



## ENERGY



**EWURA HALTS OPERATIONS OF 26 PETROL STATIONS PAGE 3**

## ACCOUNTABILITY



**PM TASKS RCS TO OVERSEE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PAGE 4**

## CONSTRUCTION



**NEW BRIDGE TO LINK 3 WARDS IN MUSOMA DISTRICT PAGE 6**

## CHARITY



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## PEACEFUL PROTEST OVER WORK TERMS



These people identified themselves, while gathered at the main entrance to the offices of The Guardian Limited in Dar es Salaam yesterday, as employees of Wen Xing Plastic Cement Investment Co Ltd based in the city's Tegeta Nyuki suburb. They said they were displeased with the terms and conditions under which they have been labouring - and that they were especially bitter with what they called the uncertain nature of their work contracts and wage scales. Photo: John Badi

# BoT partnership projects Covid-19 impact softening

By Guardian Reporter

THE Bank of Tanzania (BoT) and the Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI) yesterday co-hosted a roundtable event for leaders of Africa's financial sector regulators to address financial exclusion of new vulnerable groups arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.

A joint statement released by the two institutions identified women, youth and micro and small enterprises in Africa as the most marginalised in the wake of the pandemic.

Under the theme of innovative regulatory approaches to counter or de-risking exclusion of women, youth and small firms during the Covid-19 pandemic in Africa, the Bank of Tanzania and the global policy leadership alliance held the virtual gathering as part of AFI's African financial inclusion policy initiative (AFPI).

AFPI leaders shared high-impact, practical expertise outlining successful and innovative regulatory approaches adopted across AFI member jurisdictions in Africa, the statement noted.

BoT Governor Prof Florens Luoga said that the long-standing partnership with AFI was based on two-way collaboration and support "to ensure that we do not leave behind vulnerable groups who have been worst hit by COVID-19-related impacts."

"It is, therefore, our pleasure to work alongside AFI for the second consecutive year to ensure the successful gathering of the AFPI, demonstrating our commitment and active participation in knowledge sharing and peer learning," he stated.

He said that BoT was well-placed to lead the Africa-wide event, having taken quick action to mitigate potential financial shocks on at-

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## Sabaya, co-accused have case to answer

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

ARUSHA Resident Magistrate's Court has found the former Hai District Commissioner in Kilimanjaro Region, Lengai ole Sabaya (pictured) and his co-accused persons to have a case to answer.

Apart from Sabaya, other accused in criminal case No 105 of 2021 at Arusha registry are Silvester Nyegu (26) and Daniel Mburu, all facing three counts of armed robbery.

Handing down the ruling yesterday, Senior Resident Magistrate Odira Amworo said all



the three accused have a case to answer.

He said after going through the testimonies submitted to the court, he found that all the accused have a case to answer and they have to defend themselves in court.

The advocate for the first defendant, Duncan Oola stated in court that the accused (Sabaya) will defend himself under oath and after discussing with him the last time, he told him he had one witness, but added that he would have not more than two witnesses.

For his part, the advocate for the second defendant, Edmund Ngemela affirmed in court that his client (Nyegu) will defend himself through oath and will have one witness.

Fridolin Gwemelo, advocate for the third defendant (Mburu) told

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## 'Invest in technology to hook youth into farming'

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame,

Arusha

FOR more young people in Tanzania to engage in agriculture, the government and other stakeholders must invest in modern technology that make farming easier and more productive, a new study shows.

Released on International Youth Day yesterday, 'The Future of Africa's Agriculture: An Assessment of the Role of Youth and Technology,' affirms that despite a

“Despite current youth migration to urban areas, the young people are still interested in entering the agriculture sector”

wide range of agritech innovations that could propel African farmers to profitability, only 23 per cent of youth engaged in agriculture were using any form of agricultural technology, due to a lack of financing and training.

The study which was conducted in 11 countries including Tanzania entails responses from 30,000 young people as well as inputs from hundreds of farmers and agricultural organisations.

The fact that the agriculture sector is still stuck in the Iron-Age era

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## World Bank appoints Tanzanian country manager for Cambodia

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Bank has appointed a Tanzanian national, Dr Maryam Ahmed Salim as its new country manager for Cambodia.

A statement released yesterday by the institution said Salim succeeds Inguna Dobraja, who has moved to Moldova after five years of heading the World Bank office in Phnom Penh.

"Salim will lead the World Bank's day-to-day business with the government and development partners, including a US\$1.1 billion portfolio of projects implemented by government agencies with World Bank funding and technical support," the statement noted.

"These projects are aligned with Cambodia's

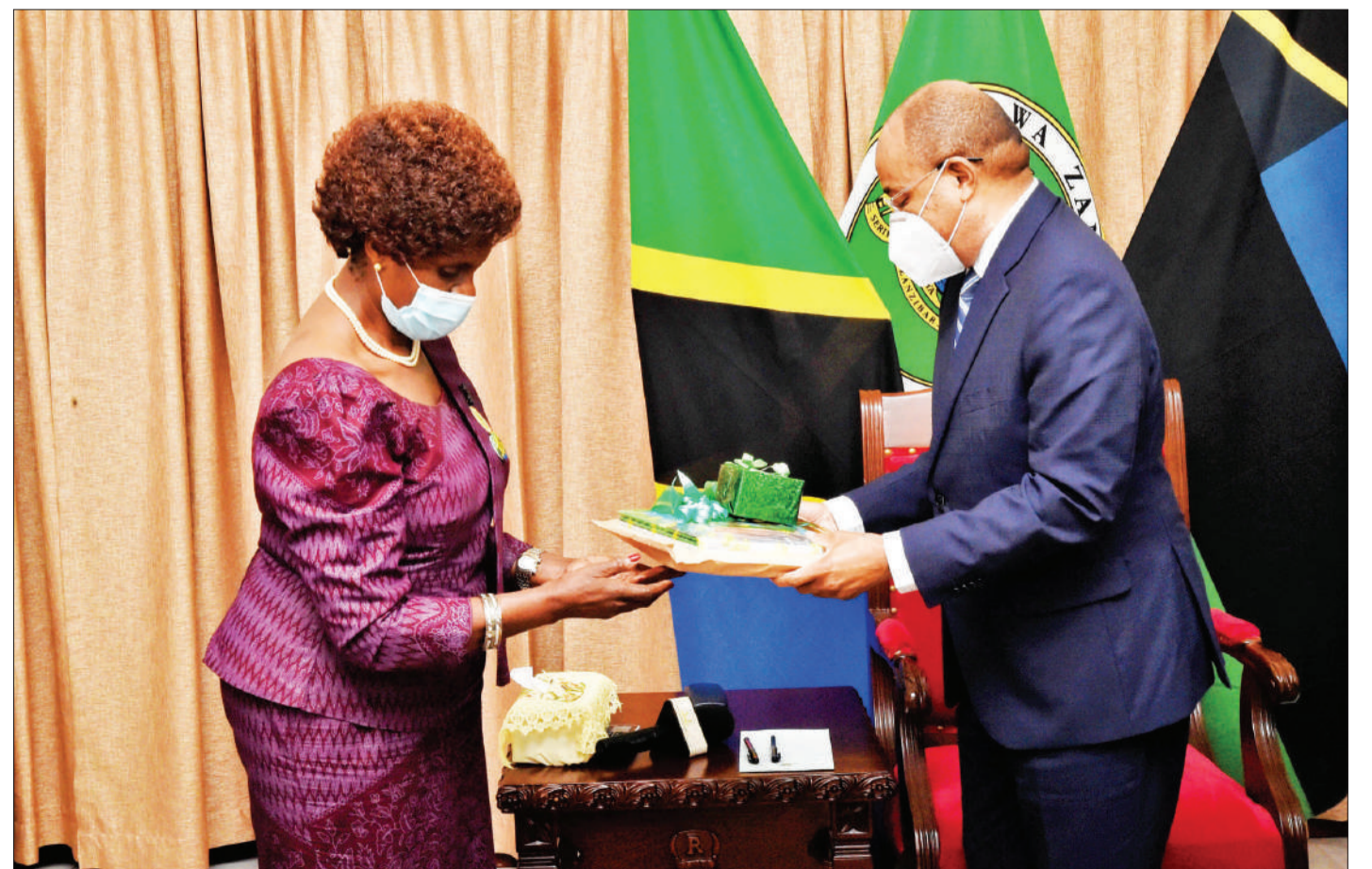
development priorities, with the World Bank's twin goals of reducing poverty and increasing shared prosperity," it observed.

The World Bank's Country Partnership Framework for Cambodia for 2019-2023 focuses on improving the efficiency of the public sector and promoting private sector development, investing in human capital by improving access to quality early childhood education and health services," it elaborated.

It further noted that the framework focuses on diversifying agriculture and increasing its productivity, promoting the sustainable use of natural resources and on strengthening governance, institutions and citizen engagement.

"It is my great pleasure to take this new position and I am very glad to be back to Cambodia, 17 years after first working here as a team leader for social fund projects to strengthen communities and fight poverty," said Salim in reaction to the appointment.

"I look forward to working with my Cambodian colleagues to help the country manage the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, lay the groundwork for a robust recovery, and build resilience against future



Tanzania Population and Housing Census commissioner Anne Makinda (L) presents Census documents to Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Photo: Zanzibar State House



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## BoT partnership projects Covid impacts softening

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risk groups and foster economic recovery, including easing monetary policies and encouraging banks to implement payment holidays, lower interest rates and extend loan restructuring periods to provide financial relief for customers.

"The central bank has also been at the forefront of Tanzania's efforts to promote digital payment platforms with the development of an interoperable payments system and financial services registry," he elaborated.

Prof Luoga was to be joined at the high-level event by his peers, including governors and deputy governors for Burundi, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe.

AFI Executive Director Dr Alfred Hannig said AFI's members in Africa have accelerated the use of digital financial services (DFS) and other innovative technologies through fast COVID-19 policy responses.

This has ensured that years of financial inclusion gains made are not lost and that countries continue to lift up those at the bottom of the economic pyramid, he said.

"For nearly a decade, but especially during the past two years since the pandemic began, AFI has provided a solid foundation for stronger collaboration, peer learning and knowledge exchange between regulators, market actors and other stakeholders in Africa," he explained.

AFI, formerly known as African Mobile Financial Services Policy Initiative, was launched in 2012.

Prior to AFI leaders coming together, important meetings for the regional initiative took place, including gatherings with experts grouping on financial inclusion, member training and dialogue with developed country regulators and private sector actors. Despite important progress made, Africa continues to be adversely affected by the pandemic more than a year since its outbreak with supply chains disruptions, reduced sales and business closures, he further observed, noting that these effects had disproportionately impacted disadvantaged segments of the population, including women, youth and small businesses.

Women-owned businesses have experienced greater loss of revenue and business uncertainty given their

high propensity for informality and dependence on sectors such as tourism, which have been hit hard by the pandemic. Women have also taken on more responsibilities at home as schools have closed, limiting their ability to engage in economic activities, he said.

Africa's youth may feel the impact for the pandemic into the foreseeable future. Most youth are unemployed while others are involved in the informal and heavily impacted sectors. Youth also lack readily acceptable collateral that can be used to access credit from formal financial institutions.

AFI is the primary platform for AFI members in Africa to support and develop financial inclusion policies and regulatory frameworks, and to coordinate regional peer learning efforts. With 39 active members, it is AFI's largest regional initiative and among the most active with a number of knowledge products published in the past 12 months.

The latter include regional policy frameworks to strengthen agent networks for DFS and enhance the financing ecosystem for small businesses in Africa, the facility's advisory noted.

"From the AFI regional office in Abidjan, AFI brings together Africa's financial policymaking and regulatory institutions and other relevant stakeholders to enhance the implementation of innovative financial inclusion policies across the continent.

The leaders' roundtable is part of a four-day biannual gathering of AFI members. Ahead of the high-level event, a full spectrum of financial inclusion stakeholders met virtually on 9-11 August to discuss key regulatory and market issues.

Those involved include representatives from the European Banking Authority, the cross-border payments network Thunes, the Visa financial services company and South Africa-based mobile operator Vodacom.

Public and private sector stakeholders met to discuss financial services for vulnerable groups while regulators from both developing and developed countries exchanged insight on the facilitation of financial technology innovations. AFI members also received training on digital payments infrastructure, services and uses through contactless payments, the advisory intoned.



Tanzania Investment Centre executive director Dr Maduhu Kazi briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the country's investment report for financial year 2020/2021. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Z'bar govt urged to intervene in liquor board violation issue

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S human rights and good governance activist Ali Makame Issa has said the Zanzibar Economic Crimes Act (ZAECA) is supposed to investigate why the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board had issued liquor import licences in violation of the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act (No 9 of 2020).

Speaking here to reporters, Issa said the law was enacted to control the alcoholic drinks trade but the board has failed to oversee its implementation since it came into operation after being assent by former President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein in May last year.

"Section 33(1) of the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act (No 9 of 2020) says licences for the importation of alcoholic drinks should be issued to not more than three dealers, but the board issued licences to eight firms," he said.

He said another point for contention was that the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board failed to respect Section 28(k) of the same Act that had

set a condition for bars to be more than 1,000 metres away from areas with basic social services including schools, health centres, mosques, churches, madrassas, markets or bus stations.

He said he was surprised the alcoholic control law started to be violated since January this year but no step has ever been taken against the people concerned.

He said according to the constitution and good governance, officials swore to protect these principles and officials cannot just violate them at will without being held to account.

The activist said when the government was screaming over gender based and child abuse acts, it must be borne in mind that these vile acts were being fueled by the increase of alcoholic drinks trade which is not being well managed by concerned officials.

He said before enactment, the Bill for the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act was discussed in the House of representatives as well as the cabinet, but the liquor board has failed to implement its provisions, and the silence of higher government authorities is an issue for concern.

## Tanzania, Oman chart ways to strengthen business ties

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday met with the outgoing Oman Ambassador to Tanzania, Ali bin Abdullah bin Salim Al-Mahrouqi at which the two leaders discussed ways to strengthen business ties as well as the existing bilateral relationship.

Aprèsstatement by the Directorate of Presidential Communications said the two leaders met at the Chamwino State House in Dodoma.

Samia assured Ambassador Al-Mahrouqi that Tanzania continues to review its laws and policies related to business and investment to further improve business climate and attract more investors.

"We are also working to improve the efficiency of our various airports and ports to facilitate transportation of goods between Tanzania and

Oman," the president asserted.

She urged the Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation between Oman and Tanzania to meet and discuss the various issues between the two countries for mutual benefits.

The Head of State commended the outgoing Oman Ambassador for a job well done during his four years tenure which has resulted in enhanced relationship between the two countries.

Ambassador Al Mahrouqi applauded President Samia for her dedicated leadership, appreciating the good cooperation from Tanzanian government officials which made it easier for him to execute his duties.

The ambassador highlighted that Tanzania and Oman are enjoying a long time bilateral relationship which needs to be improved for mutual benefits.

## World Bank appoints Tanzanian country manager for Cambodia

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economic shocks."

The bank said Dr Salim has more than 20 years of experience in the World Bank, most recently as country manager for Albania.

"Following her previous posting as a social and human development

specialist in Cambodia, she held several high-profile positions in bank operations policy in Washington D.C. A Tanzanian national, she holds a master's degree in International Economics and Relations from Johns Hopkins University, and a Juris Doctorate from Georgetown University," it added.

## 'Invest in technology to hook youth into farming'

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further alienates young people who seem to be mostly drawn towards digital technology and related inventions, it said.

A new country report by Heifer International, based on a survey conducted in 11 African states, reveals that farmers on the continent are missing out on agri-tech innovations that could supercharge the sector with opportunities for the youth.

New investments are needed to stimulate access to innovations and encourage African youth to consider taking up opportunities in farming, it reads in part.

It said the survey involved 29,900 youths, 299 smallholder farmers and 110 agriculture technology startups, innovation hubs and technology organizations in Tanzania, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

It identifies challenges faced by smallholder farming communities and potential areas for innovation and growth, also providing new insights into how the pandemic is affecting African farmers, the summary specified.

Around 40 percent of agriculture organizations featured in the report were forced to close at least

temporarily due to the pandemic, while 38 percent experienced a reduction in average purchase amount per customer and 36 percent still do not have the financing to grow back their businesses, it said.

"Youth engagement in agriculture will be essential to recovering from the economic impacts of the pandemic, both to rejuvenate the continent's agri-food system and develops economic opportunities for young people," it emphasised.

More than half of Africa's population depends on agriculture, with young people under the age of 25 accounting for approximately 60 percent of Africa's population and a large share of the 1.8 billion people around the world who are between the ages of 10 to 24 years old.

Despite current youth migration to urban areas, the young people are still interested in entering the agriculture sector.

Senior vice president for Africa Programmes at Heifer International, Adesuwa Ifedi, said that Africa is not providing the financing or training to ensure its young people have easy access to agri-tech tools like drone technologies, precision soil sensors and digital farmer services that are transforming food production around the world.



Patrobas Katambi (facing camera), Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Employment and Youth), speaks at the commemoration of International Youth Day in Dodoma city yesterday. IYD is a UN-designated awareness day meant to draw attention to various cultural and legal issues surrounding youth. It was first observed on August 12, 2000. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Sabaya, co-accused have case to answer

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the court that his client will defend himself under oath and will submit several exhibits in court.

Earlier, reading charges to the accused, senior state attorney Abdallah Chavula declared in court that the first count is armed robbery for all the three accused.

Chavula claimed that Ole Sabaya,

Sylvester Nyegu and Daniel Mbura, on February 9 this year in Bondeni area in Arusha City robbed one Mohamed Saad, a shop owner of 2,769,000/- after which they used a firearm to scare those who were present in the shop.

In the second count, also involving armed robbery, it was claimed in court that the three accused, in Bondeni area, Arusha

City, they robbed one Bakari Msangi of 390,000/- after which they handcuffed him, beat him up and used a gun to scare him.

In the third count, also involving armed robbery, it was claimed in court that Sabaya and co-accused on February 9 this year at Bondeni area in Arusha City, stole a Techno mobile phone and 35,000/- belonging to Ramadhani Rashid after which they

beat him up and scared him with a gun.

The state attorneys brought in 11 witnesses to give testimony to the charges as well as various exhibits including photographs and letters.

The magistrate adjourned the case for this morning (August 13) when the accused will start to defend themselves.





President Samia Suluhu Hassan holds talks at Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday with the outgoing Ambassador of Oman to Tanzania, Ali bin Abdullah bin Salim Al Mahrouqi, who went to bid her farewell. Photo: State House

By Guardian Reporter

THE Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has halted the operation of 26 petrol stations after having found selling substandard fuel.

Apart from selling fuel with genetics that does not meet criteria, the stations also found evading tax by mixing taxed and untaxed petroleum products.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday EWURA acting director Godfrey Chibulunje said they have also posed fines to the stations.

Chibulunje said the closed stations come from regions of Dar es Salaam, Coast, Southern highland zone, Lake Zone, and central zone after conducting inspection last month.

## EWURA halts operation of 26 petrol stations for selling substandard fuel

He said that in 2010, the authority embarked on a project to put required genetics to locally used petroleum products so as to differentiate them from untaxed fuel.

"As per regulations, all companies with depots are required to ensure that all petroleum products that are being purchased for sell in the local market have the required genetics."

He named the stations as Total Tanzania Ltd located at Ukuni in Bagamoyo, Coast Region, Asam Oil company Ltd in Kisemvule and

South Mark Oil in Mkuranga (Coast Region).

Others are Kitange Oil Company Ltd located at Shabiby Bus stand in Dodoma, Camel Oil Ltd (Temeke-Dar es Salaam), Olympic Petroleum Ltd (Tunduma-Songwe), PetroAfrica Tanzania (Momba-Songwe), Gapco Ltd, and Camel oil Ltd in located in Tunduma (Songwe).

There is also Shiuya Co Ltd (Ihanda, Mbozi), Mnyonge Investment Co.Ltd (Momba) Mabena Filling station (Momba) in Sogwe Region. Admire Oil Ltd in Mwakibete, GBP Ltd (Karume,

Mbeya), Furahisha Franci Msigwa in Makambako and Ahmed Basaleh Petrol station in Njombe.

Others are Oilcom Mwanza filling station Mkuuyuni, Total Ltd in Kenyatta and GBP Tanzania in Nyamagana (Mwanza). Front Oil service station, in Mbulu - Kahama (Shinyanga), Oryx Oil co. Ltd in Bukoba, EAFCO in Bukoba, Remigius Patrick Nshange Petrol station in Kagondo, Kagera Region.

The list also includes Lake Oil Ltd in Bombambili (Geita), GBP Ltd in Bukala Sengerema (Mwanza) as well as Lake Oil Ltd in Shinyanga.

## 'Better breeds, feeds key to dairy sector potential'

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA needs to increase investments in improved animal breeds, feeds and animal health for the country to realize its potential in the dairy sector, a new study shows.

Conducted by the Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI) and other partners, the research findings assert that if things remain as they are, Tanzania's existing supply gap for milk could worsen by up to three quarters of needs in the next five years.

Tanzania has more than 10 per cent of Africa's cattle within its borders, but productivity is far below its potential. Dairy farmers need support to adopt new technologies and receive training to raise productivity of their animals while adapting to and mitigating effects of climate change, the findings noted.

Dr Birthe Paul, a scientist at the Alliance of Biodiversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) said that the research shows that improved feeding and forages, together with better livestock genetics and health, can deliver synergetic win-win outcomes for the people and the planet.

"If skillfully implemented, dairy farmers can nearly double farm-level productivity and reduce greenhouse gas emission intensities by half."

The research was carried out by TALIRI in collaboration with the scientists from the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centres (CGIAR) from CIAT and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI).

Investments in the development of a sustainable dairy sector in Tanzania could deliver a double win for the country's food and income security and economic development, and at the same time

contribute to efforts to protect the environment, the expert noted.

Livestock products are an important factor in nutrition and provide income for millions of smallholder farmers. Beef and dairy cattle are the highest contributors to global greenhouse gas emissions within the agriculture sector and among the key drivers of environmental degradation.

Findings from the research are in line with the Tanzanian government's ambitions to build a modern and sustainable livestock sector by 2025 that is professionally and commercially run to ensure food security and provide improved incomes for households and the economy, while conversing with the environment.

Abdallah Ulega, the deputy minister for Livestock Development and Fisheries, said that modernising and transforming dairy production is a priority for the government. "However, we can only succeed if we take into consideration climate change, in both the challenges it poses to the livestock sector and the impact the sector has on climate change," he declared.

The government is aware that socio-economic transformation efforts should be anchored in agriculture as the cornerstone of the economy, in order for the nation to achieve significant and sustainable impact on poverty reduction and economic development, he said.

