



FACILITATION



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WILDLIFE



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AGRICULTURE



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Leaders pledge robust agro-sector actions

Over 280m people are on the verge of starvation in the continent



President Samia Suluhu Hassan speaks at the African Food Systems Summit 2023 held at the Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Getrude Mbago

AFRICAN Heads of State have pledged to adopt robust strategies to transform the agriculture sector, strengthening food systems to boost production and fight extreme hunger. At a presidential roundtable discussion in the Africa Food Systems Summit in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the leaders expressed concern on the increasing number of Africans with inadequate access to food, citing statistics indicating that over 280m people are on the verge of starvation in the continent. They outlined commitments to implement strategies bolstering agriculture, stimulate intra-African trade and reduce hunger, underscoring the need for governments to reassess their commitments. This includes raising budgets for agriculture and engaging the private sector in various programmes they said, where President Samia Suluhu Hassan emphasised that it was important for leaders to act with urgency. This was vital in order to strengthen food systems, boost production and support populations that are threatened with hunger, starvation and diseases, she said. The number of Africans on the verge of starvation or having no access to food was high, she said, insisting that this needs urgent action by governments and partners to address the situation, first by strengthening production. Burundian President Évariste Ndayishimiye declared that his government doesn't want to see people dying in Burundi. "We know very well that the country has a small farming area

DRC removes visa need for Kenyans

KINSHASA

KENYAN travellers will no longer need visas to visit the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The change took effect on September 1, 2023, coinciding with Kenya's decision to waive visa requirements for Congolese citizens traveling to Kenya, government officials said.

The DRC Directorate General of Migration announced the lifting of visa requirements for Kenyan citizens, noting that it was reciprocating a similar move made by Kenya five days earlier, in accordance with a presidential directive.

The DRC has moved Kenya from category 2 to category 1 in terms of visa requirements, aligning with the East African Community's regulations on free movement of people among member states, they said.

This move toward greater ease of travel follows a trend in Africa, with President William Ruto affirming during the African private sector dialogue conference on free trade that the delegates would no longer need to pay for visas to visit Kenya when they decide to travel there again.

In recent months, Kenya has also announced visa-free travel for citizens of Indonesia, the Comoros and Senegal, meanwhile Kenya and Eritrea have agreed to permanently eliminate visa requirements for their respective citizens. Furthermore, Kenya has been actively pursuing visa-free arrangements with Djibouti, to promote trade and cooperation.

In another development, Kenyan passport holders can now enter South Africa without a visa, thanks to a new visa-free regime between the two nations. This arrangement was achieved by diplomatic consultations, with President Cyril Ramaphosa backing up the negotiations.

These changes mark significant steps towards facilitating travel and fostering greater cooperation between African nations, ultimately benefiting citizens and promoting regional integration, analysts affirm.

PM directs deputy on fuel access at indicative prices

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government is taking measures to guarantee the routine availability of fuel in every region at recommended indicative prices

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa made this affirmation in the National Assembly yesterday as legislators were calling for reviewing the current fuel importation system.

In his weekly direct question session he directed deputy premier Dr Doto Biteko to host meetings with key stakeholders to ensure the commodity reaches every region at indicative prices.

The government intends to expand the fuel importation base by increasing the number of importers, he said, noting that the deputy PM has already started working on the matter.

He said it was important to involve key

“...leaves a lot of questions that whenever new prices are announced we see queues and after a few days the queuing disappears”

stakeholders like the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) and the Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency (PBPA) in regular meetings on fuel availability along with prices, as processes are dynamic.

“It is important to ensure that the meeting is conducted within a week so that information is given to the general public on what next,” he said.

Rashid Shangazi (Mlalo) had asked the PM what the government was doing to control changing prices of fuel that are rising on a daily basis.

He demanded what strategies are in place to ensure the commodity is available and accessible at an affordable price for the majority of Tanzanians.

The premier acknowledged that there are

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Mwinyi conducts BBT pledges at forum event

By Getrude Mbago

TANZANIA expects to raise about \$2bn (5trn/-) from various stakeholders and development partners in the next six years to finance the country's Building a Better Tomorrow (BBT) programme.

Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi (pictured) made this affirmation at a side event in the vicinity of the African Food Systems Summit in Dar es Salaam, where led a pledging campaign to mobilize partners to support the goal.

Key stakeholders attending the side

event made pledges, including the African Development Bank (AfDB) offering \$100m, the African Green Revolution Alliance (AGRA) setting \$40m.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Mastercard and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) also issued promises in that direction.

He said that despite the rapid increase of young people and women taking up economic activities in Africa, their participation was still low due to various challenges including limited access to means of production.

Limited knowledge of entrepreneurship in agriculture, obstacles in the distribution of resources, difficulty in accessing capital to develop productive units, access to markets and climate change similarly hold back such initiatives, he said.

If young people are empowered, this will open more doors for gainful occupations in food production, value addition and marketing of agricultural and fishing products, thus ensuring food security, nutrition and drastic reduction of poverty, he stated.

Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe said the government's goal is to collect a billion dollars for six years for the implementation of the first phase of the BBT project that ends in 2030.

The BBT programme will up to 2030

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“This forum brings an important subject of investing in youth knowledge, plus supporting farmers produce enough for consumption and sale”

but we are making efforts to ensure that the country has enough food for the people,” he said, explaining that the government initiated a special programme last year to intensively promote farming.

Senegalese President Macky Sall said the forum was important as it helped leaders, experts and stakeholders to rethink on systems that will help transform agro-sector productivity.

He said millions of people in Africa are reported to be desperate in life due to hunger, noting that this is shocking and needs committed action to address the situation.

There is an urgent need for African governments to join efforts and put in place robust plans to alleviate poverty and hunger especially in the areas with acute need, the Senegalese leader emphasised.

Kenyan President William Ruto hinted on the note that African countries need to focus on strategies on agribusiness.

“This forum brings an important subject of investing in youth knowledge, plus supporting farmers produce enough for consumption and sale,” he said, underlining the need for investments in all these areas.

President Samia commended the African Green Revolution Alliance (AGRA), the organisers of agro-sector annual dialogues among top leaders, for being in the forefront in supporting Tanzania and other African countries to bolster the agriculture sector.

For two decades, AGRA has actively supported inclusive agricultural transformation and sustainable food systems in Africa. AGRA has been providing technical and financial support to design agro processing factories, helping farmers in various agro

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Leaders pledge robust agro-sector actions

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-economic zones, she said.

It has also supported resilient agriculture focusing on women entrepreneurship, along with initiatives on soil health, seed systems and seed development, she elaborated.

In Tanzania, over \$60m was invested in partnership programmes from 2017 to 2021, where AGRA invested over \$20m for implementing various activities under the Agricultural

Sector Development Programme (ASDP II).

The forum was organized under the theme 'Recover, Regenerate, Act: Africa's Solutions to Food Systems Transformation,' an event reaching its climax later today.

Addressing the youth event at the summit, President Samia said that the youth should be at the centre of the sector through increased programmes, technology delivery and close support to boost production, incomes and strengthen food security.

PM directs deputy on fuel access at indicative prices

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challenges on the availability of fuel as most filling stations have inadequate supplies, pushing people in various areas to seek fuel over long distances.

He said the problem has contributed to setting up the office of deputy PM to lead government coordination efforts on the matter, even as people and businesses across East Africa face the harsh reality of rising fuel prices. Regulators revise the rates upward in response to changes in global market rates, officials said. As on Wednesday, the petroleum regulator revised prices for petrol, diesel and kerosene upwards.

The regulator raised a litre of diesel by 324/- while petrol and

kerosene prices rose by 14/- and 275/- respectively, thus with the new prices, Dar es Salaam motorists pay 3,213/- for a litre of petrol, and 3,259/- for a litre of diesel.

In a quick rejoinder, Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson aired the view that the bulk procurement system be reviewed as this was the right time for the country to evaluate the current fuel procurement system.

An evaluation needs to be conducted to determine whether this system is the best "and if anything we may return to the original system," she said, underlining that the current procedure "leaves a lot of questions that whenever new prices are announced we see queues and after a few days the queuing disappears."

