer player himself, watched America face Wales on Monday night at Ahmad bin Ali Stadium.

Blinken will also hold crucial diplomatic talks with authorities in Qatar, one of the United States’ trusted interlocutors with Iran. Doha shares a massive offshore natural gas field with Tehran.

Iran also provided airspace routes for Qatar Airways flights and supplied food shipments to Qatar amid a yearslong boycott of Doha by four Arab countries.

Blinken’s visit comes as part of a strategic dialogue with Qatar, which also hosts some 8,000 American troops at its massive Al-Udeid Air Base that serves as the forward headquarters of the U.S. military’s Central Command. The base was a key node in America’s chaotic 2021 withdrawal from Afghanistan and evacuation of Afghan civilians.

“Qatar is a steadfast and important partner to the United States, and U.S.-Qatar ties continue to grow,” said Daniel Benaim, a deputy assistant secretary for the Arabian Peninsula Affairs at the State Department,

ahead of Blinken’s trip.

“Together, we’ve made important progress on a range of issues, including facilitating the travel of at-risk Afghans to the United States for new beginnings, strengthening regional security, and expanding commercial investment ties between our countries,” he said.

One major issue to discuss is Iran. Nonproliferation experts say Iran now has enough uranium enriched up to 60% – a short step from weapons-grade levels – to reprocess into fuel for a nuclear weapon if it chooses to do so.

Tehran insists its program is peaceful, though it has drastically expanded it since the collapse of its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

Meanwhile, Iran is being rocked by monthslong protests following the Sept. 16 death of a 22-year-old woman who had been earlier arrested by the country’s morality police.

A crackdown by authorities and violence surrounding the demonstrations have killed at least 419 people, according to Human Rights Activists in Iran, a group that’s been monitoring the protests. Iran is playing at the World Cup as well, and will face the U.S. on Nov. 29.

Blinken didn’t immediately discuss regional politics after landing in Qatar. He traveled to Oxygen Park near the Qatar National Library to visit the Generation Amazing soccer project involving local students.

“The thing that’s so powerful about it is everywhere that I go in

the world, I find other people who love the game and they love to play it,” Blinken told the gathered students. “They love to watch it enough to argue about it. They love to support a team with all of the joy and heartbreak that that brings.”

“It’s an incredibly powerful way of bringing people together,” he added. “It’s just a powerful reminder of what sport brings us together across geography, across backgrounds and across groups of one kind or another.”

But several students displayed the Palestinian flag as a way to remind Blinken about Israel’s occupation of territory that Palestinians seek for an independent state of their own.

Palestinian flags have been seen flying and around fans’ shoulders, partially due to Qatar’s support of Palestinians. Doha opened travel for Israelis to the tournament despite not formally recognizing the country.

“The Palestinian identity itself is an act of resistance because there are people who wish to deny our history and to belittle our suffering,” said 17-year-old Palestinian-American student Hasan Zubaidi as he stood next to one Palestinian flag.

Meanwhile, FIFA has denied Belgium’s request to wear team jerseys with a “Love” label at the World Cup in Qatar because of a commercial link to a rave festival.

Multi-color detail on the white shirt was described as a “symbol for mutual values on diversity, equality and inclusivity” at the September launch by Belgium’s signature electronic music event Tomorrowland.

But FIFA rules on team uniforms and equipment forced Belgium to change its World Cup plans for its first alternate jersey to the traditional red.

“We had to skip it for commercial reasons because of referring to Tomorrowland,” the Bel-

gian soccer federation said Monday.

FIFA declined to comment on its ruling regarding the second-choice jersey, which was made several weeks ago.

The decision emerged Monday after FIFA flexed its power to crack down on Belgium and six other European teams for wanting their captains to wear the “One Love” armband with a multi-colored, heart-shaped logo in Qatar. The teams backed down when FIFA threatened instant yellow cards for each captain. The armband, which breaks FIFA equipment rules, was to support a Dutch anti-discrimination campaign that drew attention to the host nation’s record on human rights.

The “One Love” campaign highlighted little-known FIFA rules that Belgium also fell foul of. All 32 World Cup teams had to seek FIFA approval for designs and colors of three contrasting team uniforms months ahead of the tournament. FIFA has

now approved the white Belgium jersey with the same colored trim but the “Love” label covered up on the inside of the collar.

“In principle we could play in it (at the World Cup),” the Belgian soccer federation said, “but meanwhile we chose to play in red for the group-stage matches.”

Belgium starts its Group F program against Canada on Wednesday. The 2018 World Cup semifinalists then play Morocco and Croatia, the losing finalist from four years ago.