Livestock contributes significantly to the country's development agenda, he further noted, elaborating that "we have great untapped potential within our borders. Eleven percent of Africa's population is here in Tanzania. We have significant numbers of goats, sheep, pigs and chickens. Close to half of our population depends on livestock for their income in one way or another," he added.

## Govt embarks on strategy to help TFC increase importation of fertiliser

By Getrude Mbago

THE government is working on a strategy to vigorously capacitate the Tanzania Fertiliser Company (TFC) so as to facilitate importation of enough fertiliser and thus address scarcity and price hiking of the product.

Agriculture Minister Prof Adolf Mkenda said yesterday in an interview that by investing in the TFC, farmers in the country will be assured of a steady supply of fertiliser throughout the year.

"This is our long-term strategy

as we are mullied to permanently address fertiliser availability challenges. By equipping the company with all necessary needs, it will strengthen importation and supply of fertiliser at an affordable price," Prof Mkenda told The Guardian.

According to him, as fertiliser prices have skyrocketed in the global market, the country has to take durable measures to stabilise the supply of the product and at an affordable price.

He acknowledged that the Covid-19 pandemic had affected

the steady supply of fertiliser due to high demand, something which led to the increase of price.

Prof Mkenda said that the government was promoting the establishment of more local fertiliser factories so as to further strengthen the supply of the product.

He also said that the government had temporarily suspended the fertiliser bulk-procurement system (BPS) so as to allow any trader to import the product.

He said that the government decided to suspend the system because it was not producing

positive results.

"By mandating a few companies and individuals to buy fertiliser, the BPS was closing doors for other big traders who could otherwise make fertilizers available to Tanzanian farmers at more affordable prices," he said.

The minister however, urged farmers to use available alternative fertilizers of NPS and NPS Zink fertiliser which are better substitutes for DAP.

"We also have fertilisers such as Minjingu, Yara fertilisers and others approved by the Tanzania Fertilizer

Regulatory Authority (TFRA). The government will also come up with a campaign to educate farmers on the importance of the fertiliser," he explained.

He further said that the government permitted the re-export of fertiliser, a move which will also increase importation of the product as traders will be allowed to sell the product in neighbouring countries.

"By permitting re-export, a trader can import a large consignment of fertiliser at a time, this will then reduce the price.

Halting re-export causes traders to import low consignment which ends up being sold at a high price," he said.

He said NPS and NPS Zink are even more effective than DAP as they have three important nutrients than those which are available in DAP, so farmers should not worry about using them.

Prof Mkenda added that the government will continue strengthening efficiency at the Dar es Salaam port so as to facilitate timely unloading of fertiliser consignments.

By Guardian Reporter

A TOTAL of 140,000 Tanzanians have received the Johnson and Johnson (Janssen) Covid-19 vaccine by August 10, this year, the government said yesterday.

Speaking during the Covid-19 national dialogue, Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Dr Dorothy Gwajima (pictured), said following a huge turnout of people the ministry has expanded the vaccination scope to cover other people in need of the service.

The national dialogue which was held in Dar es Salaam was organised by Tanzania Health Summit to discuss various issues related to Covid -19 aiming to encourage and motivate the community on pandemic vaccination.

Dr Gwajima emphasized on the need for Tanzanians to continue taking measures to curb further spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, even after taking the vaccine including frequent hand washing, social distancing, masking, sanitizing and avoiding gatherings.

"My ministry has done its job to verify the vaccine through local experts and other authorities, these vaccines are safe," she said. The minister revealed that Tanzania is expecting to receive another consignment of Covid-19 vaccines this month through the COVAX global vaccine sharing facility, a move that will expand vaccination scope to the rest of the population in the country.

She said some people were denied the vaccines at designated health facilities because they are not under the identified priority groups, but the government has now allowed other people to be provided with the service.

Dr Gwajima noted that, priority groups

## '140,000 Tanzanians receive Covid vaccines by August 10'



should be attended first before administering vaccine to other people.

Dr Gwajima further said that, the government in collaboration with stakeholders and citizens has continued to take various steps to prevent further spread of Covid-19 in the country including vaccination exercise.

The Bugando Zonal Referral Hospital Director General Dr Fabian Massaga said that, although the country has gone through various waves of Covid -19, the third wave has been different because it is affecting people of all ages contrary to the first and second wave where people who were at high risk of contracting the pandemic were elders and people with chronic diseases.

"This third wave has been more severe and the number of people contracting the disease has increased compared to the two waves... this is due to the fact that individuals

are not taking serious measures to prevent themselves and some patients go to the hospital while in critical condition," he said.

Dr Massaga, further noted, that despite the increasing number of patients health facilities in the country have managed to accommodate all patients and provide them with necessary medical care including patients who need oxygen.

THS President Dr Omary Chillo said that the dialogue aimed at providing proper Covid-19 information to the public, clear myths and reduce miscommunication on Covid -19 and vaccination.

He added that it also aimed at clearing anti-vaccine sentiments in the community and encourages preventive practices.

The dialogue drew participants from among others public and private health facilities, education and research institutions and other stakeholders.

United Republic of Tanzania  
Ministry of Water

Belgian Development Agency

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**CALL FOR BIDS**

**TAN147 - Purchase of material for water storage tank**

The Water and Sanitation Kigoma Region Project (WASKIRP) is inviting bids from suitably qualified suppliers to supply construction material for water storage tanks in Kigoma region. WASKIRP is a project jointly funded by the Kingdom of Belgium through Enabel and the Government of Tanzania through the Ministry of Water. This is a 5-year project which aims at providing sustainable water supply solutions in Kigoma region. Under one of its result areas, Enabel is now looking for suppliers to supply construction material for water storage tanks.

**Supply contracts**

There are three lots to this public supply contract as follows:

- Lot 1: Purchase of pipes and valves for Nyakayenzi
- Lot 2: Purchase of pipes and valves for Kazuga
- Lot 3: Pump and solar energy system for Kakonko

**Interested companies can access more information and bid documents of these contracts at: <https://btctanzania.wordpress.com/>.**

The same notice is also published on the Enabel website, [www.enabel.be](http://www.enabel.be), in the Belgian Public Tender bulletin (BDA) and the European Union Official Journal. For any additional information contact the Intervention Manager of Enabel – Belgian Development Agency on **0743 736 554** during working hours only.

26/08/2021





## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF SURFACE EXPLORATION DRILLING SERVICES FOR GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML) BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

### I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring a service for provision of surface exploration drilling and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the below service.

#### Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01280	PROVISION OF SURFACE EXPLORATION DRILLING SERVICES FOR GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML)

### 1. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share Structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by Mining Commission	1.25%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	
OSHA registration and Compliance Certificate, Workers Compensation Fund Certificate, NSSF Certificate.	0.83%
Environment Compliance Certificate	0.83%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	0.83%
OHS policy, Environmental Policies and Occupation health and Safety management system.	0.83%
Certified to ISO 45001:2018 & ISO 14001:2015	0.83%
Conform to AGA/GGML Major Hazards standards and Critical control monitoring	0.83%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.25%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.25%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above) where applicable	1.25%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.25%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01269)</b>	
Demonstrate that suitable drilling rigs, drilling equipment and drilling support (personnel transport, fuel, water, lighting plants, drill rig servicing) will be provided for the project.	25%
Demonstrate diamond drilling (DD) capability (NQ, HQ, PQ) to depths up to 1000m, including knowledge of drill rig alignment, core orientation.	10%
Demonstrate reverse circulation drilling (RC) capability to depths up to 300m and understanding of geological RC sampling at one metre intervals, including description of cyclone/splitter sampling systems.	10%
Demonstrate understanding of downhole surveying, core orientation and azimuth alignment systems, and provide list of equipment to be provided.	10%
Demonstrate a Health, Safety and Environmental Management Plan is in place.	10%
Demonstrate that a skilled workforce will operate the drill rigs, and drilling support, and a workforce training plan is in place. Evidence of training in drilling procedures will be highly regarded.	5%
Demonstrate a Maintenance Planning System for preventative maintenance and servicing; and for non-routine breakdown repair of drill rigs and drilling equipment is in place.	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the service description and reference number (GGME001280) of the service they intend to express interest on the subject of the email together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than 0830 A.M 26TH AUGUST 2021 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

# PM tasks RCs to supervise projects, crop production

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called on regional commissioners to oversee development projects and crop production based on the geography of the respective areas.

"75 percent of the people in your regions, are engaged in agriculture. RCs must manage agriculture where we are. We usually farm based on rainfall but in regions that have rivers, it is better to turn to irrigation at a lower cost," he said.

The premier issued the directive yesterday while addressing the RCs and their defence committees on the management of development projects at a video conferencing session from his office in Dodoma.

"In the district, agricultural officers should be involved in irrigation projects, although we have only set up an Irrigation Commission, we need agricultural officers to oversee all projects and make sure they work."

On strategic crops, Majaliwa said the government has continued to manage crops such as sunflower, oil palm, avocado and is now strengthening sesame and cocoa. He has asked RCs to manage the products even if there is a price challenge. "We must cultivate even if there is a price challenge, as the season begins everyone must be involved in agriculture. If you take the sunflower crop, you will notice that it has a direct relationship with the manufacturing sector."

"There are sunflower processing plants in Singida that have reduced production. Some are in Bunda, Morogoro, and Shinyanga, but are now closed over lack of raw materials. That's why RCs need to manage the sales system through cooperatives."

"Educate the public about the cooperative, explain the benefits of the cooperatives and how they can benefit from their partnership. Cooperation is very important, you can start with the grassroots parties

and then move on to another level," he said.

He mentioned other areas that need close supervision such as road construction projects, rural electrification, education, water, health and security and safety.

"Whether the road projects are for TANROADS or TARURA, manage them, know how many are there, have been completed or not and if it is stuck, find out the reasons why it stopped. It is your responsibility to ensure that it is completed on time," he stressed.

On rural electrification, the Prime Minister said the sixth phase government led by President Samia Suluhu Hassan wants by December 2021 to have completed the transmission of electricity to the remaining 1,900 villages and to start sending it to the suburbs.

He urged the officials to supervise the contractors in their respective regions and to determine the progress of the construction of the projects.



Aman Nature Reserve conservationist Bob Matunda (L) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the launch of 'Unlock Amani' campaign, whose thrust is on efforts to promote the reserve. He is with Bakari Bamba (C), sustainable water resources management project coordinator for Morogoro and Tanga regions, and UNDP environmental projects specialist Abbas Kitogo. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## Look for partnership from private companies, Ulega directs TAFICO

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Abdallah Ulega has directed the Tanzania Fisheries Corporation (TAFICO) to look for partnerships from private companies to enhance investments and productivity.

He made the statement on Tuesday when he visited TAFICO offices in Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam whereas he insisted the need for strategies to improve its activities and inject more money in facilitating the tapping of opportunities in the blue economy for the country to benefit from the resources.

Ulega added that through investments in the blue economy, small scale and artisanal fishers will benefit from their activities through improved productivity.

The deputy minister instructed TAFICO board chairman, Prof Yunus

Mgaya to supervise implementation of strategies for revival of the cooperation. He expressed confidence with the board chairman saying he has all expertise to ensure TAFICO becomes more productive especially in the blue economy.

"We are expecting to receive a fishing vessel in three months; we want the ship to immediately start operating for the country to benefit from investment in the sector. We want to produce enough fish for local and international consumption," said Ulega.

TAFICO Acting Managing Director, Esther Mndeme informed the deputy minister that they are currently repairing its various infrastructures, saying some of the infrastructures require heavy maintenance because they have not been operational for over 20 years.

Mndeme said despite the challenges, the ministry has been

working to ensure all the repairs are conducted on time as well as supervising the cooperation's activities.

TAFICO board chairman, Prof Yunus Mgaya said proper operationalization of the cooperation would increase productivity and open up a number of opportunities in the blue economy.

Kigamboni District Commissioner, Fatma Nyangasa said the presence of TAFICO in the district is a catalyst for development because it is going to benefit the residents in many ways including creation of jobs.

Ulega's tour at TAFICO was meant to learn its various activities and know its strategies in improving productivity. Ulega was in a one day tour in Dar es Salaam Region where he also visited the Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI).

## Contract for architectural design, development of Msimbazi valley to be signed this Sept - govt

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

CONTRACT for the architectural design and development of the Msimbazi valley in Dar es Salaam will be signed in September this year, the government has said.

Chief executive officer for Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) Victor Seif made the statement yesterday when presenting a report on the agency's performance to the Minister of State, President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government, Ummu Mwalimu.

Seif told the minister that a project for the development of the Msimbazi basin is underway adding they have finalised the architectural design for the Jangwani Bridge whereas they are now waiting for some important documents including those related to environmental assessment which are likely to be ready by December this year.

"We will sign a contract for the development of the Msimbazi valley next month; all the documents will be submitted to the World Bank for loan endorsement before the project is implemented," said the TARURA boss noting construction activities are expected to begin in the 2022/2023 financial year.

On the Tanzania Cities Transforming Infrastructures and Competitiveness Project (TACTIC) which is to be implemented in 45 cities, municipal and town councils, Seif said they are in preparation for the signing of contracts for development of architectural design in 12 cities. He said the contracts will be signed in September, 2021.

According to Seif, other contracts related to environment assessment would be ready by December 2021 to facilitate loan processing at the World Bank. Implementation of the TACTIC project will start in the 2022/2023 financial year.

He said the agency has started to implement the Roads to Inclusion and Socio Economic Opportunities Program (RISE) in July this year.

He said the six years project will cost \$350 million, of the money, \$300 million will be a loan from the World Bank and \$50 is provided by the government. The RISE project will include construction of 355 kilometres of road, of which, 400km are under TARURA and 135km under the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS).

A total of 2,900 kilometres of some road under TANROADS will be repaired and another 23,000 kilometres under TARURA will undergo regular maintenance.

Seif said they have started to implement the 2021/2022 budget whereas the agency has so far signed 395 contracts until August 10, 2021. He said they are expecting to sign another 324 contracts by August this year.





MG Empire Consultancy Ltd managing director Faraja Mgwabati (L) presents a certificate of attendance in Dar es Salaam earlier this week to Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) senior administrative officer Stephen Kajiru shortly after the completion of a one-day Public Relations and Communications seminar for Jica staff facilitated by the firm. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## More than 150 CSOs to participate in this year's annual meeting in Dodoma

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

AT LEAST 150 civil society organisations (CSOs) are expected to participate in the annual week-long meeting in Dodoma in October this year.

The event dubbed CSOs week offers an opportunity to engage with multi-sectoral actors for purposes of enhancing partnerships in the interest of steering the national development agenda forward.

Addressing a press conference here yesterday, Rachael Chagonja, the managing director of Haki Rasilimali, a local non-governmental organisation in the country noted that a lot of success has been noted since the onset of the celebration in 2018.

Chagonja was briefing journalists on the preparation for the CSOs week 2021, noting that through the event members of the public have managed to understand activities of different organizations in the country.

"The event provides an opportunity for CSOs and other stakeholders to engage with one other for the interest of the civil society sector and development," she said.

She explained that due to COVID-19 pandemic, the event was not convened last year, though it provided opportunity for them to plan better and review

challenges and success in the previous meetings.

Chagonja who is the chairperson of the organising committee added that this year's event will also include showcasing of activities done by various CSOs, including their products too.

Other activities include public debate and dialogues as well as free legal services, among other activities for the public.

"CSOs will be able to show case their products and activities on 23rd and 24th October, 2021 at the Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma thereafter internal public debates and dialogue on different issues," she noted.

According to Chagonja, most members of the public now understand activities of CSOs in bringing development to the society, adding that this year's event will in line with activities in the previous years.

Nesia Mahenge, the managing director of CBM International Tanzania, a local CSO in the country, said during the week all measures against COVID-19 shall be observed.

"I would like to assure members of the public that all measures will be observed and they should not worry about their welfare during the event," she said.

## Ummu expresses concern over condition of Njombe District Council hospital

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

THE Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government), Ummu Mwalimu, has expressed displeasure with the condition of Njombe District Council Hospital where only three patients are served per day. She said that amounted to misuse of resources.

The minister expressed her dismay mid this week during her inspection visit at the hospital at Matemwe Village, saying she knows of dispensaries that serve over 200 patients per day.

She added: "A council owned health facility is supposed to be large, but I can see only three patients hence I do not see good use of resources, the hospital's Doctor in Charge says people need health services, but do not show up due to lack of medical equipment, and I will take this up and pledge to the people of Njombe that I will deal with it."

She also called on Local Council Directors in the country to be on the lookout of areas that need infrastructures to enable the provision of health service to the people in those areas.

For his part, Doctor in Charge of Njombe District Council Hospital, Dr Edward Kwetu told the minister that only three patients are treated at the hospital per day due to lack of medical equipment and other devices.

However, the minister had a chance to talk to councillors and other council officials, saying she had approved the construction of the council headquarters at Kidegemye Village in Kidegemye Ward and that the government has already dished out 640m/- for the work to start immediately.

Njombe District Executive Director, Lukelo Mshaura said already the plot has been allocated and that work was planned to start, stopped only by the ministry due to conflict over construction site.

## Deputy health minister urges elders to come out for Covid-19 vaccination

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

DEPUTY Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children, Mwanaidi Ali Khamis has called on Tanzanians to voluntarily come out to receive vaccination against Covid-19, especially elders, saying the vaccine was safe as it has been approved by health experts.

Mwanaidi gave the call here on Wednesday during her inspection of medical services for elders at Ruvuma Region Referral hospital.

She called on Community Development Officers to continue giving education to elders over 50 years of age, and mobilise them to come up to be vaccinated.

"In this vaccination phase, we have given priority to elders starting 50 years upwards to assist them with protection against Covid-19," she said.

The deputy minister further called on married people of 50 years and over to get the vaccination for protection.

For her part, Ruvuma Region's Community Development Officer said they will continue mobilising the public, especially elders and those with chronic diseases to voluntarily come forward to receive the vaccination.

Meanwhile, the deputy minister directed Ruvuma Regional Referral officials to make sure they have in place a god procedure to serve elders who come for treatment at the hospital.

She also visited Mlale Community Development College and saw how it works together with local residents in getting ideas on how to solve various challenges in the community.

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## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF ORE HAULAGE FROM NYAMLILIMA AND STAR & COMET TO THE MILL TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

### I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring the service Ore Haulage from Nyamlilima And Star & Comet To the Mill and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the below service.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01261	PROVISION OF ORE HAULAGE FROM NYAMLILIMA AND STAR & COMET TO THE MILL

### 1. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Environment Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.25%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.25%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.25%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above) where applicable	1.25%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.25%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01261)</b>	
Provide details of the envisaged loaders, trucks and support fleet that will be used to undertake the long-haul contract.	8.33%
Provide evidence of previous and current long-haul contracts of this magnitude.	8.33%
Provide details of your maintenance strategy. What maintenance is undertaken and what facilities are needed?	8.33%
Please list your suppliers for components and consumables for the equipment you use and what type of technical support do they provide.	8.33%
Provide two examples of current cycle times for loading and hauling of material on a long-haul contract? What are the inputs and time for each component of the haul cycle?	8.33%
What do you perceive as the primary risks relating to a long-haul contract?	8.33%
What are the typical key performance metrics you measure on your long-haul contracts? What are the primary focus areas that drive performance on a long-haul contract?	8.33%
What would the time required for mobilization and commissioning for a project of this size and what would be the key activities?	8.33%
Provide evidence of your actual performance against plan on the three biggest load and haul contracts i.e. planned tonnes to be loaded and hauled and actual tonnes to be loaded and hauled.	8.33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit their expression letters of interest ("loi") by quoting the service description and reference number (GGME01261) of the service they intend to express interest on the subject of the email together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than 0830 A.M 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2021 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

## 'Local contractors can now land up to 100m/- from CAF'

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole, Morogoro

THE Contractors Assistance Fund (CAF) has grown-up and can now provide loans of up to 100m/- to local contractors who need support for bidding security and advance payment.

Deputy registrar of the Contractors Registration Board (CRB) Eng David Jere made the statement yesterday here at the on-going three-day training for local contractors.

He said CRB decided to introduce the fund after realizing that majority of local contractors grapple to access fund to pay for bid security and advance payment guarantee during tendering process.

"During its commencement, the fund was able to issue 50m/- in loan but it has become very strong to provide loans of up to 100m/-, so we see this as an opportunity to contractors because if qualified they can get it immediately," said Eng Jere.

He said: "We started offering loans to some contractors but as we goes on the Fund became stronger and currently contractors of all classes can access loans as long as they are active members and qualify all criteria set by CRB," he said.

Eng Jere further said that currently CRB runs the fund in collaboration with one of the commercial banks saying that majority of local contractors have heavily benefited.

Raphael Ngonyani, one of the contractors commended the

initiative by the board to support local contractors whom he said most of them have very small capital and cannot access fund easily in financial institutions.

He said most of local contractors face financial challenges especially having initial capital after they have acquired construction tender so the fund has come at high time to help the group and facilitate smooth implantation of projects.

"Our challenge always has been how to get initial capital because sometimes you win tender but you don't have finance to pay for bid security or advance payment guarantee," he said.

He called upon those who have benefited from the fund to pay back the loans to allow others to also access funds.



Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank staff welcome their recently appointed managing director, Frank Nyabundege (2nd-L, in tie), as he officially reported for duty for the first time at the bank's headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Agro-bank must lift lives of majority of Tanzanians, says newly appointed MD

By Guardian Reporter

THE new Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) Managing Director, Frank Nyabundege, yesterday appealed to fellow workers to work professionally and ensure majority of Tanzanians especially farmers see their bank as a source of inspiration and tool of their advancement.

He told workers at the bank's headquarters here that some 70 percent of Tanzanians are tied to agriculture, directly and indirectly, arguing that the bank has to uplift their lives and increase their incomes by giving them soft loans and requisite education.

"My hope is that all of us will work very hard and professionally in

order to realize our goals of effecting meaningful reforms in agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors. On my part I shall do my best to ensure we realise our goals," he pledged.

He asked workers to cooperate in doing their work, explaining that the only justification for forming the bank is that it benefits the majority of Tanzanian, adding that that goal will be realised by ensuring radical reforms are effected in agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors.

Nyabundege said the bank is well-placed to contribute to Tanzania's longed economic reforms by empowering Tanzanians employed by the three sectors, explaining that if productivity will increase in the three sectors, new industries will be started, creating new jobs and

lessening unemployment.

He thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for appointing him to head the TADB, a bank he said was created to give loan to farmers and ensure product value chains are improved in agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors.