USAID announces \$10million to tackle climate crisis in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

USAID Deputy Administrator Isobel Coleman has announced two new USAID investments totaling \$10 million to conserve critical ecosystems and carbon sinks in Tanzania.

This includes an initial \$8 million to launch the USAID Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo (Hope through Action) project, a five-year partnership with the Jane Goodall Institute to strengthen government, village, and stakeholder management of natural

resources in Tanzania. Another \$2.1 million to improve the climate resilience of coasts and fisheries in Tanzania as part of the ongoing USAID Heshimu Bahari (Respect the Ocean) project.

These initiatives contribute to USAID's participation at the Africa Climate Summit during which USAID announced \$34million to support African climate leadership and contribute to economic growth and prosperity across the continent, including these two activities.

AU has 'not yet' received invitation for G20 summit, says spokeswoman

ADDIS ABABA

THE African Union (AU) has "not yet" received an invitation to this weekend's G20 summit, at which India and the United States are seeking to integrate the pan-African organisation, a spokeswoman said on Wednesday.

"So far, the AU Commission has not yet received an invitation to take part in the summit", scheduled for September 9 and 10 in New Delhi, Ebba Kalondo, spokesperson for AU Commission chairman Moussa Faki Mahamat, told AFP.

The G20 brings together 19 countries and the European Union, which together account for 85 per cent of the world's economy and two-thirds of its population.

At the end of August, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his wish for the AU to become a member

of the G20, which currently counts only one African country, South Africa.

"We have invited the African Union with the idea of granting it permanent membership" of the G20, said Modi at the G20 business forum, a prelude to the summit.

In December, US President Joe Biden had already expressed his wish for the AU to join the G20 as a permanent member, assuring that "it's going to happen."

"We look forward to warmly welcoming the African Union as a permanent member of the G20," said White House National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan on Tuesday, adding, "We believe the voice of the African Union will make the G20 stronger."

Based in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia, the AU has 55 member countries, totaling three trillion dollars in GDP.

East Africa force combating Congo violence extended to December

NAIROBI

THE mandate of an East African force set up to curb militia violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo has been extended to December, the regional bloc that formed it said.

The seven countries of the East African Community (EAC) set up the force in April 2022 to stop bloodshed linked to decades of militant activity in Congo's east.

Its term was due to expire on Friday but heads of state of member countries meeting in the Kenyan capital extended the mandate to December, EAC said in a statement posted on its account on X, formerly known as Twitter, late on Tuesday.

"The heads of state agreed to extend

the duration for a further three months," EAC said.

Democratic Republic of Congo President Felix Tshisekedi was at one time openly critical of the regional force, known as the EACRF.

He accused it of not being aggressive enough and failing to rein in the M23 rebel group, which launched an offensive in the east of the country last year.

Violence in Congo has caused one of the world's worst and longest-running humanitarian emergencies, with more than 27 million people facing food shortages, and nearly 5.5 million forced to flee their homes, according to the UN.

AGENCIES



President Samia Suluhu Hassan receives the Gogetgaz winners award certificates from the Yara International president and CEO Svein Tore Holsether during the agrpreneur prize awards ceremony to Nigerian Ikena Nzewi (2nd L) and Hasina Andriatsitohaina from Madagascar (L) at the AGRF meeting yesterday. Looking on (R) is Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Mwinyi conducts BBT pledges at forum event

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lure more people, especially the youth, to participate in economic activities through agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing, he said.

BBT is based on the fact that upwards of 16m youths are not in the financial system, they are mostly not bankable, so BBT's interdependent components of crops, livestock and fisheries seek to bring many into

economic activity.

"So our intention in this gathering is to raise \$2bn and we have a shortage of one 1.5bn/- at present," he said.

The government will implement the BBT programme under the public private partnership approach on block farms as the initiative is a value chain approach, he said.

"At the end of the day, youths in the block farms, in the livestock block

and in the fishery part of the value addition chain are private entities, not public properties," he said.

"This is their business and this is the approach we are looking at. In every block, we will have some necessary infrastructure to keep up and carry on their lives in the villages where the projects are located," he elaborated.

Dr Michael Battle, the resident

US ambassador, said the US seeks to support initiatives to improve agricultural systems and the environment, citing the need for preservation of the Zanzibar coral reefs as part of the blue economy.

USAID and institutions like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation are participating in promoting Tanzania's economy, supporting stakeholders in various sectors, he added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi (C) follows presentations at the African Food Systems Summit 2023 held at the Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre in Dar es Salaam yesterday. With him is former Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn (L) and Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Fuel price hike: 'Don't increase the bus fares'

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

FOLLOWING fuel price rise of 16 cents per litre, LATRA and Tabora Region's EWURA Consumers Consultative Council (CCC) have warned passenger transporters not to use it as the reason to hike fares.

Tabora region's LATRA senior official, Nelson Mmari told this paper at his office that EWURA Head Office has announced the price increase, but

does not mean that bus fares should also be hiked.

"All passengers should report to LATRA via free toll Mob No. 0800110019 whenever they see bus operators increase fares.

He urged bus operators not to take their own initiatives to hike fares on the pretext of a free market concept.

He also called on bus operators to use online ticketing and in case they issue to passengers' ordinary tickets

they face 250,000/- fine and they are mounting impromptu inspection on the issue.

He also said they still continue stressing on passengers to buy their tickets online or other recognized areas and stop giving money to middlemen found at the bus station.

He added that there are about 150 passenger buses making trips to various regions from Tabora Region and that the middlemen have been

a great challenge to passengers and other people at the bus station and pledged to deal with them.

For his part, EWURA Assistant Customer Service and Administrative officer for Tabora Region, Sakina Yusufu urged stakeholders and the people to adopt the habit of getting right information on the legal charges and levies of water and fuel as well as airing their various complaints to the Consultative Council.

She added that EWURA will continue educating the public on the importance for them to know the right rates for water and fuel as well as on other essential issues.

Investigations have found out that as for now fares charged between Tabora and Urambo is 6,000/- instead of 5,000/-, Tabora to Nzega is 6,000/- to 7,000/- instead 5,000/-.



Former President Dr Jakaya Kwete (L) admires avocados at Tanzania Horticultural Association booth on sidelines of Africans Food Systems Summit 2023 held at the Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

NMB named as the 2nd in the list of top three banks in East Africa

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank has been named as the second in the list of top 3 banks in East Africa by market capitalisation and it's among the top 3 of the most profitable banks in the region as well as among the top six the largest companies within East Africa, Seychelles, and Mauritius.

A homegrown Tanzania entity for the first-time ranks among East Africa's most valuable companies after posting record HI 2023 financial results. NMB's rise to prominence becomes a new challenger to the largest companies in the region who have historically been occupying the coveted top spots.

Speaking of the bank's remarkable achievements, the bank's CEO, Ruth Zaipuna stated that the bank's vision is to increase its market share and sustain the growth trajectory.

Ruth further stated that the bank remains ever so committed to continue delivering strong returns to its shareholders and positive impact on socio-economic development agenda.

Dr Edwin Mhede, the chairman of the board of directors of NMB Bank Plc, said, 'the Bank is committed to continue playing a greater role in driving Tanzania's growth agenda'.

Dr Mhede added that 'We endeavour to hold true to our values and belief that 'high

standards of corporate governance are a key contributor to the long-term success of the bank'. We therefore remain steadfast to our commitment to taking a long-term approach to decision making, with the creation of lasting value for our stakeholders at the heart of the board's operations'.

While this year's results of stock markets highlight the overall carnage in African share valuations, Tanzania, however, remains an attractive investment destination for investors seeking attractive, long-term returns due to the country's strong macro-economic stability.

Tanzanian government has created an enabling business operating environment that has propelled distinguished growth. Broad-based economic growth has turned the country into one of the fastest growing economies in Africa. Currently, Tanzania's 61.5m population enjoys a per capita income of \$1,136, the second-highest figure in East Africa. The World Bank forecasts that Tanzania will be one of Africa's best performing economies this year with GDP growth of 5.3 per cent in comparison with a continental average

We therefore remain steadfast to our commitment to taking a long-term approach to decision making, with the creation of lasting value for our stakeholders at the heart of the board's operations

TMX facilitates councils in Kagera to collect 2.9bn/- from coffee sales

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Mercantile Exchange (TMX) has facilitated district councils in Kagera Region to collect 2.9bn/- from the coffee sales in 2022, which is an increase of 100 per cent, an official has declared.