A similar case enforced by European soccer body UEFA last year saw Ajax denied permission to include a “Three Little Birds” motif on a shirt inspired by reggae music icon Bob Marley for Champions League games.

Ajax could wear the black shirt with gold, red and green trim to honor its fans’ anthem but UEFA ruled the motif had to be removed from the back of the shirt.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Simba SC aims bullish Mbeya City FC

SPORT

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Sauti za Busara organizers unveil lineup for 20th-anniversary jamboree

By Guardian Reporter

ORGANIZERS of Sauti za Busara, the globally renowned African music festival that takes place in Stone Town, Zanzibar each February, yesterday announced the lineup for what promises to be a memorable 20th edition slated to take place in 2023.

A statement released by officials of the festival organizers, Busara Promotions, unveiled a performance list featuring well-known and upcoming bands from all regions of the African continent topped by Tiken Jah Fakoly from Ivory Coast, who is widely known as Africa's greatest reggae star.

In French, English, Dioula, and Bambara, Fakoly's lyrics speak of injustices suffered by Africans. His calls are for African unity and economic, political, and cultural resurgence.

With more than a dozen popular albums released since 1996, Tiken Jah Fakoly regularly fills football stadiums when he performs across Africa, Europe, and beyond.

BCUC, from Soweto South Africa, plays music 'for the people by the people with the people.' BCUC was one of the undisputed heroes of Sauti za Busara in 2019, where their powerful messages and explosive performances were highly acclaimed by all in attendance.

"We see ourselves as modern freedom fighters who have to tell the story of Soweto's past, present, and future to the world," Jovi Nkosi, lead vocalist, noted.

This year's Singeli representative will be Tanzanian artist Mohammed Rashid, popularly known as 'Mzee wa Bwax', who also promises a show people will never forget.

Other Tanzanian artists to be featured include Patricia Hilary, Damian Soul, Zawose Reunion, Stone Town Rockerz, Uwaridi Female Band, Zan Ubuntu, Supa Kalulu, Zenji Boy na Wenzake, Waungwana Band and Culture Musical Club, Zanzibar's Traditional Taarab Orchestra that was founded in 1958.

International highlights next February include Asia Madani, a Sudanese vocalist, and percussionist whose music reflects pride in her heritage as a strong African woman, with a voice that is magical and fierce.

Naxx Bitota from DR Congo blends Congolese rumba with Mutuashi and other music styles with reggae, rumba, and Afropop.

Sana Cissokho is a celebrated kora player from Senegal, who keeps the rich Mandinka cultural heritage alive.

The Atse Tewodros Project forges collaborations between traditional Ethiopian and Italian musicians.

Their repertoire includes songs from the Ethiopian Resistance, who fought against the Italians.

Gabrielle Ghermandi, band leader, stated: "Music gives volume to unexpressed voices. Music is a way of giving the vision of a possible or impossible future."

Sauti za Busara 2023 also promises outstanding performances from Majestad Negra, a dance troupe from Puerto Rico, Kaloubadya, a Maloya group from Reunion, Nasibo, a singer-songwriter- Mbira player from Zimbabwe, and Zily, another strong woman whose music is rooted in the cultural traditions of Mayotte.

The theme for this year's festival is 'Tofauti Zetu, Utajiri Wetu' - 'Our Wealth is in Our Diversity'.

The festival's director Yusuf Mahmoud noted: "Our spotlight shines brightly on quality and diverse live music from across Africa, especially women musicians, young and emerging talents with unique sounds, powerful messages, excitement and energy on stage."

Mahmoud stressed: "Visitors to our website can already watch videos and learn about all the groups who will be performing next February at this special 20th-anniversary edition."

With uncertainty after years of donor support from Norway's Embassy in Tanzania expired in March 2022, then Blue Amber Resort cancelling their sponsor agreement only six months later, Busara Promotions, the NGO behind the festival, almost had to close its doors.

As announced only a month ago, Fumba Town, a project by CPS came to the rescue with a sponsorship deal to cover most of the organization's office running costs until March 2025.

Tobias Dietzold, the Chief Commercial Officer (CCO), said on signing the agreement: "We are committed to keeping the Sauti za Busara festival robust and dynamic for the next few years as we enjoy our rich and diverse cultural heritage through live music."

Dietzold added: "Through this partnership, we want to ensure that, at the minimum, the next three Busara festivals and the culture that surrounds them continue to thrive."