Before his new appointment, Nyabundege was the Managing Director of the Lake Oil Tanzania Limited. He has 20 years experience in the banking sector, having also served as the TIB Corporate Bank Tanzania Limited Managing Director.

Since its inception five years ago, TADB has released loans amounting to over 300bn/-. The bank has continued to win confidence to farmers countrywide.

## Tarura builds key bridge linking three wards in Musoma District

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

THE Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) is constructing Nyamwifa Bridge that connects Bukima, Bulinga, and Bwasi wards in Musoma District, Mara Region.

Upon completion, the bridge worth 300m/- will benefit thousands of villagers in the three wards.

TARURA's manager for Musoma District, Eng Hussein Abbas said the money which is to be used in building the bridge has been dished out by Road Fund and the move is meant to improve transport in the area.

"Construction of the bridge began this week," he said, adding: "The Nyamwifa Bridge has been damaged since 2018, causing transport in the area a nightmare and thus hampering various development activities."

He explained that the money from the Road Fund will be used for the construction of a bridge, the building of a road of half km, three culverts, a drainage system, and improving notorious sections of the road.

He said the government continues to improve rural roads infrastructure in Musoma District including the Nyamwifa Bridge.

"Contractor M/s Flow Services and Supplies Ltd, signed a construction contract in July this year and we have agreed to complete the work in October this year before rainy season begin," he said.

Bwasi Ward Executive Officer (WEO), Mashaka Kagere said the bridge was damaged and socio-economic activities deteriorated, including fish trucks from Kome Beach failed to transport goods and other merchandise. "Even passenger

vehicles stopped working there and caused economic activity to slow down, but now the construction of this bridge is coming to re-establish itself from commercial fishing and agricultural trade," said Kagere.

Musoma Rural MP, Prof Sospeter Muhongo thanked the government for allocating 2.85bn in the budget for 2021/2022 for road improvement in the constituency.

"Road communication opens up many activities including economic activities, so on behalf of the people of Musoma Rural, I thank the government for allocating this money for our roads," Prof Muhongo said.

He said residents in the constituency are engaged in farming where they grow different crops hence road improvements will also facilitate transportation of their produce to the market.





Majuto Kawambwa, a community development monitoring and consulting officer with the Tanzania Social Action Fund (Tasaf), speaks at a seminar for Longido District councillors and facilitators yesterday on how to identify and register households qualifying for the second batch of the third phase of a programme meant to bail needy households out of poverty. Photo: Correspondent Daniel Sabuni

## NGO organises special marathon to support PwDs in Kilimanjaro

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

MORE than 1000 runners including people with disabilities (PwDs) are expected to participate in a special running event—'Songambele Marathon 2021' which aims at collecting funds to purchase wheelchairs, walkers and other assistive devices to people with physical disabilities in Kilimanjaro Region.

The marathon has been organised by the Moshi-based non-governmental organization - Songambele Initiative whereas the PwDs to be involved are those with disabilities caused by spinal cord injuries.

The event scheduled for September 5th, this year will take place at the Uhuru park, in Moshi municipality.

Speaking with this paper, the coordinator of the special race, Abdul Munisi said they want to

support people with disabilities so that they become autonomous.

"This event will go together with a series of activities including sports, drama, poetry, and fashion show among many others. We will also be commemorating the International Spinal Cord Injury Day which is observed on every September 5.

According to him, the organization initiated the special running event to raise funds instead of waiting for monies from donors of whom most of them have their economies affected by the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

He appealed to other well-wishers to support their initiative by participating in the special marathon, of which participants will run for 10 kilometres. Participants taking part in the 10km run will contribute 10,000/- and 5,000/- for the 5 kilometres run.

Songambele Initiative Managing

Director, Faustina Urassa said they are also providing reproductive health and safe menstruation training to women and girls with disabilities.

She said there are still some challenges to PwDs when it comes to menstruation because most of them lack awareness on menstrual hygiene and reproductive health.

Countries that have so far made sanitary supplies tax-free to help fight period poverty are New Zealand, France and Namibia.

They are the latest countries to announce such initiatives after Scotland became the first country to provide period products free to anyone who needed them last fall.

Tanzania in the 2018/2019 budget decided to join other countries in scrapping Value Added Tax on pads and tampons. The move was intended to enable women to access the sanitary towels at affordable prices.

## Over 80 girls benefit from input support worth 26m/-

By Correspondent James Kandoya

EIGHTY six girls in Dar es Salaam have received input support worth 26m/- from BRAC Maendeleo Tanzania through its Empowerment and Livelihood for Adolescent (ELA) programme to start their journey into financial independence.

Speaking at the handing over ceremony on Wednesday this week at Temeke Municipal Council, in Dar es Salaam, BRAC International Africa Regional Director Ruth Okowa noted that the organisation implements specifically crafted to fit the needs of those benefiting from them.

She said: "BRAC is known for its ability to design and implement projects that created impact in the communities especially young girls and women. I am honored to be part of this activity today as we send off these young women who are about to begin their entrepreneurship journeys with a goal of becoming financially independent."

The director said the current ELA project started its operation in September 2019 in the Vingunguti Ward, Ilala District in Dar es Salaam. She named the inputs as gas burners, sewing machines and beauty equipment such as make up sets and hair dryers.

He said the purpose of the project was to equip girls with strong foundations in education, and life skills in their adolescence to prepare them for living as strong, resilient, and adaptable adults.

Since the establishment of the Empowerment and Livelihood for Adolescent programme in the country in 2011, more than 8000 girls were reached, livelihood training to 1,146 girls has been provided.

Furthermore, 4,918 girls received financial literacy training and demonstrated positive changes to girls in life skills related to knowledge, attitudes, and practices in Tanzania and mobilised communities, parents, local partners, and local education departments to support

girls' education.

For her part, the Country Director, Susan Bipa highlighted the importance of empowering adolescent girls in achieving development in our communities.

She said: "BRAC believes in the potential that lies in empowering girls at a young age so that they can achieve their potential. With the ELA project we have been able to impact the lives of young girls through the provision of relevant skills that will enable them to be socially and financially independent".

"It is our great expectation that with the support provided today, all beneficiaries will be able to start their small businesses and be able to support themselves and their families."

Both Habiba Sangasi and Elina Patrick, residents of Vingunguti and beneficiaries of the project thanked the BRAC Maendeleo Tanzania through ELA saying it has equipped them with skills to achieve their potential.



### INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF MEDIUM VOLTAGE TRAINING TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring medium voltage training and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the below service.

#### Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01269	PROVISION OF MEDIUM VOLTAGE TRAINING

#### 1. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Environment Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.25%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.25%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.25%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above) where applicable	1.25%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.25%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01269)</b>	<b>75%</b>
Company / Trainer must be registered with international recognised authority	20%
Training should include	20%
1. Authorized Access Control	
2. MV & LV Single Line Diagrams	
3. Legal Requirements	
4. SAQA Unit Standards	
5. Isolation & Lockout Procedures – Work Permit	
6. MV testing equipment and regulations	
7. JSA (Job Step Analysis), RA (Risk Assessments) & Electrical Failures	
8. MV Refresher Training	
9.	
Candidates should do an assessment(test) to be found competent	20%
Proof of a Recognized Medium Voltage certificate that should be issued to candidates	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

interested bidders must submit their expression letters of interest ("loi") by quoting the service description and reference number(GGME01269) of the service they intend to express interest on the subject of the EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita\\_eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita_eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than 0830 A.M 26TH August 2021 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

# The Guardian Limited

## VACANCY

### Freelance Sales Executives

The Guardian Limited is looking for self driven sales personnel to join our advertising Sales Team in Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Arusha, Zanzibar, Tanga, Morogoro and Kilimanjaro.

#### Responsibilities

- Be responsible for aggressive development of new clients and growing existing business.
- Proactively develop new business avenues
- Devise and monitor business plans to ensure substantive sales
- Develop strategic solutions that meet the unique needs of each client

#### Qualifications

- The position requires someone who can deliver the set targets within deadlines under competitive working environment.
- Applicants need to be highly organized, self-motivated with a positive attitude, and can thrive on setting and reaching new goals.
- Holders of a University degree or Diploma in Business Administration
- Experience in Sales and Marketing is an added advantage

**NOTE: This is a commission Based Position**

Please send your application via Email to [vacancy@guardian.co.tz](mailto:vacancy@guardian.co.tz) before 15th August, 2021.



FRIDAY 13 AUGUST 2021

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Good, if vaccination roll-out gets completed much sooner

**N**EWs that the African Union has allocated 17 million Covid-19 vaccine doses to Tanzania as a part of a global programme to help the continental body's member states get vaccines for national rollouts is heartening.

This is because, for once, it now appears that we might not finally land in the much-dreaded Covid-19 mass deaths disaster we have always feared since the new wave broke out, or even earlier.

The first consignment of just over a million doses has already enabled the vaccination of thousands of people in Dar es Salaam and elsewhere, easing the pressure.

The new delivery is more directly part of the COVAX arrangement and its use of various institutions for both allocation arrangements and delivery.

Zanzibar had earlier received 100,000 doses of the Sinovac type of vaccine from China, while President Samia Suluhu Hassan was handed million-plus doses of the Janssen vaccine made by the giant pharmaceutical firm, Johnson&Johnson.

Bilateral and multilateral arrangements are at work, with diplomats working day and night to find niches of surplus vaccines for delivery to the world's especially needy states.

Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Liberata Mulamula made recent note of the new and massive delivery at a meeting in Addis Ababa with Tanzanians living outside the country.

These had sought to know steps the government was taking in the fight against Covid-19, including ensuring an adequate vaccine rollout.

Fears that it would be hard

to access sufficient amounts of vaccines to meet national demand brought a few medical research outfits to lay out plans for making a local vaccine.

Of course, there would be need for some form of liaison with major producers whose vaccines have been approved by international agencies like the World Health Organisation.

Media reports in the country also indicate that vaccine scepticism is declining fast, as reports across the globe show that those who haven't been vaccinated bear the brunt of new cases and severity of disease, while those with even one jab of vaccines that need two jabs are in relative protection.

Vaccines boost the body immunity level rather than begin rearranging genetic codes as some amply facilitated propagandists would want people to believe. Some were cynically wondering who or what people would be within weeks or months of taking the vaccine!

Fear and apprehension are declining in some Delta variant hotspots, as the massive upsurge of cases for around two or three weeks appears to have abated.

Although a policy shift is in place on whether to make data on Covid-19 cases, it is possible that no country has been able to exercise utmost frankness about the scale of the disease.

This is just as it is not always that people have admitted that this or that person died of AIDS, even during worst case scenario in the late 1980s and most of the 1990s.

But retaining a warrior culture where the prevalence of infectious diseases is considered demeaning would be, like it or not, most unfortunate - actually, tragic. So, let's all heed expert advice for the good of us all.

## Govt's unease over fertiliser bulk procurement is justified

**T**HERE is often a gap in reality as to what decisions have been made by the government and as to how far they are actually being implemented.

By way of an image, administration or governance is like dipping a finger into water so that when one looks at it from outside it looks like it is thicker than it actually is: that changing the bureaucracy's attitudes is much like dipping a finger into the water.

While we all know that bulk procurement has ended in importing fertiliser, there were people in some quarters who may have been hedging their bets - to see if they would succeed.

That is what apparently irritated Agriculture minister Prof Adolph Mkenka, who has lately directed the Tanzania Fertiliser Regulatory Authority (TFRA) to instruct the head of the bulk procurement unit at the ministry to report to the head office for reassignment.

The procurement specialist has remained in the now defunct unit since the minister announced the decision to waive bulk procurement in favour of a competitive arrangement, allowing traders and wholesalers to import fertilizer and put it on the market.

This has of course cut into the TFRA's prerogatives, as without bulk procurement its work is acutely altered.

So it is hardly surprising that there were indications of people dragging feet in implementing this change.

As expected, the government ought to remain resolute in the handling of problems or challenges

- even if that is not to the liking of a few elements in the bureaucracy, including some regulators.

Minister Mkenka found himself talking quite frankly about the issue in an address at a fertiliser dealers' meeting in Dar es Salaam: that sabotage explained failure of the bulk procurement modality.

The minister saw the manager concerned failing to perform his duties in accordance with the government's expectations and ensure that farmers got adequate fertiliser and on time.

The good professor was unabashed in airing the view that fertiliser was being used as a pawn in bureaucratic dealings, which led to unnecessary hiccups as officials tuned deals to get the time right for handy picks.

Clearly irritated by the respective unit's performance and how the procurement liberalisation directive was being taken up, he said that "to us, fertiliser is not an issue to be joked upon as he was doing". Still, maybe it wasn't about just one person but about some group interest.

Yet someone must always take the blame, as those above whoever is directly responsible think may think that he or she did little or nothing to correct those defects, even making them part of the regulatory workbook so that he or she now loses sympathy from the new reforming team.

The government, and indeed the public, would be justified losing sympathy with bureaucratic soft talk and backroom deals - just as they would be being impatient with methods employed by regulators going against the public good.

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By Special Correspondent,

Johannesburg

## Climate-change report focuses on Africa's agriculture

**I**T seems almost incongruous to talk about the opportunity that exists in ensuring the world's food security by bolstering Africa's agricultural output when the very pressing and public crisis of climate change could be its undoing.

Particularly in the countdown to COP26 and the "reality check" that came with the recent release of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) Six Assessment Report, it is clear that the entire African continent is "highly exposed" to climate extremes and is at a relatively "high level of vulnerability".

The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as COP26, is the 26th United Nations Climate Change conference. It is scheduled to be held in Glasgow, Scotland, from this October 31 to November 12 under the presidency of the United Kingdom.

With over two-thirds of the people of Africa deriving their livelihood off agriculture, climate change-related crises like droughts, floods and cyclones continue to threaten the continent's economic growth, employment and food security.

And yet, ensuring Africa's agricultural resilience would not just help the continent but is essential for ensuring global food security.

What's more, these climate-led natural disasters have the greatest and most disproportionate impact on small- and medium-scale farmers, comprising as much as 80 per cent of Africa's agricultural output, from maize and wheat to rice, cassava and sorghum.

"The UN Report confirmed that climate change is intensifying the water cycle and affecting rainfall patterns, bringing more intense rainfall and associated flooding, as well as more intense drought in many regions," says Malvern Chirume, African Risk Capacity Limited's chief underwriting officer. "These African farmers are the heart of the continent's agriculture but are at the mercy of climate change events completely out of their control," he adds.

Established in 2014, ARC Limited provides natural disaster insurance relief to African countries which have joined the sovereign risk pool.

Along with its partners, which provide premium support, the insurer has already paid over US\$65m to seven African countries to provide drought relief and address the economic concerns these countries' most vulnerable citizens face.

### Responding to the climate crisis

Traditionally, countries have responded to climate change-led



disasters such as droughts or floods by raising funds for emergency relief. But, admittedly, this approach is time-consuming and inefficient.

"It takes far too long for African countries to mobilise the immediate resources they need for relief efforts, to save lives and livelihoods," says Chirume.

He elaborates: "Our role at ARC Limited is to work with countries to prepare them for the risk exposure they have and how to respond swiftly to climate-related food security emergencies.

"This includes helping them to establish a rainy-day fund that pays out swiftly - before the problem has become worse, and more funding is needed."

Chirume says the ARC Limited model, which is built on parametric insurance (pre-specified pay-outs based upon a trigger event), has been highly successful.

He explains further: "We have thus far paid out close to US\$65 million dollars in claims. When one considers that every dollar in insurance pay-outs saves US\$4 dollars, this makes the cumulative economic impact around US\$240 million."

"With those funds, we have helped more than 5.9 million people whose livelihoods have been affected by climate change impacts," he says.

While parametric insurance against natural disasters has enormous potential for the agricultural sector, it has a further economic impact. Because agriculture makes up such a significant portion of the continent's economy, a downturn caused by

a climate shock will echo through the broader economy of any nation affected.

This can bring an economic downturn, a lack of funding for key infrastructure and services at government level, and a loss of jobs as farmers struggle to recover.

There is also evidence of migration away from areas experiencing drought, which can have a long-term impact on the regional economy.

Organisations such as ARC Limited have an essential role to play in this way in protecting agricultural value chains and the economies of - and employment in - Africa.

"Our role is to help mitigate and manage the risk, building resilience and ensuring that the respective African country is able to bounce back sooner after a natural disaster," says Chirume.

With the negative impacts of climate change increasing and with their potential to devastate the agricultural sectors and food security of African countries, it has become more important than ever to put sustainability at the heart of interventions.

"Creating an environment that limits the impact of climate shocks on the agricultural sector is about more than just securing economic transformation. At the heart of this investment is the need to ensure basic food security for the continent and the world," notes Chirume.

In its Sustainable Development Series, the World Bank says the African continent could play a leading role in ensuring food security for the earth's estimated 9

billion people by 2050.

According to American global management consulting firm McKinsey & Company, Africa's full agricultural potential remains untapped.

The firm says that Africa has the potential to produce two to three times more cereals and grains, which would add 20 per cent more cereals and grains to the world's current output of 2.6 billion tonnes.

Given Africa's productive potential, the continent could be a key contributor to feeding the world in the future. But fully realising that potential will require overcoming many obstacles, including how it deals with the impact of climate change on agriculture and food security.

"We need broader collaboration between the private sector and the public one to solve the climate change disaster response problem our continent faces. The problem is so big that all of us have a role to play," says ARC Limited CEO Lesley Ndlovu.

With the support of the UK and German governments, ARC Limited has been equipped to help African Union member states reduce the risk of loss and damage caused by extreme weather events affecting African populations.

"But there's so much more work that still needs to go into reaching as many people as possible to help build the resilience of local communities and ensure that they have the means to bounce back whenever they are impacted by a natural disaster," says Ndlovu.





## TANZANIA FOREST SERVICES AGENCY AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DEVELOPPEMENT



### Selection of Consultants Request for Expressions of Interest

July 2021

The United Republic of Tanzania  
Tanzania Forest Services Agency – Forestry and Biodiversity Project  
Feasibility Study

#### CONSULTING SERVICES

##### Expressions of Interest

The Ministry of Finance and Planning of the United Republic has requested a financing of the Feasibility Study from Agence Française de Développement ("AFD") on behalf of the Tanzanian Forest Services Agency (TFS), and intends to use part of the funds thereof for payment of the feasibility study for a plantation and biodiversity project with Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS);

The Services of the consultant shall consist of a **Feasibility Study** including development of a forest plantation, mangrove and biodiversity conservation project within forest areas managed by TFS, as well as a project appraisal document. The goal of the project would be to contribute to efforts of reforestation, reduction of deforestation and conservation of natural habitats. The estimate of the feasibility study contract size is about 200 000Eur.

The final goal of the project is to contribute to the efforts of reforestation of the country (70 000 ha in three locations), to reduce deforestation and to contribute thereby to the preservation of natural habitats, reservoirs of biodiversity; By supporting the sustainable development of the timber value chain the project will contribute to the following objectives.

- o Increase of production (quality and quantity)
- o Increase of government revenues from the national plantations managed by TFS
- o Increase of the benefits for populations neighbours to the plantations
- o Reduce deforestation of natural forests
- o Conservation of biodiversity of natural and mangrove forest

The area to be covered by the study will be those initially identified in the Concept Note : Biharamulo forest (Kagera region) , Pagale Range in the Mtibwa Forest (Morogoro Region), Wino forest (Ruvuma region).

The feasibility study will also explore possibilities to include biodiversity conservation in areas important for eco-tourism located in and around the forests, as well as analysing whether it would be possible to include a mangrove forest in the project.

The Tanzania Forest Services Agency hereby invites Applicants to show their interest in delivering the Services described above.

This Request for Expressions of Interest is open to:

- Consulting firms
- Individual consultants
- NGOs
- Joint Venture between NGO(s) and consulting firm(s)

Eligibility criteria to AFD financing are specified in sub-clause 1.3 of the "Procurement Guidelines for AFD Financed Contracts in Foreign Countries", available online on AFD's [website: http://www.afd.fr](http://www.afd.fr).

The Applicant shall submit only one application, either in its own name or as a member of a Joint Venture (JV). If an Applicant (including any JV member) submits or participates in more than one application, those applications shall be all rejected. However, the same Subconsultant may participate in several applications.

If the Applicant is a JV, the expression of interest shall include:

- a copy of the JV Agreement entered into by all members, or
  - a letter of intent to execute a JV Agreement, signed by all members together with a copy of the Agreement proposal.
- In the absence of this document, the other members will be considered as Subconsultants.

Experiences and qualifications of Subconsultants are not taken into account in the evaluation of the applications. Interested Applicants must provide information evidencing that they are qualified and experienced to perform those Services. For that purpose, documented evidence of recent and similar services shall be submitted.

Determination of the similarity of the experiences will be based on:

- The contracts size; The contract is about 200,000 Eur.
- The nature of the Services :

The services required is a feasibility study including an economic assessment of the plantations, an environmental and social risk assessment, a gender inequality diagnosis and green house gas accounting for the project.

A concept note has been produced by TFS. All aspects of the concept note will have to be assessed in order to design a viable project of plantations and a biodiversity component as well to be identified with the relevant stakeholders.

- The technical area and expertise : Forestry, Plantation, biodiversity, mangroves, environmental and social safeguards, gender study, the assessment of the project contribution to climate change, including identifying adaptation to climate change, and a rough estimate of mitigation benefits applying the FAO EX-ACT tool.
- The location : in the region (East Africa, Tanzania) , with TFS or similar agencies.
- The Client will also take into account for the evaluation of the applications the following items:

The proposed Project team must include the following expertise :

- Specific experience of the Consultant relevant to the Assignment;

#### The Consultant must have:

Demonstrated experience in forest management, plantations, mangroves, biodiversity conservation and ecotourism projects, environmental and social baseline and safeguards, Climate and GHG calculation and gender diagnosis.

Demonstrated experience in supporting the implementation of internationally financed projects in the East African Region or Tanzania, with TFS or similar agencies.

Demonstrated experience in feasibility study.

- Local representatives/partners;

Encouraged but not compulsive

#### Conflicts of interest

Consultants who took part in the project's feasibility study are not entitled to submit an offer for any lot of the project.

Among the submitted applications, Tanzania Forest Services will shortlist a maximum of six (6) Applicants, to whom the Request for Proposals to carry out the Services shall be sent.

The Expressions of Interest must be submitted physically at the below address:

The application file should be addressed to the address below no later than 12:00 Hours of 3rd September 2021.