Addressing the media yesterday in Dar es Salaam, TMX chief executive officer, Godfrey Malekano said that district councils managed to record the achievements after using the institution—the first commodity exchange in Tanzania.

According to him, the exchange provides a platform where farmers, traders, exporters and other various market actors are able to access domestic and global markets and obtain a fair price in selling or buying of commodities.

"The used us and registered such successes, that's why it's important for other local government authorities and their Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Society (AMCOS) to effectively use the exchange to reap more benefits," he said.

Malekano described the exchange as an easy way to collect the relevant institution's income, facilitate the management of the issuance of relevant permits for the shipment of sold products as well as giving more time for other stakeholders to focus on improving crop production.

"With the use of the exchange it'll encourage the industrial economy campaign, supporting access to Foreign Exchange (FOREX) and help international trade at low cost - Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)," he said.

According to him, buyers-processors, traders reduce costs in terms of time and financial, minimise various impacts—on quality, theft and getting quality crops at the same time, access to market information as well as avoiding negative price changes by using futures contracts.

TMX strengthened the market price whereby 248.74bn/- were paid to farmers last year and made it easier for stakeholders to access market information through digital billboards and smart phones.

"Farmers are free to decide the price they agree to sell their products and increase awareness of better production as well as payment guarantee."

The exchange has developed an

electronic system to ensure that all key stakeholders participate wherever they are and farmers, buyers, industrial owners, financial institutions, policy makers and managers have been reached with training on how to get involved in the institution.

So far, more than 190,000 stakeholders have been reached in 25 regions of Tanzania since 2018.

According to him, an assessment of the business value chain has been

carried out—sesame, mungbean, cocoa, lentils, cashews, cotton, livestock, tea, coffee and the ongoing assessment is on cardamom, peas, sisal, live livestock, meat, skins, tomatoes, onions and bananas

"We're collaborating with other product markets for gaining knowledge and experience from the Ethiopian Commodity Exchange, Ghana Commodity Exchange, MCX and NCDEX India."

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR LICENCE UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received application for Licence under the Converged Licensing Framework from the following applicant: -

S/N	NAME OF APPLICANT	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS /NATIONALITY	SHARES %
1.	Habari Node Limited	Regional Network Facilities	1.Arusha Node Marie-Tanzania	20.8%
			2.AFAM Limited –Tanzania	20.8%
			3. Gaidi Faraji-Mmarekani	0.2%
			4. Abdul Ali Dello-Mtanzania	0.1%
			5. Gilbert Joel Maeda-Mtanzania	0.2%
			6.Bernice Lusingu Rowberg-Mtanzania	0.1%
			7. Lomayani Solomoni Laizer-Mtanzania	0.2%
			8. Justin Humphrey Maeda-Mtanzania	3.9%
			9.Kilusu Ole Mattasia Laisser-Mtanzania	0.2%
			10. Elishilia Daniel Kaaya-Mtanzania	0.2%
			11. Jane Stephen Langoi-Mtanzania	0.1%
			12.Thomas Jones Mbise-Mtanzania	0.1%
			13.Sifuni Amon Kajiru-Mtanzania	0.2%
			14.Roselyne Rachel Mariki-Mtanzania	0.2%
			15.Evelyn Reward Amani-Mtanzania	0.2%
			16.Kabaza Gelasius Runyeta-Mtanzania	1.0%
			17. Ismail Musoke Settenda-Mtanzania	0.1%
			18. Munka Lebedayo Killerai-Mtanzania	0.2%
			19.International Network Investments-Marekani	11.3%
			20. Frederick Nyiti-Mkanada	0.1%
			21.Annajoyce Thomas Mbise-Mtanzania	0.1%
			22. Kusirie Emmanuel Senkondo-Mtanzania	0.2%
			23. Erik Raymond Rowberg-Mmarekani	0.1%

Pursuant to Section 8 Of Electronic and Postal Communications Act, Cap 306 of the Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of licence to the applicant to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration when the Authority considers the application.

Comments should be addressed to:
Director General
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
P. O Bo 474
14414 DAR ES SALAAM
Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2
Fax: +255 22 2412009
E-mail: dg@tcra.go.tz



INVITATION TO BID AT GLOBAL COMMUNITIES

Global Communities is a non-governmental organization legally registered and compliant with Registration I-NGO 00001392. To store food commodities, Global Communities is competent, qualified and experienced bidders to bid for the following:-

1. Supply of Food Commodities
2. Supply and Installation of cooking pots and stoves
3. Supply of branded polyethene bags
4. Provision of transportation service (distribution of food commodities)
5. Supply of Tablets

Application Procedure & Submission of Applications:

Global Communities invites applications from competent, qualified, and experienced bidder(s) through the following address: Procurement Unit, Global Communities, P.O .Box 1933 and at the office: Area "C" Kati Road, Plot No. 5 & 6 Block No. 49. Dodoma.

All applicants should be directing their expression of interest to gmayaya@globalcommunities.org to request the detailed tendering documents before **Wednesday 14th September 2023 1700 pm**. Applicants who submit expressions of interests will receive the detailed documents via email from Global Communities. The detailed application will be due **Thursday 05th October 2023**.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ILALA

AT KINYEREZI

CIVIL CASE/MISC CIVIL APPEAL CASE/MATRI. CAUSE/ REV-PROBATE ADMN. CAUSE

NO 104 OF 2019

ROBERT ZANGI T/A SHOSHA INDUSTRIES..... PLAINTIFF

VERSUS

JIEFANG MOTORS (T) LIMITED..... DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF DATE MENTION/HEARING

The NOTICE that the above case has been fixed for mention/hearing on **19th September 2023** at 09:00a.m before **Hon. Nyenyema SRM/RM**

You, **SAMUEL ROBERT ZANGI**, in your capacity as the legal representative of the estate of the late Robert Zangi Masunga, appointed on 4th May 2023, through Probate and Administration Cause No. 171 of 2023, presided over by **Hon. Mpressa. A.E. SRM**, are hereby summoned to appear before this Court without any delay. You are further directed to produce, on that specified day, all documents intended for your response in support of your case.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this **24th August 2023**

HON. NYENYEMA
SENIOR RESIDENT MAGISTRATE

SENOR RESIDENT MAGISTRATE

1. Samuel Robert Zangi

House No. 616, Siera Leone Road,

Kijitonyama, Dar es salaam

Govt assures farmers of stable, sufficient supply of subsidised fertiliser

By Getrude Mbogo

THE government has assured farmers of stable and sufficient supply of subsidised crop fertiliser throughout the farming season and that supply of the essential input will start from this month.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, David Silinde made the statement on Wednesday after he visited Yara Tanzania plant along with delegates from the Norwegian government.

According to him, the government was keen to ensure that farmers do not face any hassle to access the input where robust plans have been put in place to maintain the supply.

He commended Yara for its continued commitment and support to Tanzania's agricultural sector saying that the government will continue strengthening partnerships with the private sector while also creating a conducive environment for them to operate.

"Planting and top dressing fertilisers as well as farming inputs will start to be distributed in various parts of the country to enable farmers purchase them, this is part of the government's commitment to transform the agriculture sector by ensuring that inputs are supplied on time," he said.

He further added that the government was taking robust initiatives to strengthen local production of fertilizer for increased yields.

Anne Beathe Tvinnereim, Norwegian Minister for Norwegian Minister for International Development commended Tanzania for hosting the Africa Food Systems Forum which had attracted over 3000 participants from various parts in Africa and the globe.

She said that Norway is committed to being a long-term partner to work with the Tanzanian government.

She said the Norwegian government has issued an additional funding of USD9.3 million to further support various initiatives including the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), climate change and food security.

Yara has been in Tanzania for years, ensuring that farmers have fertilizers, access to crop nutrition programs, and access to technology that increase yields, improve product quality and reduce the environmental impact of agricultural practices.