Simba SC forward John Bocco (2nd R) looks to drive the ball past Mbeya City FC keeper Harun Mandanda as the squads locked horns in the past NBC Premier League encounter that was played at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC and Mbeya City FC will renew their rivalry in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League when the teams meet at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya this afternoon, with kick-off scheduled for 4 pm.

The Msimbazi Reds, as Simba is nicknamed, on the one hand, come into the clash on the back of three straight victories in the Premier League, with their most recent outing a 4-0 win away to Ruvu Shooting on Saturday.

Zambian forward Moses Phiri and Tanzanian veteran striker John Bocco are expected to lead Simba SC's goal search, while midfielder Clatous Chama will be providing the creative spark needed to unlock Mbeya City FC's defense.

Simba SC interim head coach Juma Mgunda once again insisted his side has to respect the opponents and expects a tough test against Mbeya City FC which won 1-0 against the former in a similar game last season.

The gaffer disclosed: "It is an important game, I believe it will be one of the most difficult matches because

we firmly believe in fair play and one must respect his opponent."

"We respect our opponents. We have come to Mbeya to compete against a good and competitive team. I believe the match will be competitive and we are prepared to compete against them."

Hosts Mbeya City FC, on the other hand, have gone eight league matches without a loss going back to September 13.

However, despite their excellent form, they have managed just two wins at home this season and will be hoping to claim another three-point

against Simba SC. Their only loss as hosts was a 1-0 narrow defeat to Azam FC in mid-September.

Mbeya City FC head coach Abdallah Mubiru, who has slowly but effectively built a solid side this season, will bank on the form of striker Sixtus Sabilo to breach the Simba SC defense.

The in-form striker has scored seven goals in 11 games to top the goal-scoring charts, and he will be determined to have another good showing today.

Anthony Mwamlima, Mbeya City FC assistant coach said they will approach the game with caution as they are aware they are up against a well-established and strong Simba SC but he was bullish on getting positive results.

The gaffer pointed out: "We are prepared to play against Simba SC, a big team, an experienced team. This is a team that participates in major international competitions."

"It is a team that when you prepare to play with, you prepare differently than when you prepare to play against a team like Polisi Tanzania or Singida. That's why we have approached this encounter with caution to respect the big team though we as Mbeya City FC are prepared for the battle."

Mwamlima revealed: "Our players are in good condition, they are in high morale, I think it's only a matter of time, I believe we will get results. It will be a difficult game but we are prepared to get positive results."

Youths ought to use sports betting to improve income- call

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

TANZANIAN youths have been encouraged to see sports betting not only as entertainment but also as a way to increase their income to meet their daily needs.

A Mbeya-based youth, Jamson Paul, said that apart from sports betting being entertaining, it is an opportunity for an alternative source of income for an individual that will add value to his/her life.

Paul disclosed to journalists at a press in Dar es Salaam yesterday when he was pre-

sented with a check of 100m/- upon winning Dabo Dabo Jackpot campaign conducted by a sports betting firm, 888 Sport.

The betting game winner that is as well a student at Technical College said: "I bet on 888 Sport more than 20 times with a ticket worth 70,000/- and I was able to win 100m/- which feels surreal but I thank god because I will be using that money to support my family, finish building my house as well as investing in my businesses."

He pointed out that the ad-

vantage of sports betting is in view when some cash is involved and any amount an individual seeking to take part in betting has can earn him/her some profit as long as he/she bets on a reputable site that follows the gaming board rules and regulations.

The winner stated: "Sports betting is an affordable pastime, you can play anytime, any day, and also you can choose to either bet online or through casinos, and still get the benefits the games offer."

Ronald Louis, 888 Sport's Country Manager, said that

sports betting sites offer immense benefits, and that is why lots of people invest in sports to experience its entertainment value as there is nothing as fun and interesting as a live game with money involved. He further noted that one can practice becoming a professional in betting by learning inner gaming tricks and must be patient when betting, and be ready to accept losses because not every day a participant wins but when his/her time comes he/she scores it big as was the case with Paul.

Paul Ng'wanangwa, 888 Sport's Social Media Manager, said that his firm seeks to touch people's lives by giving them rewards that in one way or another will be impactful in their lives.

The official pointed out: "Apart from introducing the 100m/- Dabo Dabo Jackpot winner, more rewards were handed over to random winners including smartphones, Television sets, and motorcycles, and people that got the awards will be using them for their benefit."



Footballers making one of Dar es Salaam street teams in action at training session at a ground located outside Benjamin Mkapa Stadium recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Flexibles by David Chikoko

IF A GIRL COMMITS A MISTAKE, IT IS NOT HER FAULT, IT'S THE FAULT OF THE MISTAKE ITSELF