Secretary of the TFS Tender Board  
Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS)  
Nyerere Road, Mpingo House  
1st Floor, Room R 105  
P. O. Box 40832, DAR ES SALAAM  
Telephone:+255 766 672 294/+255 754 536 614

Interested Applicants may obtain further information through e mail [pmu@tfs.go.tz](mailto:pmu@tfs.go.tz)

Appendix to The Request for Expressions of Interest  
(To be submitted with the application, signed and unaltered)

#### Statement of Integrity, Eligibility and Environmental and Social Responsibility

Reference of the bid or proposal .....(the "Contract")

To: .....(the "Contracting Authority")

1. We recognise and accept that Agence Française de Développement ("AFD") only finances projects of the Contracting Authority subject to its own conditions which are set out in the Financing Agreement which benefits directly or indirectly to the Contracting Authority. As a matter of consequence, no legal relationship exists between AFD and our company, our joint venture or our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants. The Contracting Authority retains exclusive responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the procurement process and performance of the contract. The Contracting Authority means the Purchaser, the Employer, the Client, as the case may be, for the procurement of goods, works, plants, consulting services or non-consulting services.
2. We hereby certify that neither we nor any other member of our joint venture or any of our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants are in any of the following situations:
  - 2.1 Being bankrupt, wound up or ceasing our activities, having our activities administered by the courts, having entered into receivership, reorganisation or being in any analogous situation arising from any similar procedure;
  - 2.2 Having been:
    - a) convicted, within the past five years by a court decision, which has the force of res judicata in the country where the Contract is implemented, of fraud, corruption or of any other offense committed during a procurement process or performance of a contract (in the event of such conviction, you may attach to this Statement of Integrity supporting information showing that this conviction is not relevant in the context of this Contract);
    - b) subject to an administrative sanction within the past five years by the European Union or by the competent authorities of the country where we are constituted, for fraud, corruption or for any other offense committed during a procurement process or performance of a contract (in the event of such sanction, you may attach to this Statement of Integrity supporting information showing that this sanction is not relevant in the context of this Contract);
    - c) convicted, within the past five years by a court decision, which has the force of res judicata, of fraud, corruption or of any other offense committed during the procurement process or performance of an AFD-financed contract;
  - 2.3 Being listed for financial sanctions by the United Nations, the European Union and/or France for the purposes of fight-against-terrorist financing or threat to international peace and security;
  - 2.4 Having been subject within the past five years to a contract termination fully settled against us for significant or persistent failure to comply with our contractual obligations during contract performance, unless this termination was challenged and dispute resolution is still pending or has not confirmed a full settlement against us;
  - 2.5 Not having fulfilled our fiscal obligations regarding payments of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of either the country where we are constituted or the Contracting Authority's country;
  - 2.6 Being subject to an exclusion decision of the World Bank and being listed on the website <http://www.worldbank.org/debarr> (in the event of such exclusion, you may attach to this Statement of Integrity supporting information showing that this exclusion is not relevant in the context of this Contract);
  - 2.7 Having created false documents or committed misrepresentation in documentation requested by the Contracting Authority as part of the procurement process of this Contract.
3. We hereby certify that neither we, nor any of the members of our joint venture or any of our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants are in any of the following situations of conflict of interest:
  - 3.1 Being an affiliate controlled by the Contracting Authority or a shareholder controlling the Contracting Authority, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of AFD and resolved to its satisfaction;
  - 3.2 Having a business or family relationship with a Contracting Authority's staff involved in the procurement process or the supervision of the resulting Contract, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of AFD and resolved to its satisfaction;
  - 3.3 Being controlled by or controlling another bidder or consultant, or being under common control with another bidder or consultant, or receiving from or granting subsidies directly or indirectly to another bidder or consultant, having the same legal representative as another bidder or consultant, maintaining direct or indirect contacts with another bidder or consultant which allows us to have or give access to information contained in the respective applications, bids or proposals, influencing them or influencing decisions of the Contracting Authority;
  - 3.4 Being engaged in a consulting services activity, which, by its nature, may be in conflict with the assignments that we would carry out for the Contracting Authority;
  - 3.5 In the case of procurement of goods, works or plants:
    - a) Having prepared or having been associated with a consultant who prepared specifications, drawings, calculations and other documentation to be used in the procurement process of this Contract;
    - b) Having been recruited (or being proposed to be recruited) ourselves or any of our affiliates, to carry out works supervision or inspection for this Contract.
4. If we are a state-owned entity, and to compete in a procurement process, we certify that we have legal and financial autonomy and that we operate under commercial laws and regulations.
5. We undertake to bring to the attention of the Contracting Authority, which will inform AFD, any change in situation with regard to points 2 to 4 here above.
6. In the context of the procurement process and performance of the corresponding contract:
  - 6.1 We have not and we will not engage in any dishonest conduct (act or omission) deliberately intended to deceive others, to intentionally conceal items, to violate or vitiate someone's consent, to make them circumvent legal or regulatory requirements and/or to violate their internal rules in order to obtain illegitimate profit;
  - 6.2 We have not and we will not engage in any dishonest conduct (act or omission) contrary to our legal or regulatory obligations or our internal rules in order to obtain illegitimate profit;
  - 6.3 We have not promised, offered or given and we will not promise, offer or give, directly or indirectly to (i) any Person who holds a legislative, executive, administrative or judicial mandate within the State of the Contracting Authority regardless of whether that Person was nominated or elected, regardless of the permanent or temporary, paid or unpaid nature of the position and regardless of the hierarchical level the Person occupies, (ii) any other Person who performs a public function, including for a State institution or a State owned company, or who provides a public service, or (iii) any other person defined as a Public Officer by the national laws of the Contracting Authority's country, an undue advantage of any kind, for himself or for another Person or entity, for such Public Officer to act or refrain from acting in his official capacity;
  - 6.4 We have not promised, offered or given and we will not promise, offer or give, directly or indirectly to any Person who occupies an executive position in a private sector entity or works for such an entity, regardless of the nature of his/her capacity, any undue advantage of any kind, for himself or another Person or entity for such Person to perform or refrain from performing any act in breach of its legal, contractual or professional obligations;
  - 6.5 We have not and we will not engage in any practice likely to influence the contract award process to the detriment of the Contracting Authority and, in particular, in any anti competitive practice having for object or for effect to prevent, restrict or distort competition, namely by limiting access to the market or the free exercise of competition by other undertakings;
  - 6.6 Neither we nor any of the members of our joint venture or any of our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants shall acquire or supply any equipment nor operate in any sectors under an embargo of the United Nations, the European Union or France;
  - 6.7 We commit ourselves to comply with and ensure that all of our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants comply with international environmental and labour standards, consistent with laws and regulations applicable in the country of implementation of the Contract, including the fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and international environmental treaties. Moreover, we shall implement environmental and social risks mitigation measures when specified in the environmental and social commitment plan (ESCP) provided by the Contracting Authority.
7. We, as well as members of our joint venture and our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants authorise AFD to inspect accounts, records and other documents relating to the procurement process and performance of the contract and to have them audited by auditors appointed by AFD.

Name:.....In the capacity of: .....

Duly empowered to sign in the name and on behalf of: .....

Signature:.....

Dated: .....





## Medical Research International, Inc. Tanzania

### INTERNAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Join us in our efforts to end the HIV epidemic in Tanzania. Be part of the winning team to advance global health and save the lives of people living with HIV.

#### About HJFMRI Tanzania Program

The Walter Reed Program Tanzania (WRP-T) is a collaborative effort that supports PEPFAR-funded HIV prevention and treatment activities in the Southern Highlands and within the Tanzania People's Defense Forces (TPDF). HJF Medical Research International, Inc Tanzania (HJFMRI-T) is a local non-profit that has supported these efforts since 2004 for the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR). PEPFAR activities are conducted in close collaboration with the Tanzania Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children; and the President's Office of the Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG), through the Regional and Council Health Management Teams.

HJFMRI-T provides care and treatment to people affected by HIV/AIDS and has been actively involved in HIV and AIDS programming, providing resources, personnel, and services to the Southern Highlands Zone. The program has expanded from supporting the Mbeya Zonal Referral Hospital to becoming a hub for anti-retroviral treatment in the zone; to community support through decentralized services, with the overall objective of implementing research, clinical HIV, prevention, care, and treatment services. HJFMRI-T currently focuses specifically on four regions in the Southern Highlands zone, namely Mbeya, Rukwa, Katavi, Songwe. The program also supports TPDF in implementing comprehensive HIV prevention care and treatment programs in 21 sites throughout the country.

#### Employment opportunity:

HJF Medical Research International, Inc. Tanzania (HJFMRI-T) is seeking qualified candidates to fill the position listed below.

#### Applications Instructions

Cover letters and resumes should be sent by mail through post/EMS/DHL/ or any reliable Courier to Senior Manager, Human Resources, P.O. Box 6396, Mbeya, or sent through e-mail to recruitment@wrp.or.tz.

NOTE: To be considered, applicants must put the TITLE OF THE JOB in the SUBJECT LINE. Applications that are hand-delivered will not be accepted. The deadline for applying is August 25th, 2021. As detailed in the job description(s) below, those who do not meet the minimum requirements will not be considered.

**Job Title:** General Accountant  
**Reports to:** Senior Manager, Accounting  
**Location:** Mbeya, Tanzania

#### Position Overview

The purpose of this position is to ensure accuracy of entries; timelines of payments and financial reporting to the program are done without delay. The position holder has to perform balance sheet reconciliations and provides advice and support to staff in the areas of financial management

#### Main Roles and Responsibilities

- Prepare documents by scrutinizing and verifying that all required attachments have been supplied before documents is channeled for approval, posting and payment process.
- Posting entries into Quick Book on a daily basis.
- Ensure all entries posted into QuickBooks are in compliance with International Financial reporting standard, GAAP and QuickBooks accounting and reporting manual.
- Initiating payments into the banking system or writing bank checks, while ensuring segregation of duty is strictly for each paid document is strictly observed between posting and payments.
- Ensuring payments and all other processes are in compliance with internal control policy and other policies.
- Prepare and submit all documents posted and paid through the bank to the senior accountants on a daily basis for QB check application and for reconciliation purpose.
- Maintain document workflow system and ensuring the document workflow template is fully updated with daily posting and payments made
- Ensure all payments are properly scanned and submitted to HQ.
- Reconciles financial discrepancies and errors as reported by collecting and analyzing account information.
- Answers accounting procedure questions by researching and interpreting accounting policy and regulations.
- Enforcing internal policies to program staff, etc Training SOP, Travel advance policy, Mpesa policy and other policies within the program.
- Prepares financial reports by collecting, analyzing, and summarizing account information and trends, as directed by the Senior Accountant and/or Accounting Manager.
- Maintains professional and technical knowledge by attending educational workshops; reviewing professional publications; establishing personal networks; participating in professional societies.
- Preparation of the monthly payroll entry for review by Senior Accountant
- Prepares monthly closing schedules for review by Senior Accountant
- Reconcile bank accounts and clears any discrepancies in the balances by researching and analyzing the account information.
- Maintain and reconcile petty cash accounts on a monthly basis to be reviewed by the Senior Accountant
- Managing time sheets and make follow-up. Where necessary scanned them to HQ.
- Managing statutory deductions, NSSF, PPF, PAYE Files in Monthly basis.
- Work with other program staff to understand program activities and appreciate the existing linkage with finance
- Take initiatives in understanding budget preparation, implementation and monitoring process and the overall financial management of the program
- Working while observing the Professional Code of Conduct (PICCO), Professional behavior, Integrity, Competence, Confidentiality and Objectivity. General accountant is directly obligated to report any misconduct observed or heard that is against these codes to the immediate supervisor or to the appropriate reporting channel.
- Undertake other assignments that you will be assigned by the Senior accountant, Senior manager accounting and finance director

#### Qualifications and Job Requirements:

- Bachelor Degree in Accounting with 4-7 years in a high volume transaction accounting department, or
- 2-3 year experience working in accounting with an international NGO, health related NGO especially desirable.
- CPA/ACCA is an added advantage
- From 2 years' experience in Big Four Accounting firms
- Deadline-Oriented, Reporting Research Results, SFAS Rules, Time Management and Data Entry Management.
- 1-2 years of QuickBooks Enterprise or similar electronic accounting software experience
- Knowledge of the full accounting cycle.
- Highly proficient in Excel and Word applications
- Highest level of deductive reasoning
- Ability to problem-solve and take initiative to resolve issues
- Ability to communicate both in writing and verbally in English and Swahili
- Exceptional follow-through skills
- Ability to meet deadlines

HJFMRI is an equal opportunity employer

216406071



### Request for Quotation

**RFQ Title:** Procurement and Supply of CHWs Working Tools

**RFQ Number:** 2021-ACH08/01

**Date of Solicitation:** 13th August 2021

**Closing Date and Time:** 25th August 2021, 11:00 am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

**Questions and Clarifications:** Due by 23rd August 2021

**Estimated Delivery/ Performance Date:** 22nd September 2021.

#### Introduction to Pact:

Pact Inc. is an international non-profit organization with its headquarters in Washington, DC. Pact serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and the government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

#### About ACHIEVE Project:

The Adolescents and Children, HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination (ACHIEVE) project is a five-year, USAID-funded global project to reach and sustain HIV epidemic control among pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescents, infants, and children. ACHIEVE is implemented by Pact, in partnership with Jhpiego, Palladium, No Means No Worldwide, and WI-HER. The overall goal is to improve access to HIV-inclusive services to improve the health and well-being of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC). The project is working to support and strengthen the capacity of the national and community-level social services workforce, systems, and structures to ensure quality services for OVC, at-risk Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW), and People Living with HIV (PLHIV) at the national level and across all regions of Tanzania.

#### Overall Objective:

The overall objective of this assignment is procuring bag packs, umbrellas, uniform T-Shirts, and uniform CHWs Bibs to support Health Promotion Services (HPS) in strengthening the community health workforces to deliver quality community health and social welfare services.

#### A. Requirement/ Technical Specifications

LOT No.	Item	Description	Quantity
LOT 1	Backpacks	Available in the Terms of Reference (ToR)	13,000
LOT 2	Umbrellas	Available in the Terms of Reference (ToR)	13,000
LOT 3	Uniform T-Shirts	Available in the Terms of Reference (ToR)	26,000
LOT 4	Uniform CHW Bibs	Available in the Terms of Reference (ToR)	13,000
LOT 5	Rain coats	Available in the Terms of Reference (ToR)	13,000

Interested vendors should request the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through email with the subject line "TOR for Procurement & Supply of CHWs Working Tools" to [ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org](mailto:ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org) before Wednesday, 23rd August 2021.

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to [ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org](mailto:ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org) with the subject line "Request for Clarification: Procurement & Supply of CHWs Working Tools" before Wednesday 23rd August 2021.

#### B. Eligibility

To be considered for the award, vendors must currently be legally operating in Tanzania, and the quotation must include all of the following information:

- Ability to meet or exceed the requirements/technical specifications outlined in Section A;
- Ability to deliver the items/services specified in Section A no later than the date(s) required.

#### C. Submission Instructions

The following information is to be included by a vendor in the quotation:

- A completed copy of the Form C "Quotation Coversheet" is attached to the ToR
- A quoted price is for each item or service specified in Tanzania Shillings. This price should be all-inclusive, delivery, and taxes if applicable
- The validity period of the offer (Offer should be valid for at least 45 days).
- Credit Payment Term: Pact is the preferable payment with 1-month credit, after delivery of goods.
- Indicate delivery duration weeks to supply and deliver of goods after PO issue.
- Your quotation must be on the official letterhead with an authorized signature and stamp.
- Specifications of the products offered in Section A fully addressed.

Vendors who wish to answer this RFQ should send their quotations in sealed envelopes to Pact Tanzania Head Office by 25th August 2021, 11:00 am. All sealed envelopes need to be marked as "Procurement & Supply of CHWs Working Tools."

#### Office Address::

The Tender Committee  
Pact Tanzania  
74 Uporoto Street, Victoria  
P. O. Box 6348, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Quotes must be containing a completed quote cover sheet (attached to the ToR appendices)

- Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.
- Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted
- All quotations and delivery dates shall be valid for at least 45 days following the submission as mentioned above.
- Vendors MUST submit separate tender/bid per each LOT

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# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



## Investing in youth crucial for Africa's sustainable development

By Guardian Reporter

AFRICA needs to think about how it can embrace its large youth population for the benefit of the continent, said Jacques Vermeulen, Coca Cola Beverages Africa (CCBA) Chief Executive Officer.

"Africa is often spoken of as being blessed by a 'demographic dividend' in the form of its overwhelmingly youthful population, but the question of whether the continent will succeed in reaping the potential economic benefits of this hangs in the balance after the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Vermeulen.

He said that as the International Youth Day is celebrated, the beverages company focuses on developing young talent in its business and offers training programmes for graduates as well as management training for young people who have gained some experience already.

"The fact that youth make up a large and growing proportion of the overall population of Africa means that the ratio of those who are potentially economically active, compared to those who are not, favours strong economic growth for decades to come," he noted.

But this depends on the continent's ability to generate employment for the young fast enough to accommodate large numbers of new entrants to the labour market.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has set back Africa's progress on many fronts.

According to the latest International Monetary Fund outlook for Sub-Saharan Africa, employment fell by about 8.5 per cent in 2020, more than 32 million people were thrown into extreme poverty, and disruptions to education have jeopardised the prospects of a generation of schoolchildren.

African students missed 67 days of instruction due to school closures, more than four times the level in advanced economies.

Catching up on this learning, and developing skills for the labour market, will be one of the great challenges of the continent's recovery path.

Skills development will increasingly have to be modular, to allow the young to bridge learning gaps, and it will increasingly have to transcend the classroom setting through digital offerings. Vermeulen said: "A great example of this is CCBA's own learning centre, which is an online tool for all employees to use for self-directed learning and career development, and an investment in our employees' personal growth. There are more than 120 courses which are relevant to our business and



Jacques Vermeulen, Coca Cola Beverages Africa (CCBA) Chief Executive Officer.

which help our team keep pace with the changing world of work - all they need to do is log in and learn."

He said such solutions can make a critical contribution to up-skilling African youth and overcoming the learning deficit brought about by COVID-19.

"Our focus on developing young

talent in our business extends further; we offer training programmes for graduates as well as management training for young people who have gained some experience already," he added, noting that the company seeks to empower youth by enabling them economically through internal training and community programmes throughout

its markets in the continent.

Entrepreneurship is the key

Coca-Cola's youth empowerment programmes are targeted at current or potential entrepreneurs with the possibility to link to the Coca Cola value chain today or in the future.

In order to help grow the liveli-

hoods of youth, enabling activities in the company's programmes include business skills training, access to finance, assets and mentoring.

He said: "We focus on assisting with skills development, particularly for graduates who may require additional training in soft skills that would make them more employable, or which would aid their entrepreneurial endeavours."

"CCBA directly empowers thousands of young people every year through various programmes across our markets, enabling their inclusion in the economy," he said.

For example, in a partnership with the non-profit WBM Organisation and the University of Dar es Salaam, the company arranged a business and entrepreneurship workshop for almost 1,000 students across Tanzania.

It aimed to develop supplementary entrepreneurial skills to help students become more attractive to future employers.

Creating a better future

He said that at CCBA, youth become architects of their own success, resulting in increased economic value and business capability for not only themselves, but for their communities and the company's business system.

"We realise that through investing in growing the communities in which we operate, we are investing in building our own business," he said.

CCBA's efforts will remain focused on ensuring that young people run successful enterprises, increasing their participation in the formal economy through education and initiating programmes to prepare them for the world of work - all in partnership with like-minded stakeholders. Ensuring that Africa's youth achieve their full potential, and unlock the 'demographic dividend' that makes this continent such an exciting prospect for the future, is not the responsibility of governments alone.

He added: "Businesses like ours have a lot to contribute, and by doing so we can help to create a better, more prosperous future for all."

## AfDB coding for employment programme marks milestone: 130,000 users across Africa

By Special Correspondent

ON International Youth Day, the African Development Bank (AfDB) announces the enrolment of 130,000 users in its Coding for Employment digital skills program.

The milestone comes as Coding for Employment works to equip African youth with information and communication technology, entrepreneurship and soft-skills training to compete in a digital economy. The program's online platforms offer in-demand technical courses such as web de-

velopment, design, data science and digital marketing - for free.

With the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, resulting in lockdowns and school closures across the continent, the Coding for Employment platforms experienced dramatic increases in the number of users. During a one-week period in September 2020, registrations skyrocketed by 38.5%.

Through the Bank's partnership with the Government of Nigeria to launch the Digital Nigeria eLearning platform during the pandemic, Coding for Employ-

ment has hit a combined total of 130,000 students. Registered students are achieving a course completion rate of more than 80%.

"To win the battle against poverty in Africa, we must equip our youth with digital skills that empower them for the jobs of the future," said Martha Phiri, Director of the Bank's Human Capital, Youth and Skills Development Department.

Students who took the online courses in the wake of Covid-19 in Africa said learning or honing digital skills helped them advance their careers.

"During the lockdown period, I taught myself MS Excel, using the Coding for Employment platform. Participating in the training not only smoothed my rough Excel skills but also gave me the platform to network and push myself," said program graduate Hajara Ayuba in Nigeria.

"Thanks to the Coding for Employment program, I met one of the major criteria - data fluency and MS Excel skills - at my present NYSC place of primary assignment in Borno State Board of Internal Revenue Service. I was later retained in the job," Ayuba

added. The Coding for Employment main digital training platform was launched in December 2019 in partnership with the Rockefeller Foundation and Microsoft. It is accessible on mobile devices, even in low internet connectivity settings and has an affordable, easy-to-navigate, secured and private interface.

"The online training program started in tandem with the opening planned upgrade of physical Coding for Employment-branded Centers of Excellence piloted in Nigeria, Kenya, Rwanda, Sen-

egal and Côte d'Ivoire. The Bank aims to scale up to 130 centers across the continent in a decade."

"The pandemic accelerated the adoption of online learning as a necessity. Coding for Employment swiftly leveraged its online digital skills platform to continue to offer a gateway for African youth to become more digitally capable," said Hendrina Chalwe Doroba, the Bank's Division Manager for Education and Skills Development.

Following the pilot program, Coding for Employment online courses are now available in 45

countries. Some 300 beneficiaries, like Shaawanatu Shuaibu, linked Coding for Employment to getting jobs. Shuaibu a Coding for Employment program graduate from the Gombe State Center of Excellence in Nigeria, said the course had broadened her understanding of content writing.

"I was able to organize the content of my CV, which secured me a call for an interview at Jaiz Bank Plc. My performance at the interview and fluency in communication got me posted to the Customer Service Unit of the Bank," she added.

## RC Hapi lauds Grumeti Fund for funding development projects in Serengeti District

By Guardian Correspondent, Serengeti

MARA Regional Commissioner (RC) Ally Hapi has commended Grumeti Fund for funding education and health development projects in rural villages of the Serengeti District, Mara Region.