Yara president and CEO, Svein Tore Holsether said that the company will continue expanding investments to support growth in the Tanzanian agricultural sector.

She noted that fertiliser is an important nutrition to the farm and that the company will continue implementing initiatives to strengthen supply of the input.

"We import key nutrients and process them by adding more nutrients so as to come up with a final product to help boost farm produce. When you have healthy soil full with required nutrients, climate change and severe weather cannot be huge threats," he said.

Yara has partnered with several other organisations in Tanzania alone - NGOs, government and agribusiness companies - to transfer knowledge and make quality fertilizer more accessible. To support these efforts, Yara has strategically placed warehouses across regions, enabling distributors to access products more quickly and with less financial risk.

Through its team of agronomists, Yara also supports distributors and retailers to share agronomic advice with farmers, increasing knowledge about crop nutrition to help farmers improve the application of fertilisers and thereby achieve much higher yields in a sustainable manner.

Inter-state movement of goods undergoing improvements to reduce delays, says Dr Kijaji

By Guardian Reporter

DR Ashatu Kijaji, Industry and Trade minister has briefed reporters at the ongoing AGRF conference in Dar es Salaam about improvements on challenges facing delays of transport of goods from one country to another.

The minister said the improvements aim to boost markets for crops and other products in Africa.

She cited an example that the first coffee consignment from Tanzania to Senegal took four months to reach the customer, saying this was not acceptable commercially.

Dr Kijaji further said infrastructures will boost AfTCA market in the region whose aim is to boost trade in the continent, reduce time to receive the goods as well as transport costs.

"We have discussed the issue and have agreed that everyone should invest in his own country in order to work together in transportation including more use of cargo planes in the continent," said Dr Kijaji.

She said Tanzania's purchase of a cargo plane will help to reduce transportation time from one African country to another and that it has been advised that the plane should be

making more continental trips.

In regard to Tanzania, the Minister said the building of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) aims to connect Rwanda, Burundi and DRC so that goods reach their destinations in time.

She elaborated that plans in the farming, fishing and livestock sectors are supposed to undergo value increase in order to create more jobs and avoid selling raw materials.

Meanwhile, the Cereals and other Products Board (CPB) has invited partnerships on investment in five areas, finance, technology, collection of farmers' crops distribution of crops as well as big farmers.

Speaking at the sidelines of the AGRF Conference, deputy agriculture minister, David Silinde said CPB plans to interpret in deeds AGRF goals by involving the youth and women in the production of food crops.

Silinde said the forum aims to spur trade cooperation with firms that export cereals from Tanzania in order to have sustainable food systems.

Earlier, CPB Chairman, Salum Awadh Hagan said the board needs partnerships with financial capital, technology and distribution of products and big farmers.



Lalji Foundation chairman Imtiaz Lalji (C) with the CCBRT CEO Brenda Msangi (2nd R) shortly after handing over a donation of artificial legs to 11 children at the CCBRT hospital in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. Photo: Correspondent

Govt team to probe incidents of wildlife in residential areas

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government has formed a team to probe into an increase of incidents of wild animals moving out of controlled areas and invading residential areas wreaking havoc to human life and properties.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa made the remarks in the National Assembly during an on spot question session to the Prime Minister where he also revealed that one of the causes

of the incidents was the government efforts to intensify anti-poaching drives which had led to an increase to wildlife in the country's game controlled areas.

"There has been an increase in wildlife in our forests due to our efforts to control poaching, however, the ministry has already started working on addressing the matter, one among them is to ensure the animals remain in parks," he said.

Among the steps taken, the PM said the government has increased the

number of game rangers to control the animals so that they do not move from parks but also use airplanes to take the animals back to their habitats.

Mwanga legislator Joseph Tadayo asked the PM what was the government doing to control rogue wild animals which have now turned dangerous and cause havoc to human life.

Responding to the question, PM Majaliwa said through MPs the government has learnt of the various challenges caused by the wild animals.

"We have received information that in towns that are near game reserves and national parks, animals have been causing problems and we have formed a team to address the matter," he said.

He said the government will change wildlife conservation laws should the committee establish that there are loopholes within them that lead to such incidents.

The government recently announced that it paid 11.3bn/- in compensation to families whose relatives were attacked by animals from the 2012/13 to 2022/2023 financial year.

The government also added that it will continue issuing such compensation to help families cope with the situation after losing their loved ones.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa listens to a question from Special Seats Member of Parliament Hawa Mwaifunga (L) during the National Assembly in Dodoma, yesterday. Photo: PMO

AfDB to disburse \$996.6 million to young entrepreneurs to tackle climate change

By Chinedu Okafor

IN an effort to combat climate change, the Africa Development Bank (AfDB) and the Global Center on Adaptation have pledged \$996.6 million to encourage young entrepreneurs throughout the continent. GCA is a global organisation that prioritizes quickening climate change solutions.

The bank stated the money will help youth-led firms on its X (formerly Twitter) social media website. "AfDB Group and Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA) are launching a \$1.45 billion initiative to finance youth-led businesses and startups. The capital infusion will empower young entrepreneurs across Africa. It's an exciting step towards economic growth," reads the statement.

Youth investment is essential to promoting prosperity and stability on the continent, according to AfDB president Akinwumi Adesina, who was speaking at the Africa Youth Climate Assembly. Dr Adesina stated, "The biggest risk is not investing in the youth," adding, "The youth need investment, not empowerment."

The AfDB president also noted that African countries should actively take climate-friendly initiatives into account "not because someone has told us so, but because we have to."

The bank will increase its current \$4 million contribution to the GCA-affiliated YouthADAPT program. The initiative, which consists of an annual competition and prizes, aims to encourage entrepreneurship and youth-led climate change innovation

in order to increase the development of sustainable jobs.

Young businesspeople and Micro, Small, and Medium-size enterprises in Africa are invited to propose creative solutions and business plans that can promote climate change adaptation and resilience for the competition.

Despite producing only 4 per cent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, Africa suffers disproportionately from climate change. This issue jeopardizes the welfare and advancement of people on the continent. Many African countries rely heavily on industries that are vulnerable to climate change, such as energy, tourism, water resources, and agriculture, as the cornerstones of their economic development and survival.

In the fight against climate change, President William Ruto has urged participants and international leaders to treat Africa equally. Sustainable development in Africa is in jeopardy due to climate change, especially in the continent's poorest and most vulnerable nations, which have made the smallest contributions to greenhouse gas emissions.

Its investments in climate financing rose from \$2.1 billion in 2020 to \$2.4 billion in 2021 and \$3.6 billion in 2022, with 67% of those investments going toward adaptation in 2021 and 63% in 2022.

The bank will increase its current \$4 million contribution to the GCA-affiliated YouthADAPT program

IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA
(DAR ES SALAAM DISTRICT REGISTRY)
AT DAR ES SALAAM
CIVIL CASE NO. 67 OF 2022

DAR WORTH LIMITED..... PLAINTIFF

DHIDI YA

TALHA STATIONARIES LIMITED.....1ST DEFENDANT
AL SAFFER GENERAL TRADING LIMITED.....2ND DEFENDANT
ALSAR INDUSTRY COMPANY LIMITED.....3RD DEFENDANT
KWANON TRADING COMPANY & MORE LIMITED.....4TH DEFENDANT
MAGIC SERVICE COMPANY LIMITED.....5TH DEFENDANT
STONE SERVICES COMPANY LIMITED.....6TH DEFENDANT
RAIA BAZAAR ELECTRONICS.....7TH DEFENDANT
JOYCE CHANGONJA (T/A).....8TH DEFENDANT
FAI GENERAL SUPPLY (T/A).....9TH DEFENDANT
MARTIN RAJAB T/A (2M INVESTMENT).....10TH DEFENDANT
AL - WSUBHAAN ELECTRONICS.....11TH DEFENDANT

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO:
MARTIN RAJAB T/A (2M INVESTMENT),
P.O. BOX 10424
HWANZA - TANZANIA
TELL: +255743337010

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned case has been fixed for mention 9th day of October, 2023 at 08:30am before Hon. J.F. NKWABI - Judge you are required to appear in this court without fail and must produce on that day all documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your case. TAKE NOTICE that in default of your appearance on that day aforementioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

GIVEN under my HAND and SEAL of court this 31st day of August, 2023

DEPUTY REGISTRAR
HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA
DAR ES SALAAM



Chief Secretary Ambassador Dr Moses Kusiluka (R) listens to Julius Nyerere Hydroelectric Power project deputy resident Eng Justus Mtolera (with microphone) when he visited the project yesterday. The project is expected to produce 2115 MW. Looking on (C) is Energy Permanent Secretary Felchesmi Mramba. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

CS happy with 'great job' done at JNHPP project

By Guardian Reporter

CHIEF Secretary, Amb. Dr Moses Kusiluka has said that Tanzanians need reliable electricity and that he was satisfied with the great job in the implementation of the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project (JNHPP).

Amb. Kusiluka made the remarks on Wednesday during his visit to the JNHPP project site in Coast Region to inspect its progress and which is anticipated to produce 2,115 MW of power.

He stressed on the experts of the project to make sure that the project is completed in time as Tanzanians were eagerly waiting for it to benefit from the huge investment made by the government.

"I know a great amount of work has already been done and I have decided to come here to see for myself. In general, it is excellent work done, the project is over 90 per cent complete, the government has invested huge funds hence I would like to tell Tanzanians to expect reliable power within a not long period of time," he said.

He added: "I would like to commend President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her decision to develop the project since she came to power when the work was

only 35 per cent complete, and within two years it had reached 90 per cent and hopefully it will be inaugurated next year.

"We also believe that our experts and youth have been able to learn a lot and soon after the contractor leaves, we believe these Tanzanians will have attained adequate knowledge to operate the power facility as well as implementing other similar projects."

He also told the team of experts of the project that since they started well, they should similarly finish the project well as Tanzanians are eager to start enjoying the benefits from the huge power project.

In the visit, the Chief Secretary was accompanied by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Energy, Eng. Felchesmi Mramba, PS in the Defence and National Service ministry, Dr Faraji Mnyepe, TANESCO managing director, Maharage Chande and TPDF and TANESCO officials.

"We also believe that our experts and youth have been able to learn a lot and soon after the contractor leaves, we believe these Tanzanians will have attained adequate knowledge to operate the power facility as well as implementing other similar projects."

Tanzania govt commits to eradicate new infection rate of hepatitis-B

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA has expressed its commitment to eradicate new infection rate of hepatitis-B "silent killer" by 90 per cent and deaths by 65 per cent including transmission from mothers to new babies born by 2030

Prof Pascal Lugajo, the Director Of Curative Services at the Ministry for Health said that yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the official launch of the 6th conference on liver diseases in Africa (COLDA) with a strong emphasis on translating science within Africa.

Prof Lugajo said that concerted efforts are needed in the fight against the disease projected to double.

He said that studies show 60 per cent of liver cancer are closely related to hepatitis B virus as its main cause adding that Hepatitis-B is ranked 3rd cancer after colorectal and oesophagus cancers.

He said the study further predicts that there is possibility of transmission from mothers to newborn; the government has taken it with seriousness.

"Tanzania has been an exemplary country in the African continent in rolling out hepatitis B vaccine to the new baby born in 2022," he said.

Prof Lugajo said that to make it in place, the government has formulated policy and guidelines to ensure people are screened and get treatment in its recommended health facilities.

According to him, it involves vaccination, safe blood, needle injection safety, harm reduction, care and treatment.

Others are training gastroenterologists and investment in infrastructure including equipment and medical supplies to handle cases related to liver.

Director noted that statistics show that Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) alone attends 2000 people with hepatitis B virus monthly.

In addition, Global statistics shows that liver cancer was ranked 7th out of major cancers

and the third deadliest cancer out of expected deaths.

MNH Executive Director Prof Mohamed Janabi said COLDA has brought together experts and professionals and stakeholders from more than 43 countries from all over the world.

He said during the conference the experts will address the challenges and progress achieved in addressing the new directions for hepatitis B treatment and care, and its implications for Africa.

Prof Janabi said there will be capacity-building sessions on endoscopy in Africa as the models of hepatitis B service delivery.

"It is an opportunity for local and international experts and professionals to interact and share knowledge on how to address issues related to hepatitis B," he said.

According to studies, around 70 percent of Hepatitis B infections worldwide occur in Africa noting that it can take decades after infection from the virus before an individual starts manifesting symptoms.

There are approximately 50 million chronic carriers of hepatitis B virus (HBV) in Africa, with a 25 percent mortality risk. In sub-Saharan Africa, carrier rates range from 9-20 percent.



It is an opportunity for local and international experts and professionals to interact and share knowledge on how to address issues related to hepatitis B

Appointment Notice

8th September 2023

The Board of Directors of Exim Bank Tanzania is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Said Ally Mwema as a Director and new Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The Board wishes to express its gratitude for his outstanding leadership and significant contributions as a Director and Chairman from 2016 to 2020. We are delighted to welcome him back in the same capacity, and we eagerly anticipate working together to continue advancing the bank's strategic and operational objectives.

Mr. Mwema is a distinguished professional renowned for his exemplary leadership and expertise in law enforcement, corporate governance, and strategic leadership. His illustrious career, rich educational background, and esteemed professional affiliations render him an invaluable asset for any board of directors.

Presently, Mr. Mwema serves as Chairman of Prison Corporation Sole (SHIMA), providing strategic direction that ensures the organization's governance and operational excellence. He also assumes the role of Managing Partner at Mwema Advocates, a law firm committed to proactive, preventive, and protective investigative due diligence and business intelligence.

At the zenith of his career, Mr. Mwema served as the Inspector General of Police for the Tanzania Police Force from 2006 to 2013. During this tenure, he instigated comprehensive reforms with a paramount objective: ensuring the safety of individuals and property through the preservation of peace, the maintenance of law and order, the prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension and custody of offenders, and the safeguarding of assets. Additionally, his instrumental role in establishing the Board of Registered Trustees for the Tanzania Public Safety Trust Fund aimed to mobilize resources dedicated to crime prevention and the modernization of the police force into a highly efficient law enforcement entity.

Preceding this significant role, Mr. Mwema assumed the position of Head of Interpol Sub Regional Bureau Nairobi from 2004 to February 2006. In this capacity, he provided strategic direction for Interpol activities in Eastern Africa, effectively addressing an array of crimes, including human trafficking, small arms and light weapons proliferation, cattle rustling, and wildlife-related offenses. Furthermore, he orchestrated the relocation and facilitated regional agreements vital to the success of the SRB Nairobi.

In summary, Mr. Mwema's multifaceted career trajectory and unwavering commitment to excellence stand as a testament to his exceptional contributions to the fields of law enforcement, corporate governance, and strategic leadership. His diverse experiences and unflagging dedication have indelibly left their mark, and his inclusion in any board of directors promises to be an invaluable asset for continued success and growth.

The Board of Directors is equally pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Brenda Msangi as a Director joining the Board of Directors of Exim Bank Tanzania.

Ms. Msangi is a distinguished Tanzanian leader with an unwavering commitment to fostering sustainable economic growth and forging pathways for socio-economic development. Her remarkable credentials and diverse roles make her an invaluable addition to our Board of Directors. Brenda holds prominent positions on several esteemed boards, including the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania, the Medical Stores Department (MSD), the World Vision Tanzania, and previously, the Tanzania Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE). She is the National Senior Health Compliance Advisor for International SOS and the CEO Apprenticeship Programme (CAP) Chairperson, an Executive Leadership initiative led by the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania and Strathmore Business School. Furthermore, she assumes the role of Chief Executive Officer at the Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation of Tanzania (CCBRT), where she has previously held the esteemed positions of Chief Operating Officer and Director of Disability Hospital. Before CCBRT, she managed a Lloyds Pharmacy branch, the most prominent community pharmacy in the UK.