"On behalf of the government, we thank you (Grumeti) for giving back to the communities surrounding you," Hapi stated shortly after inspecting the three new teachers houses, two classrooms and a dispensary, all built with the support of Grumeti Fund at Makundusi village.

RC Hapi was happy with the quality of work done on the construction of the projects citing the dispensary building which had been jointly built by Grumeti Fund and citizens at the cost of 116 million shillings; approximately 100 million shillings being donated by the Grumeti Fund.

RC Hapi told the Makundusi villagers that were present, "We have inspected the whole building, inside and out and it is a job well done. An example has been set by the Grumeti Fund and I'm sure other villages are admiring this dispensary here at Makundusi village."

RC Hapi advised that the new dispensary should start operations quickly so that citizens can start enjoying treatment services close to their homes.

Head of Community Development for the Grumeti Fund, Frida Mollel briefed RC Hapi on the reason the Grumeti Fund took interest in funding the dispensary.

"We seek to support efforts made by the government to improve health

services. We want to see a reduction in maternal and infant death. Opening this dispensary is going to help all the villagers but especially pregnant women who have been walking long distance to seek health services."

Mollel further told RC Hapi that besides the dispensary, Grumeti Fund had built two classrooms at Makundusi secondary school and three teachers houses at Nyakitono, Makundusi and Kewambogo primary schools.

Makundusi is one of the villages that have been immensely reaping the fruits of the Grumeti group of companies in the Western Serengeti in many different ways as it is located next to the Grumeti concession.

RC Hapi urged the Makundusi villagers and Serengeti district as a whole to continue embracing and supporting the good relationship with the Grumeti group of companies.

"Your village (Makundusi) is one of the villages that has benefited financially from conservation. You received approximately 400 million shillings as a result of conservation in a period of four years. Please continue supporting and cooperating with Grumeti investor, never hate them." RC Hapi insisted to the villagers present.

Makundusi Village Executive Officer (VEO), Jacob Mbota, advised the RC that a contribution of 12.6 million shillings was contributed by Makundusi village to build the dispensary in a way of construction materials such as sand and stones.



Mara Regional Commissioner (RC) Ally Hapi (4th R) cuts a ribbon early this week as he was officially receiving 116 ml-dispensary project with the support of Grumeti Fund at Makundusi village in Serengeti District. Fourth from left is Serengeti DC Dr Vicent Mashinji, Serengeti District CCM Chairman Jacob Bega (third from right) and Serengeti Member of Parliament, Amsabi Mrimi (2nd R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## New initiative set to strengthen fertilizer regulation in Southern Africa

By Special Correspondent

A New initiative aimed at establishing a harmonized framework, that will improve regulation of fertilizers across Southern Africa, has been launched in Malawi by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), and the Government of Malawi. The programme, the Harmonized Fertilizer Regulatory Framework (HFRF) project, also seeks to enhance integration and improve access to regional fertilizer markets. This regional initiative is being implemented in the 16 SADC Member States.

"This project will be implemented in collaboration with the Hand in Hand initiative, an evidence based country-led and country-owned initiative to accelerate agricultural transformation and sustainable development to eradicate poverty. It contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 2 -Zero Hunger, and is aligned with the Malawi 2063 Agenda pillar 1 of agricultural productivity and commercialization, specifically to improve production and incomes of the majority of people, with emphasis on effective governance systems and institutions as an enabler," said Zhijun Chen, FAO Representative in Malawi.

The project will go a long way to-

wards strengthening the fertilizer regulatory framework by putting in place quality control standards and enforcement mechanisms at the regional level with input from all the 16 SADC countries. The lack of a regulatory framework that harmonizes the trade and use of fertilizers in SADC Member States means that each country functions with different regulatory frameworks.

By establishing the Regional Harmonized Fertilizer Regulatory Framework, the project will therefore help to amalgamate ongoing efforts on fertilizer quality control and enforcement of standards across the region. The sustainability of this initiative is assured because countries

will participate in the framework development and align their national fertilizer regulatory frameworks to the agreed regional framework.

In Malawi, adulteration of fertilizers, underweight packaging and poor quality of fertilizers are some of the challenges that smallholder farmers face. Overall, the low agricultural productivity, which predominates in SADC countries, is due in part to misuse and underuse of low quality fertilizers.

"Access to, and judicious use of, high quality fertilizers is key to high agricultural productivity," said Sandram Maweru, Principal Secretary for Irrigation at the Ministry of Agriculture.



# Covid-19 vaccine hesitancy: Showing resilience, integrity and grit

By David Solway

**A**N open "letter to the unvaccinated" released by Canada's Ontario Civil Liberties Association issues a clarion call for individual autonomy and freedom from State coercion.

Its mission statement regarding the Covid-19 vaccines reads in part: "The group emphasizes the voluntary nature of this medical treatment as well as the need for informed consent and individual risk-benefit assessment. ... Control over our bodily integrity may well be the ultimate frontier of the fight to protect civil liberties."

The statement objects to the manner in which the unvaccinated are unfairly "being targeted by mainstream media, government social engineering campaigns, unjust rules and policies, collaborating employers, and the social-media mob".

Further, it takes exception to the vast majority of Western leaders who would initial a state-mandated policy of enforced vaccination, or have already done so.

It's not only a question of coercion but also of freely given consent. As the letter correctly points out, informed consent to the job is highly problematic under present circumstances.

For instance, it notes: "Long-term effects are unknown. Transgenerational effects are unknown. Vaccine-induced deregulation of natural immunity is unknown. Potential harm is unknown, as the adverse event reporting is delayed, incomplete and inconsistent between jurisdictions."

Among the most damning of considerations, as the letter stresses, is that all relevant studies regarding vaccine safety and efficacy have been funded, organised, coordinated and supported by Big Pharma (major multinational pharmaceutical companies collectively as a sector of industry).

It argues that "none of the study data have been made public or available to researchers who don't work for these companies", and notes that there are simply no independent peer-reviewed studies; all are bankrolled by the multinational pharmaceutical giants.

This is a crucial red flag that cannot be furled away. We simply do not have reliable, scrupulously researched, honest, dispositive or determinative data at our disposal on



which to make an informed decision regarding our own bodily integrity and long-term health.

The data are compromised at their very inception and origin, and cannot be accepted on faith. To do so is to play Russian Roulette with an indeterminate number of chambers loaded.

[Incidentally, Russian roulette is a potentially deadly game of chance in which a player places a single round in a revolver, spins the cylinder, places the muzzle against his or her head or body, and pulls the trigger. If the loaded chamber aligns with the barrel, the weapon will fire, fatally injuring the player.]

The signatories to the letter are properly skeptical of the preliminary vaccine trial results: "The claimed high values of relative ef-

ficacy rely on small numbers of tenuously determined 'infections'."

What the letter might have noted, in addition, is that the rate of such "infections" is dependent on deliberately high-amplification cycle threshold levels, which are known to generate a profusion of false positives, putatively confirming the severity of the crisis. They constitute a self-interested deception.

Indeed, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention has also had to admit what should be common knowledge, namely, that Covid-19 has a high survival rate: between the ages of 0 to 65 the survival rate is 99 per cent, and over 65 is 91 per cent.

The letter also doesn't mention that Emergency Use Authorisation (EUA) granted to the pharmaceutical companies does not constitute

a US government Food and Drug Administration approval certificate and, furthermore, has the secondary but critical effect of exempting Big Pharma from criminal liability proceedings as per the PREP Act (Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness).

This is not the bio-immunity promised by these companies but the legal immunity guaranteed by law. What could go wrong?

The letter concludes by calling for "a diversity of scientific opinions ... We need a polyculture of information and its interpretations. And we don't have that right now. Choosing not to take the vaccine is holding space for reason, transparency and accountability to emerge".

The letter encourages people not to be intimidated. Vaccine skeptics are "showing resilience, integrity and courage" in standing

for "scientific accountability and free speech, which are required for society to thrive".

Amid a political and public climate of general timorousness or apprehension and abject compliance, it's encouraging to see one Ontario organisation robustly defending freedom of conscience and the democratic principle underlying vaccine hesitancy.

**David Solway is a Canadian essayist and political commentator. His latest book is "Notes from a Derelict Culture". This piece was first published in The Epoch Times.**

# Sputnik V vaccine demonstrates almost 100 per cent efficacy, San Marino institute says

ROME

**A**NTIBODIES to coronavirus after receiving a second dose of the Russian Sputnik V vaccine were developed by 99 per cent of the participants of a joint study by San Marino's government and Italy's Lazzaro Spallanzani National Institute for Infectious Diseases.

This is according to a representative of San Marino's Institute for Social Security Franco Cavalli, as interviewed by Russian news agency TASS.

The study, which was jointly conducted with the Lazzaro Spallanzani Institute, is directed at researching the vaccine's efficacy.

In San Marino, the studies so far have been focused on measuring the level of antibodies 21 days after introducing the first dose of the vaccine and then 21 days after injecting the second dose. "Preliminary results obtained based on data on more than

5,000 people show that after the second dose more than 99 per cent of study participants developed the antibodies," the official said.

He emphasized that the Italian institute will now conduct a quality analysis of these antibodies, adding: "The study still continues."

The official reported that some 20,000 residents of San Marino - almost two-thirds of the country's population - were inoculated with Sputnik V. "To 19,927 individuals one

can add 840 foreign tourists who travelled to get vaccinated from various countries," he noted.

According to the official, there have been instances of coronavirus infection during the interval between the first and the second dose as well as immediately following the second dose.

"However, so far we do not have the exact data on this. And we know that similar cases happened also with the Pfizer vaccine," he said.

The first batch of Sputnik V, according to an agreement between the government of San Marino (which is not part of the EU) and the Russian Direct Investment Fund, arrived in San Marino on February 23.

In May, the local authorities announced the closure of the coronavirus department at a local hospital.

On August 11, 2020, Russia became the first worldwide to register the Sputnik V vaccine against the coronavirus infection. The Russian jab

has since been certified by almost 70 countries.

Over 30 countries have already launched mass inoculation with Sputnik V. The efficacy of the jab at the level of 91.6 per cent was confirmed by the data published in the leading medical journal The Lancet.

On March 4, the European Medicines Agency reported that it was beginning the vaccine's rolling-out review.

Tass



# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One



# COMPANY TO INJECT 68BN/- INTO ELECTRONIC WASTE PROCESSING

By Francis Kajubi

**C**HILAMBO General Trade Company Limited plans to invest 68bn/- in its electronic waste management project before the end of this year as it targets at exploring the local market by expanding its processing capacity of electronic wastes.

The company whose factory is in Kisarawe District, Coast Region has an annual processing capacity of 25,000 tonnes that is expected to double with the new investment. The new investment apart from encouraging reduction of waste pollution from defaulted electronic devices has so far employed about 50 local staff.

The company's chief executive officer Gideon Chilambo said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking at a special visit by the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), Selemani Jafo.

Chilambo said that the processed electronic wastes are exported as raw materials for manufacturing industries of electronics such as mobile phone batteries, television sets, fans, air conditioners, and fridges.

"The company has so far invested an approximate of 1bn/- The factory's current processing capacity stands at 25,000 tonnes per annum," said Chilambo.



Chilambo General Trade Company Limited's chief executive officer Gideon Chilambo (R) clarifies a point to the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Selemani Jafo, who toured the factory earlier this week. Photo: Property Watch Correspondent.

According to him, the new investment will attract new employment posts for more than 100 locals while on the other hand, the government will earn more revenues through taxation.

For his part, Minister Jafo urged the company to seek for a fresh environmental impact assessment certificate EIA so that it can be allowed to execute its new investment. Jafo commended the company's investment inline observation of the industrialization agenda that the government initiated five years ago.

He asserted that huge amounts of waste generated from electronic devices had finally turned into a business that people can benefit from by selling their defaulted devices.

"This electronic waste processing plant will help reduce waste in our streets. The government has put all necessary efforts such as revisiting its investment policies to attract more local and foreign investments," Jafo said, adding: "The 68bn/- is an incredible investment that the government appreciates not only for the sake of revenue collection but also job creation for the people. The government is always there to assist investors with meeting obligations for establishing factories at any point of the country".

He pledged to co-operate with the factory especially in processing permits for the importation of the raw materials from neighboring countries if necessary to avoid shortages of the wastes for recycling thus enabling it to produce more efficiently.

# Amani Nature Reserve in fresh campaign to lure more tourists

By Francis Kajubi

THE Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS) in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have embarked on a special campaign to promote the Amani Nature Reserve (ANR) to attract more local and foreign tourists.

Dubbed 'Unlock Amani' among other things, aims at promoting ecotourism but at the same time conserving water sources to ensure sustainability of the forests and availability of water in the regions of Tanga and Morogoro where the reserve straddles. The campaign will feature a trip to the reserve under the sponsorship of Vodacom Tanzania Foundation.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, ANR conservator Bob Matunda said that the campaign goes with a special package offer for local visitors to pay only 260,000/- to tour the reserve for three days at the end of this month while foreign tourists will have to pay \$160 for the

same period.

According to him, the campaign is part of the six year project implemented by the three partners known as Securing Watershed Project that will last in December. The campaign will culminate in an open 3-day trip for people to visit Amani and experience, explore and learn about the initiatives laid down thus far. The trip is scheduled for August 27 to 29, this year.

"With this project, both partners have collaborated in enabling conservation of Zigi and Ruvu river basins in Tanga and Morogoro regions where the reserve is found. The purpose is sustaining clean and safe water supply in the vicinity of the reserve and neighboring areas. Only in July, the reserve has been visited by over 130 foreign tourists and thousands of locals," he said.

Bakari Bamba, Project Coordinator at the ministry of water said such an initiative requires coordination between government institutions, private sector and NGOs in promoting tourism while improving community livelihood standard and easing water

supply in Tanga.

"For sustainable resource use, Amani Nature Reserve has introduced an alternative source of income to improve their livelihood such as ecotourism, beekeeping, fish farming, butterfly farming, horticulture, spice-farming including finding market access and tree nurseries," he said adding,

"We are appealing to organizations and individuals to find time and visit as we 'Unlock Amani' this month where there will be plenty of exciting tourism activities as the reserve has some of the best flora and fauna in the world. I call upon people to turn up in large numbers," he said.

The UNDP Programme Specialist, Climate Change and Energy, Abbas Kitigo said the UN will continue supporting sustainable water and land management initiatives for water sources.

"The water sources and natural forests are endangered and need a concerted effort to protect at any cost. We are appealing to



other stakeholders to also join in this initiative. UNDP reiterates our commitment to safeguarding Tanzania forests and the ecosystem service they provide, while also

promoting development for the communities living around the forest," said Kitigo. The Amani Nature Reserve is a protected area located within the

Muheza and Korogwe districts in the Tanga region and was established in 1997 in order to preserve the unique flora and fauna of the east Usambara mountains.

# CIC Insurance posts Sh259million profit in half-year

NAIROBI

CIC Insurance Group posted a Sh259.5 million net profit in the half year ended June, reversing a net loss of Sh335.5 million the year before.

The return to profitability was helped by improved performance in the underwriting business and higher investment income.

Investment and other income, including positive currency movements at its South Sudan subsidiary, more than doubled to Sh2.6 billion from Sh1.2 billion.

"Investment income saw a marked improvement and this was mainly due to unwinding of prior year's foreign exchange losses in South Sudan and gains from our equities portfolio," chief executive Patrick Nyaga said at an investor briefing yesterday.

Rising prices of listed equities on the Nairobi Securities Exchange contributed to the gains by lifting the value of CIC's portfolio. The bourse is recovering from a major selloff last year that was inspired by the panic in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Safaricom and big banks such as Equity and KCB have led the market recovery as investors anticipate increased profitability and dividend payouts going forward.

CIC also gained from higher fees in its asset management business whose pool of funds jumped 35 percent to Sh89 billion in the review period.

Gross premiums rose to Sh10.7 billion from Sh9.2 billion, with the Kenyan general insurance business posting a 75 percent increase in underwriting profit to Sh447 million.

"Gross written premiums grew in all our businesses except South Sudan and for South Sudan it is because we were realigning businesses to profitable customers," Mr



Nyaga said. Claims increased seven percent to Sh5.8 billion, partly due to a rise in benefit payouts

in the life insurance business as a result of the pandemic. Operating expenses increased 18.4 percent to Sh3.3 billion,

mainly driven by provision for bad and doubtful debt in line with IFRS 9 accounting standards.

# Tea firms to set minimum prices at Mombasa auction

NAIROBI

MULTINATIONAL firms will set a minimum price for their tea at Mombasa Auction to cut losses occasioned by the low cost of the commodity in the market.

The Kenya Tea Growers Association (KTGA), an umbrella body for the multinational firms, has written to the East African Tea Traders Association (Eatta), which manages the auction, informing it of the decision, just a month after the State introduced reserve price for smallholder farmers.

KTGA chief executive officer Apollo Kiarri said the cost of production has become unbearable because of low prices at the auction, hence their members will individually write to brokers to direct on the minimum price that their teas should be sold for.

Mr Kiarri said over the last few years, the auction average price for tea has been on a downward trend, threatening the sustainability of the sector.

"I write to inform you that our members will individually be communicating to their brokers on the minimum/reserve price," said Mr Kiarri in the letter.

"The current prices offered at the auction, which are frequently below cost of production, are not sustainable and unless something is done, the entire sector and the livelihoods it supports are at risk," he added.

Agriculture CS Peter Munya introduced the minimum price at the auction for Kenya Tea Development Tea Agency farmers last month setting a minimum price at Sh183, citing low value for the beverage amid high cost of production.

The new price regime saw millions of kilos of tea offloaded from the auction floor as traders kept away from KTDA teas as they opted to buy beverages from other firms that were seen to be cheaper.



# BANKS TAKE STEPS TO REDUCE POTENTIAL CLOUD COMPUTING RISKS - GOOGLE STUDY

LONDON

**B**ANKS are taking steps to mitigate risks from their increasing use of external cloud computing services, a survey by Harris Poll and Google Cloud (GOOGL) said on Thursday.

The Bank of England and the Bank of France have expressed concerns about a lack of transparency in how banks rely on a "concentrated" number of outside cloud computing providers like Google, Microsoft (MSFT) and Amazon (AMZN) which are beyond the arm of the regulators.

Regulators are worried that reliance by many banks on the same providers could create systemic risk if one of the cloud companies were to go down.

The survey of 1,300 leaders in financial services from the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Britain, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and Australia showed that 83% were using the cloud as part of their primary computing infrastructure.

The bulk of the companies are also considering adopting a multicloud strategy, the survey said, which would allow a bank to switch to an alternative provider if there is an outage to avoid an interruption of services for customers.

"Based on the Harris survey, it is clear that financial institutions are taking actions to solve concentration or vendor lock-in concerns with 88% of respondents not currently using a multicloud strategy considering doing so in the next 12 months," Adrian Poole, director for financial services in Britain and Ireland for Google Cloud, said.



## Reddit valued at \$10bn in a new round of fundraising

WASHINGTON

REDDIT will raise up to \$700 million in a fundraising round led by Fidelity Management, the social media network said on Thursday, cashing in on a jump in its influence in the financial world to triple its valuation to over \$10 billion.

The company said it had already raised \$410 million from Fidelity in its second funding round since the start of the year when small-time traders gathered on its platform in their battle against Wall Street institutions.

The traders, initially focused on Reddit's Wall-StreetBets forum but now spread across discussion boards, have changed how Wall Street analysts operate, causing major losses for some funds and powering huge gains in the shares of companies including GameStop (GME) and AMC (AMC).

On the back of the trading frenzy, Reddit's value had already doubled to \$6 billion in February from a year ago.

The San Francisco-based company was founded in 2005 by Chief Executive Steve Huffman, entrepreneur Alexis Ohanian and the late Internet activist Aaron Swartz.

While Reddit has been a well-known internet name for years, attracting millions of experts and enthusiasts to its niche discussion groups, it has

trailed behind other major social media sites in terms of its development as a business.

Although a hefty sum, the \$10 billion valuation pales in comparison to Twitter Inc's (TWTR) \$52 billion or the \$1 trillion value of Fa-

cebook Inc (FB), both founded around the same time as Reddit.

As of January, Reddit had more than 52 million daily active users and over a 100,000 communities, dwarfed by Facebook's nearly 2 billion daily active users in June or

Twitter's 206 million monetizable daily active users, a term for users who see the ads placed on their platforms.

Reddit topped \$100 million in advertising revenue for the first time in the second quarter, an almost

threefold jump from the same period last year.

Its investors include venture capital firm Andreessen Horowitz, funds such as Sequoia Capital, Tencent Holdings (0700.HK) and rap superstar Snoop Dogg.

## Drivers push oil demand recovery but road ahead may be bumpy

New York

EUROPEAN and U.S. gasoline stocks have fallen to near pre-pandemic levels as Western holidaymakers hit the roads, but the end of the driving season and the spread of the Delta variant of the coronavirus could slow the recovery in global oil demand.

The pandemic and resulting lockdowns around the world destroyed demand for oil products and led to mas-

sive stock builds in 2020 which have been gradually depleting this year.

The International Energy Agency said on Thursday that global oil demand surged by 3.8 million barrels per day month-on-month in June, led by increased mobility in North America and Europe, but reversed course in July and is set to proceed more slowly for the rest of the year due to the spread of the Delta variant

"International travels are restricted so

everyone is travelling by car. It is really a car-driven recovery that is pulling road fuel inventories down," said Cuneyt Kazokoglu, head of oil demand analysis at FGE.

World gasoline demand in June was only 3% lower than the 2019 average, according to FGE's estimate, and demand in the United States, Europe and China has either largely recovered or exceeded 2019 levels.

"Government regulations and restric-

tions are the main obstacles for demand recovery at the moment. Whenever they are lifted, we see pent-up demand and a strong recovery," said Kazokoglu.

Successful vaccination programmes in North America and Europe - with around half their populations fully inoculated according to Our World in Data project - meant easing restrictions and faster and steeper fuel stock drawdowns West-of-Suez than in the East.

Fuel stocks in Asia, where only around

30% of people are fully vaccinated, remain elevated overall as a rapid rise in COVID-19 case numbers in parts of the continent leads to new curbs on movement.

"It will be interesting to see what will happen in the next couple of months with fuel demand and the number of Delta cases," said Insights Global's Lars van Wageningen. "The situation is still unstable in several countries and we cannot say all are fully recovered."



## TECHNOLOGY

# HIGH SPEED 2 (HS2) RAILWAY PROJECT TIMELINE AND ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW



## LONDON

**H**IGH Speed 2 (HS2) Railway Project is a new high-speed railway project as the name suggests, that is being developed in the United Kingdom (UK) to connect London, the Midlands, the North, and Scotland.