Her professional journey has cultivated a wealth of expertise encompassing corporate governance, strategic business planning, executive leadership, organizational policy development, coaching, mentoring, conflict mediation, and public and media relations, spanning Tanzania and the United Kingdom. She is a certified board governance professional from Harvard Business School, underpinned by a stellar educational background that includes a Master of Business Administration in Healthcare from the University of Plymouth and a Master of Pharmacy from the University of Brighton.

In recognition of her outstanding achievements, Brenda has received numerous accolades, including the titles of Most Inspiring Female Corporate Leader in Africa, Outstanding CEO by the Pan-African Women Economic Summit, and Most Inspiring Female Corporate Leader in Tanzania as awarded by the Consumer Choice Awards Africa. Her expertise extends to the global stage, where she is a highly sought-after panelist and keynote speaker at prestigious conferences and symposiums. Notably, Brenda is the visionary behind the Dear Girl Child BMK initiative, an online mentorship platform aimed at nurturing current and aspiring leaders. Her unwavering dedication to empowering the next generation of leaders underscores her commitment to equipping them with the skills and knowledge necessary for success.

Please join the Board of Directors in welcoming Mr. Said Mwema and Ms. Brenda Msangi to the Exim family. With their exceptional track record and dedication to excellence, they will undoubtedly prove to be highly valuable and influential members of our Board of Directors, contributing significantly to our organization's continued growth and success.

Lastly, the Board of Directors expresses heartfelt gratitude to Ambassador Juma V. Mwapachu and Mr. Thomas Wescott for their dedicated service, unwavering support, and the profound impact they have had on our organization as the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Director, respectively. While their official roles may change, their legacy will endure, serving as a testament to their outstanding contributions.

We extend our warmest wishes for a joyful and fulfilling retirement filled with new adventures and cherished moments.

Board of Directors,
Exim Bank Tanzania Limited.



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EXIM BANK
Innovation is life

PABRA winner of \$100,000 Africa Food Prize for 2023

By Getrude Mbago

THE Pan-Africa Bean Research Alliance (PABRA) has announced winner of the \$100,000 Africa Food Prize for 2023, recognising their exceptional leadership in the development of numerous bean varieties that improve farm productivity and profitability.

The announcement was made yesterday by the Africa Food Prize Chairperson, and former Tanzania President Jakaya Kikwete during the African Food Summit Systems by AGRF2023 in Dar es Salaam.

The winner later received the award from President Samia Suluhu Hassan at a special dinner gala event at the Dar es Salaam state house.

Speaking at a news conference to announce the winner, Dr Kikwete said PABRA has demonstrated unwavering dedication and commitment to improving nutrition and food security across the African continent by harnessing the potential of beans, a vital source of plant-based proteins and micronutrients including iron and zinc along with other essential nutrients.

"They have been recognized for their tireless efforts in breeding new varieties and making them accessible to farmers across Africa. Their research and development efforts have generated multiple positive impacts on the lives of countless individuals, particularly in communities facing food insecurity and malnutrition," he said.

Dr Kikwete praised PABRA for its outstanding contribution to farm productivity, resilience and competitiveness on the African continent.

He stated: "PABRA's dedication to bean research and development and their remarkable impact on overcoming malnutrition through the development and improved bean varieties and complementary technologies are commendable. Their work aligns perfectly with the goals of the Africa Food Prize, and I am delighted to announce them as the 2023 laureates."

He said the US \$100,000 prize celebrates Africans who are taking control of Africa's agriculture agenda putting a spotlight on bold initiatives and technical innovations that can be replicated across the continent to create a new era of food security and economic opportunity for all Africans.

"This year of 2023, the Africa Food Prize recognizes that sustainable production can improve the entire food ecosystem. We acknowledge the importance of the "bean" in ensuring healthy diets across the continent," he said.

Jean Claude Rubygo, Global Bean Programme leader at the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT and PABRA director expressed his gratitude and dedication to the cause, saying: "This award is a testament to the hard work and commitment of the entire PABRA team, its members, including all the National Research institutes and their governments, implementing partners, funders and the smallholder farmers we serve."

Rubygo added that winning the 2023 Africa Food Prize is a significant and historic moment for PABRA which comes after celebrating 25 years of bean research and development last year and launching the bean movement - promoting beans as a superfood.

He said PABRA empowers women throughout the bean value chain since they are the majority stakeholders in farming and trading and see this recognition as a win for women in agriculture and sustainable food systems.

The Africa Food Prize criteria assesses an initiative's contribution to poverty reduction and nutrition security as well as improvement of livelihoods through employment and job creation. The selection process also evaluates the potential of an initiative's scalability, replication, and sustainability.



They have been recognized for their tireless efforts in breeding new varieties and making them accessible to farmers across Africa. Their research and development efforts have generated multiple positive impacts on the lives of countless individuals, particularly in communities facing food insecurity and malnutrition

Tanzania's spinel mineral gem in high demand in world markets

By Guardian Correspondent, Bangkok

SPINEL mineral gem mined at Mahenge in Tanzania are among products that are greatly being sought after by big dealers of gems in the jewellery sector at the 68th Jewellery and Gem exhibition in Bangkok Thailand.

Spinel is a mineral that owes its beautiful colour to chromium, much like rubies and emeralds do.

This was revealed yesterday by the Director of Ruby International Limited, Salim Hasham who is also Member of Parliament of Mahenge Constituency, Morogoro Region whose company is participating at the exhibition.

The firms selling, mining and buying of various mineral gems including Spinel, Tanzanite, Garnet and others.

Speaking in a special interview after the ministry's delegation visited his pavilion, Salim said that Spinel is among rare gems in the global market including Tanzanite that is only mined in Tanzania.

Owing to the great demand of the gems Salim has called on miners in the country to come up and utilise big minerals exhibitions being held in various areas in the world to advertise themselves in order to access to markets.

"Spinel is greatly being sought here, everyone coming asking about Mahenge Spinel."

He said Tanzania is a big producer of Spinel mineral gem followed by

Vietnam and Myanmar and added that Tanzania minerals in the world market contribute to 15 per cent.

Regarding the value of the spinel mineral gem, The government Chief Mineral Valuer from the Ministry of Minerals, Archard Kalugendo said Spinel is among valuable minerals, saying as for now its price is more than 10 times of Tanzanite.

The Jewellery and Gem exhibition in Bangkok, Thailand is among famous exhibitions in Asia and is 40 years old since its establishment.

The government of Tanzania uses the exhibition to advertise itself, seeking for markets and learn about various things regarding the mineral sector particularly gems.



The Jewellery and Gem exhibition in Bangkok, Thailand is among famous exhibitions in Asia and is 40 years old since its establishment



Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister, Dr Pindi Chana (R) speaks with members of Tanzania Law Society in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Kyela to distribute 100,000 improved oil palm seedlings to farmers for free

By Guardian Correspondent, Kyela

KYELA District in Mbeya Region has said it plans to produce 100,000 modern oil palm seedlings for free distribution to farmers this year to mobilise the production of the crop.

It also said it is mobilising for the production of the crop in order to increase palm oil production to reduce the country's dependence of edible oil imports.

Katule Kingamkono, Kyela District Council chairman made the remarks on

here on Tuesday during the councillors meeting, saying the production of the seedlings is the continuation of the district's initiatives.

He added that the seedlings are modern that grow well than the ones being planted by farmers.

Kingamkono added that in the previous financial year the district council produced 36,000 oil palm seedlings for free distribution to more than 900 oil palm farmers.

He explained that apart from increasing edible oil production in

the country, the council also aims to increase its revenues from the crop through levies and other charges.

However, he added that oil palm cultivation will increase individual farmers' income.

Some Councillors advised agriculture officers to continue providing education to farmers on modern farming practices to increase their harvests.

Mwaipetania Afundisye, Ipinda Ward Councillor said in order to make sure palm oil production becomes

profitable, agriculture officers are supposed to participate in every production stage.

He said when the planting season begins, the officers should be fully involved, from planting, weeding and education farmers on various issues on the crop's

For his part, Omary Mwinjuma, Njisi ward Councillor appealed to the government to speed up the availability of subsidised fertiliser to help farmers go in tandem during the start of the farming season.