With a total of 25 stations across the country, eight of which are in Britain's 10 largest cities, the HS2 will serve approximately 30 million people on its route and complement the existing High Speed 1 (HS1) that connects London to the Channel Tunnel.

The High Speed 2 (HS2) Railway Project is being implemented in three phases. Phase one, which broke grounds

in Q3 2020 and is expected to be opened to the public between 2029 and 2033, links London and the West Midlands.

It is close to 225.4km of dedicated high-speed railway with a total of four brand new stations at Euston, Old Oak Common in northwest London, Interchange station east of Birmingham, and Curzon Street in Birmingham. It also has two new depots, a total of 51km of tunnels, 500 bridging structures, and over 50 viaducts with a total length of 15km.

The second phase of the High Speed 2 (HS2) Railway Project, Phase 2a, will link the West Midlands from the northern end of Phase 1 at Fradley, and the North through Crewe in Cheshire. It will

have a total of 17 viaducts, 65 bridges, 36 embankments, 26 cuttings, 1 maintenance base, and 2 tunnels.

Its direct beneficiaries are the towns and cities across northwestern England, north Wales, and Scotland. This line will also join the existing rail network to create direct services to places such as Liverpool, Manchester, Preston, Carlisle, and Glasgow.

It is expected to start operations between 2029 and 2033.

Lastly, the third phase, Phase 2b, completes the High Speed 2 (HS2) Railway project to Manchester and Leeds.

The Phase 2b line forms a Y shape, split into an eastern and a western leg. The western leg will connect to the high-

speed lines at Crewe and run through to Manchester while the eastern leg will connect to high-speed lines in the West Midlands and run through to Leeds. Rail services will also travel onward to places like Glasgow, Liverpool, Preston, and Wigan.

This phase is expected to start operations between 2036 and 2040.

The latest progress report reveals that the total cost of the entire High Speed 2 (HS2) Railway Project could be close to US\$ 137bn.

## China completes work on \$1.7bn project to transform Pakistan's dysfunctional grid

## ISLAMABAD

A \$1.7bn electricity transmission line on the China and Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which was begun in December 2018, was inaugurated in a ceremony held in Islamabad and Beijing at the end of last month.

The 660kV Matiari-Lahore high-voltage direct current line will provide Pakistan's national grid with a new backbone and improve chronic problems with the country's energy transmission and distribution grids.

The 878km line was financed and built by the State Grid Corporation of China, which will operate it for the next 25 years. More than 1,300 Chinese and 6,500 Pakistani workers were employed on the scheme.

Hammad Azhar, Pakistan's energy minister, said the project would bring stability to the country's power system. Speaking at the online ceremony, he said the project would "enhance transmission capability and bring relief to consumers".

Electricity generation in Pakistan has increased dramatically in recent years, thanks to the large-scale construction of mainly coal-fired plants funded by China.

As a result the country has an installed capacity of around 37GW and peak demand of only 25GW, although this is growing at a rate of about 5% a year. However the grid is able

to handle only 22GW of power, resulting in chronic blackouts and load shedding, particularly in the summer when demand is highest.

However, problems occur in winter as well. In January of this year, the entire country suffered a blackout after a fault at a power station in southeast Sindh province caused the grid to lose its 50Hz frequency, which caused power stations throughout the country to close down.

This makes the reinforcement of the grid, arguably, the single most important infrastructure scheme for the country's socio-economic development.

Zhang Jianhua, head of China's National Energy Administration, told those present at the ceremony that the Matiari-Lahore line was the first large-scale transmission project of the CPEC, and would provide "solid assurance" for power transmission in the south and power supply in the north.

Speaking about the economic corridor in general, Azhar added: "The CPEC is of utmost importance for Pakistan. It will enable the country to enhance industrial production, upgrade energy and communication infrastructure and improve connectivity within the region."

Of Pakistan's 207 million people, roughly 58 million lacked access to grid electricity in 2018, including 46% of the rural population.



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# Shenzhen named centre of world's culture construction market

## SHENZHEN

SHENZHEN has the world's most vibrant cultural construction market according to the latest annual report into the sector from AEA Consulting.

It tracks culture projects with a value higher than \$10m, and found that China doubled the number of planned schemes from 12 in 2019 to 24 in 2020, and outspent the US in the sector by \$1.7bn.

Shenzhen, which neighbours Hong Kong in southeast China, accounted for 30% of the value of announced projects last year, and seven of the top 13 by budget.

The city plans to build 10 major cultural infrastructure projects and 10 cultural districts by 2023, the report said. Among the schemes announced are ones designed by French architect Jean Nouvel, SANAA of Japan and China's MAD.

It adds that the spending is aimed at transforming the city itself into a "cultural district", largely based on spending on museums. And although traditional heritage is "reclaiming a central role in urban planning", Shenzhen has become "a key site of urban experimentation in China". Shenzhen's 10 new projects are all located outside the city centre, and are being used as anchors for new districts. The surge in spending is also intended to remedy the relative lack of cultural attractions in the city: although Shenzhen has a population of 20 million, it has about 50 major venues, which is fewer than the number available to nearby Guangzhou's 15 million people.



Overall, construction was down 30% in the cultural sector compared with the 2019 report, al-

though there was an increase in the number of announced projects, to 130, and project values

rose to \$8.2bn for the first time since the index began in 2016.

Demand in North America and

Europe seems to have been more affected by the pandemic than other continents. The number of

projects fell by half in America spending fell to \$1.5bn from a peak of about \$3.8bn in 2019.



## WORLD

# Heatwave scorches Mediterranean in latest sign of extreme weather

By Bloomberg

A DANGEROUS heatwave is sweeping across the Mediterranean, the latest in a series of recent extreme weather events that underscore the real-world impacts of climate change.

The Italian island of Sicily may have smashed continental Europe's heat record when thermometers hit 48.8 degrees Celsius on Wednesday. While residents in the region are used to warm weather this time of year, authorities across the Mediterranean are warning their populations to take precautions as temperatures soar above 37 C.

The severe heat comes just days after the

world's top climate scientists said in a landmark report that the past decade was most likely hotter than any period in the last 125,000 years and that global temperatures will only keep rising without drastic cuts in greenhouse gas emissions.

Researchers found that climate change has caused heatwaves to become more frequent and intense across the world, leading to the deaths of vulnerable people who don't have access to proper protection. Heat can be particularly dangerous for children and the elderly.

"This is the Mediterranean, so summers are hot and dry, but this is unusually intense," said Bob Stefanski, head of applied climate



A man refreshes himself at a fountain in Palermo in Sicily, Italy on Aug 11, 2021. The ongoing heatwave will last up until the weekend with temperatures expected to reach well over 40 degrees Celsius in many parts of Italy. (AP)

services at the World Meteorological Organization. "It's a taste of things to come." The weather system that's causing the heat is set to most greatly impact central and southern Spain, southern Italy, Greece, the Balkans and western Turkey, he said.

In Tunisia, the temperature in the capital Tunis hit a record 48.9 C on Tuesday, breaking the previous record set in 1982, according to Mehrez Ghannouchi, a forecaster at Tunisia's Institut National de la Meteorologie.

Kairouan, another city located south of the capital, record-

ed a record-breaking 49 C on Wednesday.

There's a risk the temperatures could worsen fires that have been raging in Greece in recent days. "The heatwave will exacerbate and dry out and make the fire danger much greater," Stefanski said.

There should be some relief next week with temperatures forecast to dip. Still, as burning fossil fuels continue to play a major role in the world's energy system, scientists predict that such heatwaves will become more common in the future.

## Trump allies lose bid to dismiss Dominion lawsuits

THREE prominent allies of former US President Donald Trump - Rudy Giuliani, Sidney Powell and Mike Lindell - on Wednesday lost a bid to dismiss multibillion dollar lawsuits saying their false claims about the 2020 presidential election defamed the Dominion voting equipment company.

US District Judge Carl Nichols in Washington DC said in a written decision that lawsuits brought against the trio by Dominion Voting Systems should move forward. The company had said it was defamed because Trump and his supporters spread false claims that it rigged the election against him.

Nichols held that the First Amendment, which protects the right to free speech, offers "no blanket immunity" to Powell and Lindell in the lawsuits. Powell is a lawyer who later left the Trump campaign. Lindell is a conspiracy theorist who founded a pillow and bedding company.

The judge also rejected an argument by Giuliani, a former US prosecutor and mayor of New York, that Dominion had not explained its request for money damages with enough specificity.

A Dominion spokesperson said: "We are pleased to see this process moving forward to hold (the defendants) accountable."

Howard Kleinhendler, a lawyer for Powell, said they were disappointed with the decision. "However, we now look forward to litigating this case on its merits and proving that Ms. Powell's statements were accurate and certainly not published with malice."

Lawyers for Giuliani and Lindell did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Dominion has sought US\$1.3 billion in damages from the three, who supported Trump's false claims that President Joe Biden could not have won the election in which the company's voting machines were used.

Denver, Colorado-based Dominion has filed multiple lawsuits against Trump allies and conservative television networks, and has said it has not ruled out suing Trump.

On Tuesday, Dominion filed defamation lawsuits against two conservative media networks, One America News Network and Newsmax Media Inc, for amplifying Trump's election fraud claims. In those cases, Dominion is seeking US\$1.6 billion in damages from each network.

# Origin-tracing not tool for containing China

BEIJING

United States' relentless push to make China the sole focus of COVID-19 international origin-tracing has become an integral part of Washington's evolving strategy to contain China's growth and influence, observers said.

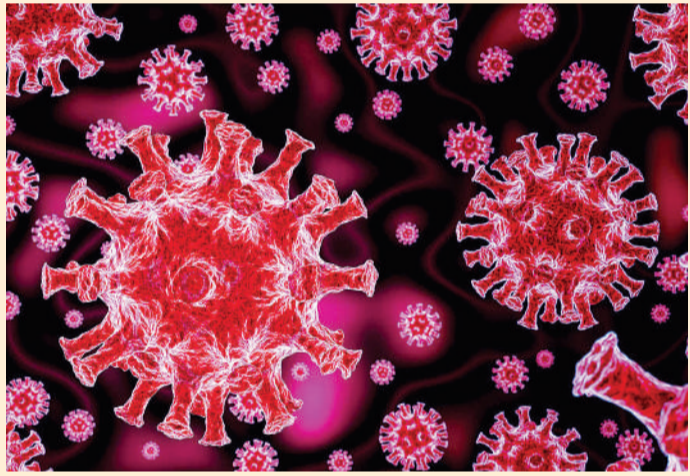
Fixating on China helps advance the US' ideology-based alignment with allies and could also reshape the political agenda, downplay its policy errors and win more domestic voters, officials and experts from around the world said.

Over the past few months, some Western countries, including the US, have been lobbying the World Health Organization to launch another COVID-19 probe in China despite Beijing's open welcoming of the completed WHO investigation.

In particular, Washington has publicly alleged that Beijing devoted "enormous resources to deceit and disinformation", and it vowed to continue to "demand transparency".

However, according to the report in late March on the completed WHO joint study, a lab leak was "extremely unlikely" to be the origin of the coronavirus.

Sending letters to the WHO director-general and issuing statements, around 70 coun-



tries have objected to the politicizing of COVID-19 origin-tracing and underscored their support for the WHO report on the virus, according to China's Foreign Ministry.

Kung Phoak, deputy secretary-general of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, said, "Much more politicized and stigmatized are the discourses on the origin of COVID-19, giving rise to hate crimes."

In a recently published opinion piece, the ASEAN official said "China has been cooperating with various countries and international organizations, such as the WHO, to address this pandemic", and he warned that "any politicization will undermine the whole purpose of saving all lives".

Ali El-Hefny, Egypt's former ambassador to China and former deputy foreign minister,

said, "The WHO is under the pressure of the US and the West to conduct a second phase of tracing the origin of COVID-19 in China."

The push for a second probe targeting China "is aimed at what the US and the West were unable to do" in the first round of the WHO investigation, the veteran diplomat told Chinese media in an interview.

Cavince Adhere, a Kenyan international relations expert, said, "There appears to be a buildup of political acts by some countries that now threaten the gains made in both pandemic source tracing and response."

He told Xinhua News Agency that the politicizing of the probe by some Western powers will hamper global efforts to control the virus.

Su Xiaohui, deputy director of the Department of Ameri-

can Studies at the China Institute of International Studies, said there has been a bipartisan, common choice in the US to scapegoat China over the origin-tracing issue.

The poor US COVID-19 response may lead to further political setbacks for the US Democratic Party in the mid-term election next year, and "the need for advancing a domestic political agenda" has prompted the administration of President Joe Biden to turn a cold shoulder to potential COVID-19 response collaboration with China proposed by Beijing and other countries, Su said.

"If it cooperates with China in the COVID-19 fight, it will be unlikely for (Democrats in) Washington to divert domestic pressure and (they) will face a series of attacks from Republicans," Su said.

Earlier this month, Michael McCaul, lead Republican of the US House Foreign Affairs Committee, released a report claiming that the novel coronavirus leaked from the Wuhan Institute of Virology sometime before September 2019.

In response, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said US congressmen have smeared and slandered China "in pursuit of political gains", and Beijing strongly condemns "such despicable acts, that have no moral bottom line".

The spokesperson advised US congressman McCaul to urge the US government to release the medical records of unexplained outbreaks of respiratory disease cases in the country in 2019 and urged Washington to stop "political manipulation under the pretext of the epidemic and shifting the blame to others".

Su, the CIIS scholar, said, "China and the US, both as major countries, should weather the storm and stay in the same boat together against the pandemic, but Washington has chosen an approach that better aligns with its own interests rather than those of the international community."

"This will serve as an insurmountable obstacle against China-US teamwork and global cooperation in the COVID-19 response," she said.

Buthaina Shabaan, Syria's presidential political adviser, said Washington is unable to mislead anyone with its COVID-19-related accusations because "the world knows what the origin of these accusations is".

It is not appropriate for the US to accuse China in this matter because China is the country that fought the pandemic with high efficiency and it's the country that offered help for many countries to fight the pandemic, she told Xinhua recently in Damascus. *Xinhua*

## East African Community to conclude review of common external tariff in 2021

NAIROBI

THE East African Community (EAC), a regional intergovernmental organization, plans to conclude a comprehensive review of the uniform tariff rate, the Common External Tariff (CET) in 2021, an official said Wednesday.

Peter Mathuki, secretary general of the EAC, told a virtual fo-

rum that the six member states - Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda - have agreed to increase the number of tariff bands to four from the current three in order to boost the region's industrialization agenda. "The review ought to have been done by June but now we look forward to having a new common external tariff by the end of the year."

Mathuki said during the forum on the EAC secretary-general's 100 days in office.

The CET is currently structured under three bands - zero percent for raw materials and capital goods, 10 percent for intermediate goods and 25 percent for finished goods.

Mathuki said that the proposed fourth band will cater for imports of goods into the region

that will attract duties above 25 percent, adding that out of the proposed 1,448 new product tariff lines for goods above the 25 percent band, partner states have already agreed on 457 tariff lines.

The partners have agreed to fast track the implementation of a new CET, because it will also help to resolve the issue of non-tariff barriers that currently

hampers intra-EAC trade.

Kenneth Bagamuhunda, director general of customs and trade at the EAC, said that the CET review is also intended to shield domestic industries from unfair foreign competition and it will also include reforms for the duty remission and exemptions schemes for zero rated imports of raw materials that are used in the manufacturing sector.

# Think tanks reveal truth about America's COVID-19 response

THE politicization of COVID-19, inaction in pandemic control and "origin tracing terrorism" of US politicians have not only plunged the U.S. into crises, but disrupted international anti-epidemic efforts, said a recent report published by Chinese think tanks.

The U.S. should face up to its own problems, stop wrongful acts of blame-shifting and spreading political virus, and truly take part in global anti-epidemic cooperation with a scientific, rational, and responsible attitude, said Chinese and foreign attendees to the publishing ceremony

of the report titled "America Ranked First?! The Truth about America's Fight Against COVID-19" on Monday, August 9.

The report was compiled by Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies of Renmin University of China (RDCY), Taihe Institute, and Intellisia Institute.

As of 6 pm EST on August 8, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases reported in the U.S. had reached 35,757,980, and death toll 616,816, according to statistics by Johns Hopkins University.

Data released by the U.S. De-

partment of Health and Human Services (HHS) show that about 66,000 Americans are hospitalized with COVID-19 across the country, the highest figure since February.

During the past week, the daily average tally of new confirmed COVID-19 cases in the U.S. exceeded 100,000.

Despite the rebounding COVID-19 pandemic situation, some U.S. media organizations have rated the U.S. as the best country regarding COVID-19 response, on unrealistic standards, of course.

What is the truth? With sub-

stantial living examples and data, the report reveals how the U.S. has responded to the pandemic. It includes five parts: For partisan competitions, not for the lives, Anti-science and against common-sense measures, System failures result in the pandemic difficult to control, The pandemic exacerbated the social gap and Willful destruction of global resistance to the pandemic.

Rating the U.S. as the best country in terms of COVID-19 response is just detrimental to presenting a real and objective history in the future, said Wang Wen,

executive dean of the RDCY.

While revealing the truth about COVID-19 response in the U.S., the report also reviews the pandemic development with a hope that other countries can draw lessons from the failure of the U.S. and summarize successful practices in COVID-19 prevention and control so as to better respond to similar public health crises in the future, Wang said.

Te COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. had been excessively politicized due to political disputes, partisan disputes in particular, and the country went against

common sense in prevention and control, policy measures, virus origin tracing investigation, and many other aspects of the efforts to control the pandemic, which was the direct reason why the U.S. became a "failed country in fighting the epidemic," said the report.

According to it, there have been frequent conflicts between U.S. federal, state, and local governments over COVID-19 prevention and control, and government agencies at all levels have shirked their responsibilities in pandemic response.

Plagued by "selective treatment" during the pandemic, the U.S. saw the poor unable to afford treatment, and the elderly unable to receive medical care, said the report, noting that a continuous rise in unemployment, crime rate, and racial problems in the U.S. society during the pandemic has further exacerbated social divide.

System failures are an important reason for the failure of the U.S. to control the pandemic, said Chen Dingding, head of Intellisia Institute.

People's Daily



In this Jan 6, 2021 photo, US President Donald Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani speaks to supporters from The Ellipse near the White House in Washington, DC. AFP

## Russian Embassy invites State Department to pay attention to human rights in US

WASHINGTON

THE Russian Embassy in Washington suggested that the U.S. State Department should pay attention to the human rights situation in its own country instead of criticizing Moscow.

"State Department spokesman [Ned Price] keeps criticizing Russia for assumed human rights violations. Meanwhile, it is high time the US drew its attention to the internal situation," the diplomatic mission said in a statement on Twitter from Russian diplomats on Wednesday.

"Here are some guidelines," the Russian embassy added, attaching a link to the Russian Foreign Ministry's website, where the report "On the situation with human rights in certain countries" is posted, which also mentions the United States.

On Wednesday, Ned Price said at a regular press briefing that the US authorities are closely following developments regarding the new charges against Alexei Navalny. According to him, "this is just a continuation of a very disturbing pattern."

Earlier, the Russian Foreign Ministry stated that the peremptory demands of a number of countries against Russia, as well as the campaign around the situation with Navalny in the media, are aimed exclusively at destabilizing the political situation in the country.



# US intelligence: Taliban could take Afghan capital in 90 days

WASHINGTON/KABUL

TALIBAN fighters could isolate Afghanistan's capital in 30 days and possibly take it over within 90, a US defense official cited US intelligence as saying, as the resurgent militants made more advances across the country.

The official, speaking to Reuters on condition of anonymity on Wednesday, said the new assessment of how long Kabul could stand was a result of the Taliban's rapid gains as US-led foreign forces leave.

"But this is not a foregone conclusion," the official added, saying that the Afghan security forces could reverse the momentum by putting up more resistance.

The Islamists now control 65 percent of Afghanistan and have taken or threaten to take 11 provincial capitals, a senior EU official said on Tuesday. Faizabad, in the northeastern province of Badkhashan, on Wednesday became the eighth provincial capital to be seized by the Taliban.

Fighting was extremely intense in Kandahar city, a doctor based in southern Kandahar province said. The city received scores of bodies of Afghan forces and some injured Taliban.

All gateways to Kabul, which lies in a valley surrounded by mountains, were choked with civilians fleeing violence, a Western security source said. It was hard to tell whether Taliban fighters were also getting through, the source said.

"The fear is of suicide bombers entering the diplomatic quarters

to scare, attack and ensure everyone leaves at the earliest opportunity," he said.

The speed of the Taliban advance has shocked the government and its allies. The group, which controlled most of Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, when it was ousted for harboring al Qaeda chief Osama bin Laden after Sept 11, wants to defeat the US-backed government and reimpose strict Islamic law.

US State Department spokesman Ned Price said the attacks were against the spirit of a 2020 agreement.

The Taliban committed to talks on a peace accord that would lead to a "permanent and comprehensive ceasefire," Price said on Wednesday. "All indications at least suggest the Taliban are instead pursuing a battlefield victory."

"Attacking provincial capitals and targeting civilians is inconsistent with the spirit of the agreement," he said.

The United Nations said more than 1,000 civilians had been killed in the past month, and the International Committee of the Red Cross said that since Aug 1 some 4,042 wounded people had been treated at 15 health facilities.

The Taliban denied targeting or killing civilians and called for an independent investigation.

The group "has not targeted any civilians or their homes in any locality, rather the operations have been undertaken with great precision and caution," spokesperson Suhail Shaheen said in a statement on Wednesday.



Taliban fighters stand guard at a checkpoint inside the city of Farah, capital of Farah province, southwest Afghanistan, Aug 11, 2021. (MOHAMMAD ASIF KHAN/AP)

## Peace talks

The loss of Faizabad was the latest setback for the government of President Ashraf Ghani, who flew to Mazar-i-Sharif to rally old warlords to the defense of the biggest city in the north as Taliban forces closed in.

Ghani spent years sidelining the warlords as he tried to project the authority of his central government over wayward provinces.

US President Joe Biden said on Tuesday he did not regret his decision to withdraw and urged Afghan leaders to fight for their

## homeland.

Washington had spent more than US\$1 trillion over 20 years and lost thousands of US troops, and continued to provide significant air support, food, equipment and salaries to Afghan forces, he said.

The Afghans "need to determine ... if they have the political will to fight back and if they have the ability to unite as leaders to fight back," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said.

She declined to comment on the intelligence assessments that Kabul could be overtaken by the

Taliban within 90 days, which were first reported by the Washington Post, but said the plan to withdraw troops by Aug 31 held.

A source familiar with the assessments said they paint a range of possible outcomes including a rapid Taliban takeover, an extended fight and a possible negotiated agreement between the Taliban and current government.

## New Generation

The Taliban advances have raised fears of a return to power of the hardline militants who formed in 1994 from the chaos of civil war.

A new generation of Afghans, who have come of age since 2001, fears the progress made in areas such as women's rights and media freedom will be squandered.

The State Department's Price said the United States was working to forge an international consensus behind the need for a peace accord. The Taliban have captured districts bordering Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Pakistan and China, heightening regional security concerns.

He spoke as envoys from the United States, China, Russia and other countries met in Doha with Taliban and Afghan government negotiators in a bid to break a months-long deadlock in peace talks.

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan said Taliban leaders told him earlier this year that they will not negotiate with the Afghan government as long as Ghani remains president.

Agencies

ICC voices commitment to achieve justice for victims of Sudan's Darfur region

KHARTOUM

PROSECUTOR of the International Criminal Court (ICC) Karim Khan has reiterated the court's commitment to achieve justice for the victims of the conflict in Sudan's Darfur region.

Khan made the remarks on Wednesday after a meeting in Sudan's capital Khartoum with members of the country's Sovereign Council Al-Hadi Idris and Al-Tahir Hajar.

He urged in a statement the Sudanese government to help achieving the court's task. Earlier, Sudan's Foreign Minister Mariam Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi said the Council of Ministers has agreed to hand over the suspects wanted by the ICC to the court, according to official SUNA news agency.

She noted the cabinet would submit the decision to hand over the suspects and a draft law to join the ICC Rome Statute to a joint meeting for the sovereign council and the cabinet (the interim parliament) for approval.

The ICC court demands handing over of the ousted Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir and two of his senior aides to appear before the court, accusing them of allegedly committing war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur region.

On Aug. 3, the Sudanese cabinet approved a draft law to join the ICC Rome Statute, but this law will not be effective until it is approved by the interim parliament.

Xinhua

## Health services to be a highlight of 2021 China International Fair for Trade in Services

THE 2021 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), themed "Towards Digital Future and Service Driven Development," is scheduled to kick off on Sept. 2 at the China National Convention Center and Shougang Park in Beijing.

The health services thematic exhibition of the six-day event is expected to receive huge attention as the world is grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The health services sector of the 2021 CIFTIS will include both online and offline activities, such as exhibitions and professional forums. It will showcase China's innovation capability in medical technology and services, innovation results of medical products, as well as the development of health services, with an aim to expand the opening-up of the Chinese health industry amid regular epidemic prevention and control, and build a sound situation featuring win-win results.

The thematic exhibition will include six sections of pandemic control, medical services, scientific innovation, traditional medicine, health of the seniors and international medical care services, covering innovative medicine, high-end medical apparatus and instruments, commercial health insurance and health services. Traditional Chinese medicine will also be showcased at the exhibition.

The thematic exhibition will promote science-based pandemic control and healthy lifestyles, so as to help the public improve their health literacy.

The health services thematic



An employee of Sinovac Biotech shows Sinovac inactivated COVID-19 vaccine at China International Fair for Trade in Services in Beijing, Sept. 6, 2020. File photo

exhibition will be held at revenue E5 of the Shougang Park, covering a total exhibition area of 6,600 square meters. It has already attracted a number of medical institutions, renowned pharmaceutical companies and medical apparatus manufacturers, as well as insurance and nursing institutions.

By Aug. 1, 52 enterprises and organizations have confirmed their participation, over half of which are industrial leaders or on the Fortune Global 500 list. Thirty-four percent of them are from overseas.

Telemedicine, 5G-enabled medical treatment, robot-assisted surgery and other frontier medical technologies are expected to be exhibited at the exhibition through videos and presentations. Besides, the lat-

est technologies in the sphere will also be unveiled.

The exhibition will build an interactive area to bring better experiences to visitors. For instance, they can explore the mystery and fun of medical experiments through videos and audios in a mobile lab, and learn how to prevent AIDS, paediatric allergies, cerebrovascular diseases, and neurodegenerative diseases. In addition, they will also be able to acquire information about epidemic prevention, first aid treatment, and chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, arthroplogosis, and gout. Those who visit the interactive area will receive comics about medical science as gifts.

As of Aug. 1, 93 percent of

the exhibition areas of the 2021 CIFTIS had been booked, and 48 percent of the areas were booked by industrial leaders or Fortune Global 500 companies. Twenty-eight percent of the exhibitors are from overseas.

A total of 165 overseas institutions and foreign institutions in China from 108 overseas countries and regions have confirmed their participation online or offline in the CIFTIS, including 81 Belt and Road countries. Among the world's top 30 countries and regions in service trade, 29 have said they would join the event except Norway.

The agenda of the 2021 CIFTIS will center on global hotspot issues including the digital economy, carbon neutrality and pandemic control. Alibaba, HP, Tencent and Pfizer have confirmed to launch new technologies, results and services at the event, covering carbon neutrality, internet of things, smart healthcare, financial technology, cyber security, AI and internet media.

Sun Yao, head of the Beijing Investment Promotion Service Center and deputy director of Beijing Municipal Commerce Bureau, introduced that apart from the China National Convention Center, the Shougang Park will be newly introduced as the venue of thematic exhibitions of the event.

The digital platform of the CIFTIS will be constantly optimized to offer regular exhibition, launching and negotiation services for merchants, Sun added.

People's Daily

## Sputnik V demonstrates almost 100% efficacy, San Marino institute says

WASHINGTON

ROME, August 10. /TASS/. Antibodies to coronavirus after receiving a second dose of the Russian Sputnik V vaccine were developed by 99% of the participants of a joint study by San Marino's government and Italy's Lazzaro Spallanzani National Institute for Infectious Diseases, representative of San Marino's Institute for Social Security Franco Cavalli told TASS.

"The study conducted jointly with the Lazzaro Spallanzani Institute is directed at researching the vaccine's efficacy."

In San Marino, the studies so far have been focused on measuring the level of antibodies 21 days after introducing the first dose and then 21 days after injecting the second dose [of the vaccine].

According to preliminary results which were obtained based on data of more than

5,000 people, after the second dose more than 99% [of study participants] developed the antibodies," the official said. He emphasized that now the Italian institute will "conduct a quality analysis of these antibodies." "The study still continues," he noted.

The official reported that almost 20,000 residents of San Marino (almost two-thirds of the population) were inoculated with Sputnik V.

"To 19,927 individuals one can add 840 foreign tourists who traveled to get vaccinated from various countries," he added.

According to the official, there have been instances of coronavirus infection during the interval between the first and the second dose as well as immediately following the second dose.

"However, so far we do not have the exact data on this. And we know that similar cases happened also with the Pfizer vac-

cine," he added.

The first batch of Sputnik V, according to an agreement between the republic's government which is not part of the EU and the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) arrived in San Marino on February 23. In May, the local authorities announced the closure of the coronavirus department at a local hospital.

On August 11, 2020, Russia became the first worldwide to register the Sputnik V vaccine against the coronavirus infection, the Russian jab has been certified by almost 70 countries.

Over 30 countries have already launched mass inoculation with Sputnik V. The efficacy of the jab at the level of 91.6% was confirmed by the data published in the leading medical journal The Lancet. On March 4, the European Medicines Agency (EMA) reported that it began the rolling review of the vaccine.

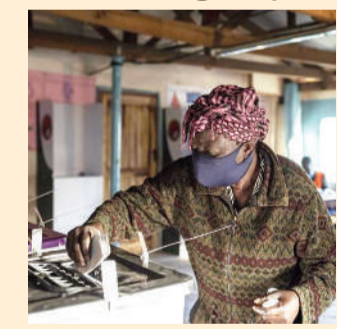
## Voting starts in Zambia's tightly-contested elections

LUSAKA

VOTING in Zambia's tightly-contested general elections began on Thursday with long queues in polling stations in the capital Lusaka.

Incumbent President Edgar Lungu was the first voter at Andrew Mwenya Polling Station at Crawford School in the sprawling Chawama Shanty Compound in Lusaka, who urged people to maintain peace as they exercise their right to vote.

Polling stations in the country are open from 6 am



to 6 pm local time.

But voters started queuing at various polling stations as early as 4 am and waited to cast their votes in an election that has attracted 16 presidential candidates, among them Lungu.

Joseph Phiri, who was found at the queue, said he has never seen such huge crowds turning up to vote since the 1991 elections.

"It is a sign that people are eager to vote and we don't expect voter apathy in this election," he said.

About 7 million voters are voting for a president, lawmakers, city mayors and councilors in the elections.

Police officers kept vigil at a distance to ensure security following a spate of violence witnessed in some parts of the country in the run-up to the elections. Xinhua

THE World Health Organization (WHO) said on Wednesday a clinical trial in 52 countries would study three anti-inflammatory drugs as potential treatments for COVID-19 patients.

"These therapies - artesunate, imatinib and infliximab - were selected by an independent expert panel for their potential in reducing the risk of death in hospitalised COVID-19 patients," it said in a statement on the Solidarity PLUS trial.

Artesunate is already used for severe malaria, imatinib for certain cancers, and infliximab for diseases of the immune system such as Crohn's Disease and rheu-

## WHO trials anti-inflammatory drugs for COVID-19 patients

matoid arthritis.

The original Solidarity trial last year found that all four treatments evaluated - remdesivir, hydroxychloroquine, lopinavir/ritonavir and interferon - had little or no effect in helping COVID patients.

So far, only corticosteroids have been proven effective against severe and critical COVID-19.

The WHO said artesunate, produced by Ipca, is used to treat malaria. In

the trial, it will be administered intravenously for seven days, using the standard dose recommended for the treatment of severe malaria.

Imatinib, produced by Novartis, is used to treat certain cancers. In the trial, it will be administered orally, once daily, for 14 days.

Infliximab, produced by Johnson and Johnson, is used to treat diseases of the immune system. In

the trial, it will be administered intravenously as a single dose.

EU

Europe's drugs regulator said on Wednesday it was looking into three new conditions to assess whether they may be possible side-effects related to COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna following a small number of cases.

Erythema multiforme, a form of allergic skin reaction, and glomerulonephritis and nephrotic syndrome, disorders related to kidneys, are being studied by the safety committee of the European Medicines Agency (EMA), according to the regulator.

The mRNA technology used by the two vaccines has been a turning point in the pandemic and for the scientific community, with their high effectiveness against COVID-19, but

some rare side-effects of the shots are being studied as more people are inoculated globally.

Last month, the EMA found a possible link between very rare heart inflammation and the mRNA vaccines. However, the European regulator and the World Health Organization have stressed that benefits from these vaccines outweighed any risks posed by them, read more

The EMA did not give details on Wednesday as to how many cases of the new conditions were recorded following vaccination with the Pfizer and Moderna shots, but said it has requested more data from the companies to study any potential relation between them.

Pfizer and Moderna did not immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment.

Ukraine has extended a state of emergency that allows regional authorities to impose COVID-19 restrictions for a further month until Oct 1 to tackle a surge in infections from the rapidly spreading Delta variant, the prime minister said on Wednesday.



# SPORT



Faroukh Shikhalo. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

## Shikhalo: I do not know Yanga's reasons for offloading me

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

AFTER being left out of Yanga's squad for the 2021/22 season, Kenyan goalkeeper, Faroukh Shikhalo, has thanked the team, noting he does not know the reasons for being released by the squad.

Shikhalo said he is grateful for the two years he spent in the squad, conceding he had a good relationship with fellow keepers, Metacha Mnata and Ramadhan Kabwili.

Mnata has also been offloaded by Yanga after the expiry of his contract.

The former Kenya Prem League's Bandari FC shot-stopper admitted that Mnata contributed significantly to his improvement and gave him challenge in competing for a place in the club's first team.

He noted: "Metacha is, to me, a good goalkeeper and he can play for any big team and show his potential."

"It was good to be with him all the time and collectively we worked hard, I believe he will have much success wherever he goes."

"Kabwili is also a good goalkeeper, he will benefit Tanzania, he is patient and I believe he will become a strong pillar and he will represent Tanzania well internationally, I believe in the way he fights and perseveres."

The shot-stopper pointed out: "Regarding my departure from Yanga, I do not know exactly what led to the move. Maybe the coach had his reasons or maybe there are other reasons but I don't do not know."

"I'm just thankful for the time I had to work with Yanga and his fans who we were with me in every situation since I came, thank you very much," Shikhalo noted.

The goalkeeper, who played for Bandari FC of Kenya before moving to Yanga, has revealed that he currently has several offers in hand.

He disclosed he needs to calm down before making a decision, so he will return to Kenya to rest with his family to plan and find the right direction.

Yanga has parted ways with Shikhalo and Metacha and already signed Malian goalkeeper, Djigui Diarra, and Erick Johola for next season's CAF Champions League and Mainland Premier League.

## KMKM opens up on defeat in 2021 CECAFA Kagame Cup semi-final

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

ZANZIBAR Premier League champion, KMKM, has pointed out the club's players' inexperience cost them a place in this year's CECAFA Kagame Cup final.

The Isles' squad's coach, Ame Msimu, admitted when his outfit suffered 2-1 loss to Uganda Premier League champion, Express FC, in the regional tournament's last-four clash, played at Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

The semi-final had KMKM registering the first goal in the 45th minute, but in the second half, Express FC came on top and equalized before scoring the winner two minutes before the final whistle.

Speaking after the game, Msimu said his players failed to respect their opponents after scoring.

The tactician revealed the approach put them at risk of pouring forward and forgetting to defend well.

"Our opponents have experience in continental competitions and that is what has cost us, but I'm happy to see my youngsters play well and put resistance but that's it," Msimu

conceded.

The coach said the tournament has helped to strengthen his team for the premier continental tournament they will participate in early next month after becoming champions of the Zanzibar Premier League.

He said he is making sure they put a solid performance in the regional tournament's third-place tie to ease the pain of losing the semi-final game against Express FC.

The KMKM is once again to be pitted against Azam FC in the match, as the latter went down to guest outfit, Nyasa Big Bullets FC, in the second semi-final, played at the Azam Complex two days back.

Azam FC kissed the showpiece goodbye considering the squad suffered a 4-2 loss to the Malawian side on penalties after they were locked to a 2-2 draw in both regular and extra time.

The final will now involve foreign squads, with Express FC taking on Nyasa Big Bullets FC at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in the city tomorrow.

The CECAFA Kagame Cup third-place duel, bringing together KMKM and Azam FC, is to take place earlier the same day.

## SPORTS

## Congolese footballers tipped to excel in Mainland Premier League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE sense and desire built up for Tanzania's soccer players in the early 2000s to play for big African clubs, including those in DR Congo led by TP Mazembe, was huge.

The desire came about thanks to the quality, investment, and interest in football found there.

This season, the situation seems to be changing, given the Mainland Tanzania Premier League has experienced an influx of players from DR Congo.

The situation is certainly not caused by a drop in DR Congo top flight's quality but an increase in the Mainland Tanzania Premier League's followers in recent years.

With the Congolese players now heading to the Mainland Tanzania Premier League, there will next season be more than nine Congolese footballers in the top flight.

### Chris Mugalu

Mugalu was roped in by Simba in the last season's main registration window from Lusaka Dynamos of Zambia.

Despite finishing second on the list of Mainland Tanzania Premier League's goal scorers, Mugalu is the only player in the league's just ended season, who played 17 league matches and scored 15 goals while providing four assists.

### Tuisila Kisinda

The 21-year-old winger joined Yanga at the start of last season from DR Congo's AS Vita on loan, with his outfit, DR Congo's Maniema Union, first loaning the winger to AS Vita.

After joining Yanga, Kisinda won the popularity and helped the team finish second in the Mainland Tanzania Premier League and qualify to participate in the CAF Champions League next season.

### Alex Kitenge

The DR Congo central defender turns out for Coastal Union based in Tanga, he has been a key player since signing for the outfit and he has played part in their successful quest to maintain their spot in the league.

### Mukoko Tonombe

Yanga's defensive midfielder came in the July transfer window from AS Vita Club of DR Congo and he is a key figure in the team midfield.

While at AS Vita, he was one of the key players who were committed to fighting for the team.

Since joining Yanga, his level has improved significantly and earned him a first-time call-up to the DR Congo national team.

### Fiston Mayele

In August this year, the DR Congo national was officially introduced by Yanga and he was given the number nine jersey, ready to serve the Jangwani Street outfit in the next season.

Mayele, a gifted striker, was roped in from AS Vita, where he last season finished second in DR Congo's top flight's goal-scoring charts with 13 goals.

### Djuma Shaban

The right-back from AS Vita has been signed by Yanga this season and is ready to turn it on next season.

Shaban shined last season especially in the CAF Champions League, which earned him an opportunity to play for Yanga.

Djuma is one of the best defenders in the DR Congo national squad and is renowned for his efficiency in boosting the team's attacks.

### Idriss Mbombo

Azam FC has signed the



Azam FC's newly recruited striker Idriss Mbombo will boost DR Congo's professionals' presence in next season's Mainland Tanzania Premier League. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

attacker that featured for several clubs, which include Zambia's Zesco United, Kabwe Warriors, and Nkana, and Al Hilal of Sudan.

Mbombo, who is a menace in front of goal, has joined Azam FC from Egypt's El Gouna and is one of the players expected to take part in the Premier League next season, leading Azam FC's front line.

### Heritier Makambo

The striker is not a stranger to the Mainland Premier League as he played for Yanga in the 2018/19 season and flourished at the outfit.

He left for Guinea's AC Horoya in the 2019/20 season and is now back at Yanga.

The ace striker may next season form an attacking pair with fellow Congolese, Mayele.

### Inonga Baka

The central defender is rumoured to be on his way to featuring for Simba, given the footballer has completed all registration formalities.

Baka was first expected to move to Yanga to replace former team captain Lamine Moro but Simba who was earlier chasing for his signature managed to secure it.

He joins Simba from DR Congo's DC Motema Pembe and his presence at Simba means he will see the number of Congolese footballers in the Premier League reach nine next season.

## DCC A cricketers boost title chase in Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League

By Guardian Reporter

SENIOR cricketers made their presence count as Dar Cricket Club (DCC) A posted a three-wicket win over K&P Constructions Club in 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League (MNML)'s Division B 30 Overs' duel, which took place last Sunday.

K&P Constructions Club cricketers had the opportunity to bat first and were bowled out for 143 runs in 29.4 overs.

It was a hardly convincing performance that K&P Constructions Club showcased when they took the crease, with the outfit experiencing a woeful start.

The squad's opening batsmen, Suman Emuru and Bogineni Prasad, had brief spells, failing to notch two-digit figures.

Prasad could merely notch two runs, with his stint being brought to an end DCC A outfit's Ally Hafidh.

Sajad Ratansi of the DCC A squad performed a catch to send the K&P Constructions Club batsman out off Hafidh's tricky delivery.

The fellow opener, Emuru, was yet another Hafidh victim, given he was outfoxed by the youthful cricketer's bowling, and made his way with seven runs consisting of four.

Hema Suryakant Mullapudi, slotted in at number three, managed to curtail DCC A squad's early onslaught, he executed solid knocks, notching 27 runs consisting of four fours.

K&P Constructions Club then experienced a wobble given two top-order performers, Nassoro Zahoro and Naga Gurijala, and middle-order batsman, Nageswara Ila Rao, were sent back to the pavilion within short stints.

Zahoro and Gurijala were three runs short or two-digit figures, clearing the boundary once, Rao notched two runs.

K&P Constructions Club's skipper, Lakshmikanth Sukavasi, sought to see to it the squad take control of the innings, in which the cricketer notched 26 runs.

Shaik Abdul Shaheel, who came on as a low order batsman, to some extent boosted his squad's quest for notching a respectable total with his unbeaten 36 runs.

Twenty-one extra runs, which were given away by DCC A bowlers, somehow improved K&P Constructions Club's total.

The DCC A outfit's bowlers, Sajad Ratansi and Hafidh, had impressive



Dar Cricket Club (DCC) A's skipper, Adil Kassam, poses for a picture with the best player of the match's prize that he won for his impressive displays when his squad faced K&P Constructions Club in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League (MNML)'s Division B 30 Overs duel last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DAR ES SALAAM CRICKET

figures, given they took three wickets apiece, with Ratansi going for 5.4 overs, Hafidh went for a six-over stint.

Needing 144 runs to come out with a victory, DCC A cricketers had to deploy all skills at their disposal, posting 147 runs, losing seven wickets in 27.1 overs.

The likes of Assad Aziz, Adil Kassam, and Dharmin Parmar put their experience, seeing to it their outfit's quest for successful chase reach fruition.

The opener, Kassam, DCC A team's captain, got his outfit's pursuit of victory off to a good start, notching 26 runs consisting of three boundaries.

Despite a brief spell fellow opener Sufian Usman had to endure, the squad kept on piling runs, thanks to spirited showing displayed Parmar, Aziz, and Noman Ishaq.

Usman got out once he posted 11 runs, given his stint was brought to an end K&P Constructions Club's Sukavasi.

Aziz, deployed at number three, boosted the total as the cricketer notched 37 runs consisting of four boundaries.

Ishaq had DCC A squad taking control of the tie, nailing 25 runs which included a four.

The DCC A inched closer to a successful chase with Parmar's 24 runs which included four fours.

Ratansi, in the end, bailed DCC A team out, notching six runs not out which included a four.

K&P Constructions Club's Sukavasi and Mullapudi put spirited bowling showing and took three wickets and two wickets respectively, which did not prevent their outfit from losing.

Kassam was presented with the clash's best player prize, following his stellar displays with bat and ball for the DCC A team.

The experienced cricketer, also a wicket-keeper, was in good form with the bat and he as well played a pivotal role in seeing to it his side got K&P Constructions Club's crucial wickets of Mullapudi and Sukavasi.



# Inside Messi's final days at Barcelona and how he ended up joining PSG

ESPN

ON Monday, Lionel Messi sat at his home in Castelldefels, a beach town in the Barcelona suburbs, waiting for his move to Paris Saint-Germain to develop.

It was revealed last Thursday that he could not return to Barcelona – negotiations had been ongoing with the French club since that day, when Barca announced “economic obstacles” prevented them from formalising the five-year contract they had agreed with Messi – and the world's media were waiting for his next move. International news agencies had video journalists stationed at his house, at the airports in Barcelona and Paris, at the Paris hospital where PSG's new signings typically undergo their medicals, and at the French club's headquarters in Boulogne-Billancourt.

On Tuesday, the image finally arrived as Messi, who spent 21 years at Barca after joining at age 13, headed to the airport.