Lecturer of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Professor Goodluck Urassa speaks yesterday in Dar es Salaam during capacity building training for teachers of St Mary's International Schools. Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Drivers prohibited to transport chemicals

By Correspondent James Kandoya

DRIVERS have been prohibited to transport chemicals without being certified by the recommended authority.

Danstan Mkapa, Eastern Zone manager from the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) issued a warning yesterday in Dar es Salaam when winding up a two-day training for drivers transporting chemicals.

He said there has been a tendency

for drivers who have not undergone special training on how to transport chemicals to obtain certificates from their colleague drivers and transport the chemicals

"I warn all drivers who have not undergone training how to transport chemical to stop doing that unless otherwise stern measures will be taken against them," he said

Mkapa said that the authority has found that some of the drivers and transporting companies have been using all those trained and during

transporting they have been using drivers who have not undergone training from GCLA.

"We have found that certified drivers are used during chemicals loading or packing and when it comes to transporting uncertified drivers are used, this is against the law," he warned.

The author will conduct inspection to identify them and all those found stern measure will be taken to them.

An officer from Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (GCEA)

Leonora Kombo said urged drivers work professionally and avoid being part of those fuel drug and narcotic business.

"I would like to remind you to work professionally and avoid all evils. When chemical are unprofessionally used can harm you and the surrounding community," she said.

One of the driver from Jirema company, Salmin Karugendo said commended the authority for its efforts to increase awareness including training to the drivers transporting chemicals, noting that the training will enable them to be in safe side from effects of chemicals when accidents happen.

Govt planning crack-down for rogue social welfare services providers

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government plans a crack-down for rogue social welfare services providers operating without registration, it has been revealed.

It has now issued a 90-days ultimatum to all the unregistered persons and institutions doing so to register or face serious legal measures, calling on the relevant authorities to commence investigations.

The proposition was revealed by the Vice President Dr Philip Mpango in a statement read on his behalf by the Deputy Prime Minister Doto Biteko at the opening of the Social Welfare Officers (SWOs) conference in Dodoma.

Dr Mpango said that after the ultimatum, a thorough inspection should be conducted to identify those who fail to meet the legal criteria.

The VP said that some unscrupulous individuals have been using children's shelters, daycare centres and elderly homes as investments for their own benefits at the expense of the needy people.

"The minister responsible should work with law enforcement organs to identify the dishonest owners and take legal action" said Biteko, adding, "I also give 90 days for all facilities to be registered, those who fail to do so should be held accountable."

The VP has also directed the SWOs to work professionally and adhere to policies, laws and guidelines for the provision of quality services, as well as to continue to provide mental health education and social psychological support to reduce or eliminate violence affecting various social groups.

He noted that evidence shows that poor mental health contributes to violent acts and the authorities should listen to all the victims and find out the root causes of their problems and support them.

Some of them, he added are experiencing mental health problems, so it is your responsibility to serve them with love and show them dignity.

He directed the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups to continue to identify and provide food, shelter, clothing, education, medical treatment and nutrition services to vulnerable children.

"Between July 2022 and June 2023, a total of 335,971 vulnerable children have been identified and provided with social services, I commend the ministry for these efforts and I direct it to increase efforts to identify the children of this group and their households and take appropriate measures to rescue," he said.

Dr Mpango also directed the social welfare sector to ensure the protection and safety of children in all areas, especially in homes, schools, transport and online, to protect children's rights and welfare, as well as to strengthen campaigns aimed at educating the community about the issues of violence.

"Broad understanding of the society is what will enable the abolition of violent acts that affect child development hence leading to a weak and unproductive workforce," he said.

The VP also urged religious leaders and community elders to continue to strongly condemn evil practices in society and preach good values to improve social well-being and have better families.

He urged parents and guardians to fully consider their protection and take care of their family duties, warning men against family abandonment and being irresponsible fathers.

In addition, he directed responsible authorities to ensure that the process of reviewing the child law and its regulations and the Social Welfare Act are completed to expand the scope and manage ethics of social welfare services and to ensure children receive appropriate protection and upbringing.

Dr Mpango also ordered council directors to allocate funds for social welfare services in accordance with the guidelines for planning, budgets and social welfare information while also instructing the President's Office, Public Service Management to continue to employ SWOs to help the provision of quality social welfare services.

He asked the Ministry of Health to create a special unit to handle the coordination of social welfare services due to the importance of social welfare professionals in health care institutions.

Speaking in his capacity, Dr Biteko urged SWOs to work effectively in order to reduce the impact of social challenges in the country.

"A better social welfare sector will help the government to reduce the burden of serving people with social challenges, marriage disputes will be resolved quickly hence reducing the tide of street children and illicit drug use," he said.

Minister of Social Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups Dr Dorothy Gwajima said that the two-day conference with the theme 'Nurture, Growth for better mental health is our responsibility' aims at discussing and setting out a strategy to accelerate the implementation of social welfare programmes in the country.



The expansion of Tegeta river is going on at Goba in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam to prevent home flooding. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

UNIVERSITY of Dar es Salaam lecturer, Prof Goodluck Urassa has said that in order for schools to perform well, teachers should do their work as part of business and increase attraction.

Prof Urassa, made the remarks yesterday in Dar es Salaam, during a capacity training for teachers at St. Mary's International Schools, so that they can increase creativity and efficiency in their work.

He said the aim of the training was to educate teachers in many things including entrepreneurship education, creativity, and how to increase success in their schools in order to promote them nationally.

"I have taught them how to work at high levels, how to serve customers, run their schools commercially and

Varsity don urges teachers to be more creative to boost school performance

entrepreneurially," said Professor Urassa

Also, he asked teachers to build a culture of having a plan, of working from the beginning of the year to the end of the year, as well as the daily one in fulfilling their professional duties.

He said many schools are affected by not building their plans well, and lacking the resources to run themselves, that's why they decided to build the capacity of teachers and leaders so that they can pass them on to their students so that the nation can get better future leaders.

Likewise, he urged educational institutions to remember the importance of giving seminars to their

employees, so that they can remember their responsibilities, the importance of their work and increase efficiency in work, saying that this method will help to get positive results in the sector.

The director of St Mary's schools Tanzania, Dr Rose Rwakatale, said the aim of the training was to raise the creativity of employees and increase their education so that they can fulfill their responsibilities according to the changes in technology.

She said the training brought together teachers from 14 schools in Dar es Salaam and other regions with the aim of listening, analyzing in depth and finally going to work to increase the efficiency of their schools.

The principal of St Mary's Tabata school, Thomas Samsoni praised the seminar saying that it has opened them up a lot as they have been taught how to serve customers, the responsibilities of leaders in the institution.

"After this training the results will be great, we have been taught many things, we have increased our knowledge and skills, it has been a good day for us to learn from Professor, we hope to transfer this knowledge to our workplaces," he said.

He thanked the leadership of the schools for organizing the seminar, which he called educational, praying that it would be a sustainable thing.

African states resolve to push for climate justice

NAIROBI

AFRICAN countries wrapped up a three-day climate summit in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, on Wednesday by adopting a Nairobi declaration.

The declaration outlines the continent's climate agenda, which includes the push for climate justice and the new models of climate financing.

Kenyan President William Ruto said the declaration will make the basis for Africa's negotiations at the Sept. 20 UN Climate Ambition Summit in New York and at COP28 in November in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

"The Nairobi Declaration, our common stand and firm resolution, reaffirms our determination and sets the stage for a new phase in the global climate action and sustainable development agenda, giving the future of socio-economic transformation a distinct and affirmative African character," he said.

Ruto noted that the declaration defines and amplifies Africa's position on the way forward in climate action, and the fundamentals that the international community must undertake to ensure that humanity's economic and ecological imperatives are sustainably achieved.

"Going forward, we shall use every available opportunity in the busy multilateral calendar, from the G20 meeting, the UN General Assembly in a fortnight, the annual meetings

of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund soon thereafter, as well as the COP28 afterwards," he said.

He said the summit has successfully demonstrated that African solutions are not just appropriate for Africa's problems but they are necessary for global well-being.