His former teammate and close friend Luis Suarez had left minutes earlier, having spent the past two days at the Messi household. Later that day, Messi, a one-club man no more, was unveiled by PSG, signing an initial two-year deal with the Ligue 1 side. His every move throughout the day had already been tracked by camera crews all over the French capital before the club finally released a drone video taking viewers on a dramatic tour of the club shop and stadium before honing in on Messi, stood on the centre spot at the Parc des Princes after his move was completed.

Messi wanted to quit Barca 12 months ago. At the time, sources told ESPN that Manchester City were his preferred destination club, although PSG were also in the race. This time, though, he didn't want to leave. In an interview with journalist Jordi Evole last December, Messi said he would wait until the end of the 2020-21 season before making any decision on his future. By the end of the campaign, it had become increasingly apparent he now wanted to stay.

The return of Joan Laporta as president had been key in his turnaround. Laporta was the president when Messi broke into Barca's first team. He was the president when Pep Guardiola was appointed as manager, too, and oversaw a period of dominance including Barca's first treble in 2009, led by Messi, Xavi Hernandez and Andres Iniesta. The charismatic lawyer had a good relationship with the player and his father, Jorge. Shortly after Laporta was elected in March for a second term, he had lunch with Messi, who has since explained that he left that meeting convinced he would prolong his relationship with Barcelona.

However, with each passing week, the true extent of Barca's financial problems came into stark focus. The club's gross debt was creeping toward €1.2 billion, and LaLiga president Javier Tebas warned that, without huge cutbacks, they would not be permitted to register a new deal for Messi. (It's still not clear whether they will even be able to register their summer signings before the league kicks off this weekend: Memphis Depay, Sergio Aguero, Eric Garcia and Emerson Royal were all ostensibly signed to keep Messi happy with the squad.)

Barcelona blamed those financial issues for being unable to keep Messi, but the story runs deeper than that. This was about years of mismanagement and overspending; a feud between LaLiga and its top two clubs; two of the biggest figures in Barca's recent history falling out; a late plot twist; and hurried negotiations in Paris stretching late into the night.

It all contributed to the realisation of a dream held by Qatar Sports Investments since QSI purchased PSG in 2011. This is how one of the game's greatest-ever players was forced to leave his boyhood club after a record-breaking 672 goals in 778 games and 35 trophies in 16 glittering seasons.

With additional reporting by Rob Dawson, Eduardo Fernandez-Abascal, Moises Llorens and Rodrigo Faez.

The breaking point for Messi, Barcelona, LaLiga two weeks ago, Messi was certain he would sign a new deal with Barcelona, but by the time he flew to Paris on Tuesday, he felt let down and betrayed by the club. He didn't criticise anyone when he said goodbye in a news conference on Sunday, but he hinted he wasn't completely satisfied that the club had done all they could to keep him.

In fact, Messi had already reached an agreement to extend his contract with Barcelona. Sources told ESPN in July that a five-year deal had been agreed, with Messi accepting a 50% pay cut. The salary would be staggered so that Messi would earn more in the final year of the deal than the first. The club confirmed that terms had been agreed when they revealed Messi's departure last Thursday but also that the league's financial fair play rules meant it was impossible to register that deal.

Barca's spending limit for wages and transfers was over €600 million before the pandemic. Sources estimate it will be around €200m for the upcoming season. Speaking last Friday, Laporta explained that the club's losses for last season were nudging €500m – over double what had been estimated. The Barca president said that, with Messi, the club's wage bill was 110% of revenue; without Messi, it was 95%. Under the league's regulations, the wages-to-revenue limit must be around 70%, meaning that even if Messi had taken a bigger wage reduction or played for free – something he couldn't have done as the league has a minimum salary requirement of around €155,000 per year – Barca still wouldn't have been able to register him without big cutbacks.

Laporta, though, has known this for months. He knew the financial situation when he was elected in March; and he knew the financial situation when he signed Garcia, Aguero, Emerson and Depay. He blamed the “shipwreck” on the previous board and said an internal audit had shown the club's economic state was “much worse than expected,” but he hadn't always acted as if this was a club facing up to a new reality after years of financial mismanagement under the previous president, Josep Maria Bartomeu.

But there was an out for Laporta.

In mid-July, he met with the LaLiga president Tebas, who outlined the league's plan to sell 10% of its commercial business to the investment fund, CVC Capital Partners. The sale, worth €2.7 billion, would benefit every Spanish club financially; it would also, crucially, allow Barca to register Messi's new contract. Tebas has since said there was “enthusiasm in abundance” from the Barca directors present at the meeting about their improved chances of renewing Messi.

However, by the time LaLiga announced the deal last Wednesday, Laporta had backtracked. Sources explained that Barcelona CEO Ferran Reverter convinced him that the deal wasn't in Barca's best interests and that they would be giving up too much to CVC Capital Partners, who would pocket around 10% of the league's revenue (including television rights) for the next 50 years. After Real Madrid released a statement criticising the deal, Barca followed suit. Laporta had backed out, giving up on Messi in the process. In the days since, Madrid have announced they will sue LaLiga and CVC over the agreement, while on Wednesday morning, the Royal Spanish Football Federation branded the sale “illegal.”

Laporta and Madrid president Florentino Perez have been feuding with Tebas and LaLiga over the European Super League for months, too. A source at the league, though, said there was nothing in the CVC deal that would have outright quashed plans for a breakaway European competition.

Messi returned to Barcelona last Wednesday after time away in Miami, the Dominican Republic and Ibiza. A photograph of him in Ibiza with Neymar and three other PSG players was a “coincidence,” he'd later say, and sources insist he returned to Spain with the intention of signing his new Barca contract this past Thursday, the same day his dad was due to fly in from Miami. However, Laporta had seemingly determined that it was financially “impossible” to renew Messi's terms. In a news conference on Friday, he said he would have been putting the club's future in jeopardy by signing off on the CVC deal, even if meant keeping Messi.

Sources close to the negotiations told ESPN there are doubts about Laporta's version of events, about when he decided it wasn't viable to keep Messi and about how, and when, he communicated everything to the player and his father. One source even suggested Laporta had known for weeks but strung the Messi family along, keen to make it look as if he had done all he could to keep the six-time World Player of the Year. The source pointed to Barca's failure to offer a new contract to Pepe Costa, who was officially part of the club's player care unit, when his terms expired in June.

Costa's main role was as Messi's confidant inside the dressing room. He will likely find a home in Paris. The same source also labelled the summer signings as “strange” if Laporta hoped to renew Messi, although it was true Messi had wanted a team capable of competing in all competitions, from LaLiga to the Champions League.

“Ask the club,” Jorge told reporters on Tuesday when asked whether anyone was to blame for his son's premature exit.

On Sunday, a day after holding a farewell party at his house, Messi broke his silence in a news conference at the auditorium next to Camp Nou. It was attended by his family, the first-team squad, former teammates (and friends) Xavi Hernandez and Puyol, among others. As tears streamed down his face, he spoke of his sadness at having to leave.

“I don't know [whether Barca did all they could to keep me], what I am clear about is that I did everything I could,” he said. “Laporta said we couldn't do it because of the league [rules]. I can tell you that I did all that I could to stay, because I wanted to stay.”

Messi's comments made it clear he had some reservations about Laporta's story. Images of Laporta hugging Messi were abundant after he was elected for a second time in March, but sources told ESPN that Messi didn't want to have photographs with the president after Sunday's farewell event, when he posed with all the trophies he has won at Barca with friends, teammates and ex-teammates. Instead, the only image of the two that day was a cold handshake as Messi left Camp Nou one last time; sources confirmed that the relationship between the two is damaged.

There had been growing tension between them in the previous days, and that resulted in each giving his own news conference as they went their separate ways. In the 48 hours since Messi's exit, one director, Jaume Llopis, has stepped down, saying Barca “didn't do everything they could” and highlighting Laporta's behaviour since everything unravelled.

Last Friday, Laporta was spotted at a Jose Luis Perales concert, singing the unfortunate lyrics “y se marchó” (“and he left”) and on Saturday, he met with Madrid chief Perez and Juventus president Andrea Agnelli. This week, he's been in Ibiza.

“Nobody can understand that while fans are crying about Leo leaving, Laporta is enjoying a fish supper with Real Madrid's president,” Llopis told Spanish radio. “That doesn't paint a very good image.”

Llopis' complaint is that Laporta didn't put everything into keeping Messi. He feels Laporta could have done more before and after Thursday's announcement. Instead, Laporta quickly turned the page, and his meeting with Perez and Agnelli, the last-standing components of the Super League project, irked people around the club. Meanwhile, Messi's Barca's teammates were stunned by everything that happened. It was over 24 hours before any of them posted on social media. Sergio Busquets was the first; the rest of the squad followed soon after. “No one wanted to be the first,” one player told ESPN.

On Sunday, there were tears at Messi's farewell, but also a determination to do well without him. “We still have a great squad,” the player added.

Messi looks to Paris

The breakdown of Messi's new contract with Barcelona caught Europe's elite by surprise. A source at Man City says they were “blindsided” by the developments,



It didn't take long for Lionel Messi's future to clarify; once it was confirmed he couldn't continue at Barcelona last Thursday, he was unveiled as PSG's latest superstar on Tuesday. (Agencies)

although high-ranking executives at the club did learn Messi was leaving a full 24 hours before the official announcement. They had not expected him to become available and had made alternative plans, signing Jack Grealish from Aston Villa for €100m while still pursuing Tottenham striker Harry Kane.

Another source at the English club says there were brief talks and “some division” over whether to chase Messi again, but unlike last year, they were never really in the running this time.

Messi said his camp fielded several calls after Barca's announcement, and another source confirmed that Atletico Madrid, after signing Suarez last year, had sounded out a potential deal. They thought it was possible at €20m gross for the first year, which was what he would have earned at Barcelona next season, but it was quickly understood that PSG had firmly established themselves as the leading candidate for his signature.

On Thursday, as Barca announced Messi's departure, sources told ESPN that Jorge Messi called PSG's president Nasser Al-Khelaifi to see what they could offer. He confirmed that his son was definitely leaving Barca, although PSG, like City, were caught by surprise. They had been told he was set to renew.

After Jorge's call, PSG CEO Jean-Claude Blanc and his team worked late into the night to get an offer on the table for Messi as soon as possible. They were not starting from scratch; a year ago, when Messi announced he wanted to leave Barca, they spoke to his dad and started working on a contract offer. Since then, Neymar had been pushing for a reunion with his former teammate, telling ESPN last December that he hoped to play with Messi again soon. In January, PSG sporting director Leonardo confirmed the club were monitoring Messi's contract situation, and Leonardo and Al-Khelaifi have kept in touch with the Messi camp from time to time over the past year.

Sources have told ESPN, meanwhile, that at around the same time this past winter, Neymar was sounding out Sergio Ramos and Messi, both in the final six months of their contracts, to join him in Paris. Ramos joined PSG from Madrid earlier this summer, but by then, it had already become apparent Messi would not be joining them. Therefore, when Messi's situation drastically changed last week, PSG were ready.

The Factory, PSG's HQ in Boulogne-Billancourt, in the west suburbs of Paris, was buzzing with activity until the early hours of the morning, and the challenge was simple: make the deal appealing for Messi and viable for the club.

UEFA's financial fair play rules have been paused due to the pandemic, but sources explain that PSG still have the regulations in mind when it comes to long-term planning. Having already renewed Neymar's contract this year and signed Sergio Ramos, Achraf Hakimi, Gianluigi Donnarumma and Georginio Wijnaldum, they needed to be certain they could afford Messi as well. Meanwhile, sources add that PSG owner Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the emir of Qatar, was being kept informed of every detail. Since buying the club 10 years ago, he has had two dreams: to sign either Messi or Cristiano Ronaldo and to win the Champions League. They have previously come close with Ronaldo but never quite pulled it off.

Not having to pay a transfer fee didn't mean Messi came cheap. There was a signing-on fee and salary for Messi, and then the commission for his father and for the other people involved in the deal. (Sources told ESPN that some big agents tried to get in on the action.) It was a little more difficult to finalise some of the more intricate parts of the deal, such as image rights – that part

of Messi's contract was reportedly close to 70 pages in length and detail, with Messi's lawyers poring over every detail and every bit of punctuation. Given Messi's individual sponsors and PSG's commercial partners, all parties needed to define and agree upon what the Argentine star could and could not do.

In the end, it didn't take long to find common ground, and from there, PSG's legal team worked through the weekend as the club planned the logistics of Messi's arrival in Paris.

Neymar had been the first PSG player to speak to Messi on Thursday once his Barca exit was announced. For a year, he's been asking Messi to join him in the French capital, praising the club and the city. The Brazilian was also on the phone to PSG president Al-Khelaifi pushing for the deal to be done while the PSG players' WhatsApp group was abuzz with activity and excitement as they discussed their new teammate. Angel Di Maria, Messi's international teammate, was also on his case, as he has known Messi since they were 14.

Before the weekend, Messi spoke with PSG coach Mauricio Pochettino at length over the phone, discussing the team, tactics and what Messi's role would be. They know each other because Pochettino is, like Messi, from Rosario, although they are not close. On the call, the former Tottenham manager also reminded Messi that he'd been the Espanyol captain the day Messi made his Barcelona debut at Montjuic in 2004!

PSG were supposed to be preparing for their Ligue 1 opener against Troyes, but by now everyone was thinking and talking about Messi; by Friday, Neymar had announced to his teammates that Messi was joining. Pochettino brushed off questions in a news conference but confirmed the club were working on it. Talks were so advanced on Saturday that both Al-Khelaifi and Leonardo canceled their trip to Troyes to watch the team in their opening game of the season (a win). Instead, they remained in Paris to finalise the negotiations.

Later that day, the players were told that Messi was joining the club.

Messi's contract is initially for two years and is worth €35m before tax, not including achievement-related bonuses and the signing-on fee. PSG had hoped to fly Messi in on Sunday, then waited for him to arrive on Monday, only for a few minor delays meaning he eventually arrived on Tuesday. Whole roads in Paris were cordoned off to allow him some privacy, although he briefly appeared on a balcony, wearing an “Ici c'est Paris” T-shirt, to wave to his new fans.

PSG had planned to hold a news conference on Tuesday but delayed it until Wednesday due to media demand. They had also hoped to present him at the Eiffel Tower, but too much red tape (permits, security clearances) deterred them; instead, he will be presented to supporters at the Parc des Princes this weekend before the Strasbourg game. His first game for the club won't be immediate; Pochettino has drawn up a fitness program that should have Messi match-ready by the end of August – probably to face Reims – before he joins Argentina for the September international break.

Before Tuesday's unveiling, Messi sent a message to Neymar letting him know the deal was done. Neymar had been willing to vacate his No. 10 shirt to his friend, but Messi declined, happy with the number 30 – the number with which he started his career at 17 at Barcelona. Yet even that wasn't a smooth process; PSG had to ask the league for permission because in France No. 30 is reserved for goalkeepers.

In the end, Ligue 1 made an exception. After all, it's not every day the best player in the world comes to town.

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Inside Lionel Messi's final days at Barcelona and how he ended up joining PSG



Tigo Value Added Specialist Nurdin Lugembe (L) briefs journalists at the launching of a new trivia service dubbed 'Tigo Kandanda' in Dar es Salaam yesterday, in which a customer can begin participating in it by answering football related questions and stand a chance to win cash prizes, ranging from 100,000/- to 18m/-. He is flanked by Tigo Kandanda' ambassador, Shaffih Dauda. PHOTO: Guardian CORRESPONDENT

## Arusha marathon set to aid surgical operations for 200 cleft children

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

MOST marathons are for leisure and prestige but the Cleft Sports Agency-organized one intends to raise funds for surgical operations on cleft-lipped children.

Just as the third installment of Same Quality Foundation (SQF) Marathon comes up, on September 5, 2021, organizers reveal here that, since the initiative started a total of 165 children have been surgically treated to correct the mouth defects.

The 'Running of Children with Cleft' race will start at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium, involving 970 participants, of which 900 will race in the marathon and 70 to ride in a cycling competition which is also part of the events.

The main SQF Cleft Marathon event is 21 kilometers race, followed by 10 kilometers event, a 5 kilometers, and 2.5 kilometers for children. As for bicycle racing, the riders will cover 60 kilometers and 40 kilometers.

Peter Mabula, a physician and Director of SQF, said the last year's marathon, which took place in September 2020, aided the outreach program for free surgeries that have been conducted in Manyara, Tabora, Kahama, and Mwanza.

This year, the surgical services have so far taken place in Singida, Dodoma, Tabora, Kagera, Bunda, Kahama, and Kilimanjaro.

During the forthcoming SQF Cleft Marathon, with added support from the National Bank of Commerce (NBC) for additional 30 children, more surgeries will be conducted in Tabora, Kilimanjaro, and Shinyanga and, at this pace, the problem may be eliminated in the country.

Other initiative supporters include the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) as well as the Coca-Cola bottling firm, Bonite Bottlers of Moshi.

Between September 2021 and September 2022, the Same Quality Foundation charity will be treating 400 children at various special health camps to be erected across the country in the next 12 months.

Arusha City Medical Officer, Maduhu Nindwa, said for many years, there has been a societal stigma against children suffering from cleft lips such that they even get affected psychologically.

He lauded SQF for the initiative which aims to eliminate the problem in Tanzania.

John Bayo, Athletics Tanzania (AT) vice-president, was of the view that sports help to build trust and cohesion in society when used for positive courses and, therefore, he appealed to all Tanzanians to participate.

## Tanzanian outfits to learn their fate in CAF inter-club tournaments today



Simba SC's players jubilate shortly after they had notched a goal against Al Merreikh of Sudan in the previous season's CAF Champions League's group stage tie, which took place in Dar es Salaam in March. Simba SC won 3-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S representatives in next season's CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup are looking forward to knowing their fate today in the draw for the competitions' preliminary round draw to be played in Cairo, Egypt.

The Premier League champions, Simba SC, and runners-up, Yanga, will feature in CAF Champions League, while Azam FC and Biashara United FC are CAF Confederation Cup representatives.

Hopefully, the Tanzanian envoys will be looking forward to performing better than the previous seasons, to qualify to the group stage and later sail through to the stage better than the quarter-finals.

Four Tanzanian envoys, Simba SC, Yanga, Azam FC, and Biashara United, will participate in the major continental competitions after the country entered the 12 top-placed nations in the CAF rankings.

However, Tanzania envoys need to achieve above the quarterfinal place reached by Simba SC in the CAF Champions League or a step above

CAF Confederation's group stage attained by Namungo FC.

CAF, on their statement, revealed CAF Member Associations had, until Tuesday, to submit their representatives.

The race to succeed Al Ahly (Egypt), winners of the last edition of the CAF Champions League, and Raja Athletic Club (Morocco), winners of the CAF Confederation Cup, will begin on September 10 with the first round of preliminaries.

The inter-club competitions' group stages will begin in February 2022.

The 12 best-placed national associations in the CAF ranking are authorized to enter two clubs in the different competitions.

These are South Africa, Algeria, Angola, DR Congo, Egypt, Guinea, Morocco, Nigeria, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Zambia.

CAF has sent an official letter to Simon Msuva's Wydad AC, threatening them with disqualification from the next CAF Champions League edition, due to unpaid dues.

Wydad AC has been a force to be reckoned with in the past few years

in Africa, they are constantly reaching the knock-out stages in the CAF Champions League.

Their last title came in 2017, and since then they have always been a part of the top eight, getting knocked out of the semi-finals in the past two editions after losing to Al Ahly and Kaizer Chiefs.

However, their success on the continental level may be put on a hold for next season after receiving an official letter from the CAF over unpaid dues.

During this past season, CAF has decided that any club with unpaid dues will be disqualified and will not be a part of the next CAF Champions League edition.

The reason behind Wydad's potential suspension is unpaid dues to Chisom Chikataru, who has been a part of the Moroccan club squad from 2016 to 2018.

The decision is not final yet as the Moroccan giants have a chance until August 15 to pay the player, but if the deadline is reached without payment, the next CAF Champions League campaign will not include the last year's semi-finalists.

## Azam FC assistant coach happy with 2021 CECAFA Kagame Cup feat

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

AZAM FC assistant coach, Vivier Bahati, has hailed his charges for playing well in the CECAFA Kagame Cup semi-final match defeat to Nyasa Big Bullets FC of Malawi.

Azam FC lost 4-2 to Nyasa Big Bullets FC in post-match penalties of the last four's clash played at Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday night.

Bahati, who coached the team on behalf of the outfit's head coach, George Lwandamina, said he is delighted with the performance of his youngsters.

"We have lost in post-match penalties, but credit should go to my players, they played well...I'm really happy with their performance, I have said so considering that most of the players come from the reserve team while others are coming from the loan," the tactician noted in an interview.

The match was graced by the CAF Secretary General, Véron Mosengo-Omba, as well as CECAFA and Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president Wallace Karia.

During the game, the Malawi side was the first to score in the second minute of the game through Bright Muntali.

But Azam FC, which was very determined, equalized through Nyasa Big Bullets FC defender Nickson Nyasulu's own goal in the 67th minute when he attempted to clear the ball.

Six minutes later Azam FC was at it again and made it 2-1 via winger Evancy Tepsi Theonasy.

Muntali equalized in the 88th minute of the second half and the game went into extra time where both teams tried to put pressure on each other half.

The extra 30 minutes had no goals to show before penalties were called to determine the team which will face Express FC of Uganda in the final tomorrow.

Azam FC scored spot-kicks through Theonasy and Mwaikenda while Gadafi Said and Abdulrazak Hamza missed their penalties.

Nyasa Big Bullets FC penalties were scored by Yamikani Fodya, Hassan Kajoje, Kayira, and Nickson Nyasulu.

Azam FC goalkeeper Benedict Haule served a penalty taken by Nyasa Big Bullets FC's Gabeya.

Azam FC therefore will play compatriots, KMKM, to find the third-placed winner tomorrow.

**EATV FRIDAY**

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 Mid Week Movie (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 Bongo Hits  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Wakilisha (r)  
16:00 Ujenzi (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Skonga  
19:30 EATV SAA !  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Friday Night Live  
23:00 Kurasa (r)

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06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planei Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 Friday Night Live

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

IF THE PERSON WHO NAMED 'WALKIE TALKIES WERE TO NAME EVERYTHING...



STAMPS = LICKIE STICKIES  
PREGNANT TEST = MAYBE BABY  
BRASSIER = BREASTIE NESTIE  
SOCKS = FEETIE HEATIE  
HIPPO = FLOATIE BLOATIE  
NIGHTMARE = SCREAMY DREAMY