"Our Agenda 2063 is an agenda for the benefit of all humankind, and The Africa We Want aligns with the planet we need. Africa is the future of the world," he added.

Ruto observed that the leaders were leaving Nairobi satisfied that "it is a job well done, proud of the progress we have made and eager to embark on the next phase of transformation everywhere on our continent."

He said Africa has emerged from the summit a winner, with a transformative partnership that will see the investment of 60 million U.S. dollars over two years in expanding grid access in rural Burundi and a 4.5 billion dollars commitment to boost renewable energy.

Moussa Faki Mahamat, the chairperson of the African Union Commission, said he will push to make climate change Africa's theme of 2025/2026, be institutionalized and the summit be held every two years.

He added that with the Nairobi spirit, Africa will in no way lose momentum to push for climate justice, concrete climate action, and the need for adaptation and transition.



Kwekivu division officer in Kilindi District, Tanga Region Michael John speaks to Makelele villagers at Pagwi ward during the village meeting on Sunday. Photo: Correspondent Dege Masoli

REA to incur power connection cost for Chief Hangaya primary school

By Guardian Correspondent, Magu

RURAL Energy Agency (REA) has pledged to incur all power connection cost to Chief Hangaya primary school in Magu District, Mwanza Region built through President Samia Suluhu Hassan's sponsorship.

It should be recalled that President Samia was installed as Tanzania's paramount Chief at an event held on August 8, 2021 at Red Cross Grounds at Kisesa, Magu District and the school named 'Chief Hangaya' primary

school.

The pledge was given by the chairperson of Rural Energy Board (REB), Janet Mbene during the visit by REB delegation to inspect REA projects in Magu District.

Speaking on behalf of REB members, Mbene said REA supports President Samia's efforts to bring development to the people hence it will meet the power connection cost to the school.

For her part, Magu DC Rachel Kassanda thanked REA for the pledge, saying the power will enable the

school, which is nearing completion to provide better educations to pupils.

Meanwhile, REB pledges to assist poor households, those in the TASAF programme which have been reached by REA projects by providing them with free connection items to alleviate power connection costs in their homes.

Earlier, the REN delegation visited Ilemela District where it met with District Commissioner, Hassan Masala and other various officials.

The Board pledged to address all

challenges facing rural power supply submitted to them by Ilemela and Magu districts officials.

Statement from REA projects supervisor for Mwanza Region, Eng. Ernest Makale said a total of six rural power projects are being implemented in the region, and when finished will spur people's economic development.

REB chairperson, Janet Mbene is in her working visit in Mwanza Region accompanied by two board members, Eng. Styden Rwebangila and Florian Haule.

UN reforms are essential for a more peaceful world

FORMER US President Donald Trump used to engage the United Nations (UN) to punish Iran with sanctions for violating an agreement to limit its nuclear programme – a deal from which the United States withdrew in 2017.

The push set up a new confrontation at the Security Council, where European allies vehemently resisted the so-called snapback sanctions in a last-ditch attempt to hold together the fraying 2015 accord with Iran.

What followed was unclear, even though certain is the continual wrangling among the western allies while exposing the feeble foundations on which the United Nations was built as a world peace broker.

We should not forget that the United Nations rose out of the ashes of the world's most devastating, brutal conflict to have affected humankind – the Second World War and was meant to avert similar conflicts.

It has never succeeded in that because the machinery that oversees peace – its Security Council – is controlled by big powers who, as a matter of course, consider their own interests foremost.

So, while next month the UN will mark 78 years of its existence, the same world is littered with trouble spots where innocent people lose their lives unnecessarily.

To ensure a peaceful future in the world the UN has to agree to reforms that would give other nations more say in decision making over issues of war and peace. But each time the subject is brought up to the world body for discussion, big powers resist vehemently.

Even though peace also has its own shortcomings, the grim truth about war is that it always instils a horrible feeling to the victors – as it settles nothing – to win a war is as disastrous as to lose one.

But everyone will agree that peace is preferable to war. What many don't realise is that war is also terrorism, contrary to what former US President George W. Bush and other western leaders would want the world to believe.

Consider this: If the aim of terrorists is to attain political goals through killing of innocent people, the same can be said of those who wage modern conventional wars against other countries in which bombings and air strikes also kill innocent people.

The only difference is perhaps that terrorists use methods which the West wants the world to believe as barbaric and uncivilised. Is there any courteousness in wars, or rather in how people die from gunfire?

Sadly, still, the big, strong powers, to whom other weaker ones would look for guidance in averting conflicts, are not providing that guidance as sincerity would require. Instead they are themselves always in the thick of it.

In fact, the whole history of the world is summed up in the fact that, when nations are strong, they are not always just, and when they wish to be just, they are no longer strong.

It's a stark dilemma for mankind and provides valid depiction of what could be happening at the moment – the disappearance of a just world. It's also a grim reminder that justice is inseparable to peace – as it is always its proud creation.

Handing citizenships to 3,000 long term immigrants positive

CITIZENSHIP certificates have lately been presented to 3,319 migrants who can't legally be deported, delivered at a colourful ceremony in the Zanzibar State House. Handing the new status to the migrants, Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi said that control of migration is crucial to protect national borders to ensure peace and security. Laying accent on the dangers of ease of access into the country for undocumented migrants, he said that care is taken by governments around the world, to observe migration, citizenship regulations.

The president was of the view that immigration law has not been reviewed for a long time, in which case it is relevant to look at the legislation to enhance the country's ability to face various challenges encountered. He was of the view that such challenges are likely to be faced by citizens and visitors to the country as well. This affirmation appears to point at the need to ease access to becoming a citizen, on condition that the rules are followed and not abused by migrants.

Providing citizenship to people who have been living here for more than 50 years was a vital accomplishment, the president noted, highlighting the fact that they originate from neighboring countries like Burundi, the Comoros, Mozambique and Rwanda. The move was to a certain extent reciprocal within the confines of the East African Community and the Southern Africa Development Community, as at midyear Kenyan President William Ruto issued citizenship to a so-called Pemba tribe. They have lived there for decades.

It means there is some kind of reckoning that these countries have

been way too hard on extending citizenship to those we basically recognize as brothers and sisters who for various reasons had to leave their countries. Owing to fears of rebels operating from the other side of the border, extending citizenship has taken a slow pace, by the president's own admission. There are unending feuds even as we try to expand the EAC for instance, as it has more pronounced membership criteria than SADC, but expansion is taking place willy-nilly.

At the moment discussions are being pursued with the Somali authorities to take that country closer to EAC membership, while the Al Shabaab threat is still a live wire. Experience with DRC shows that when a country is integrated, internal balances change in favour of stability, and partner states are encouraged to increase efforts as the new status pushes greater action away from divisive politics to trade and other opportunities. Somalia may soon gain entry as well.

The president congratulated the new citizens for attaining the status of being recognized as Tanzania citizens after satisfying all requirements according to Tanzanian laws. Incidentally, this was an issue that as the ruling party candidate in the 2020 polls he had pledged to sort it out, and he has done it. This pledge reflects a new spirit of welcoming others instead of being fearful of their other connections, even after 50 years. In the DRC those who fled Rwanda in 1994 are still recognized as Rwandese and a factor in the power play in that country, and M-23 is erected to keep them at bay. Making the two groups Congolese citizens leaves them as Hutu and Tutsi tribal elements lacking a state to capture – or to defend.

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SOMEONE JUST WONDERED...



*Apparently food grows on trees



By Special Correspondent

ON August 24, 2023, the 15th BRICS Summit was successfully concluded in Johannesburg, South Africa, adopting the Johannesburg II Declaration. Sixty-seven (67) leaders from Africa and the Global South countries were invited.

From January 1, 2024, Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates will become full members of BRICS. This historical expansion demonstrates the BRICS commitment to cooperate in unity with all developing countries, which meets the expectations of the international community. It will also inject new vitality into the BRICS cooperation mechanism and further strengthen the forces for world peace and development. It is reported that more than 40 countries have expressed their desire to join the BRICS, within which 23 countries, including the above-mentioned six countries, have formally submitted applications for membership. BRICS countries have reached consensus on the guiding principles and procedures of expansion process and will further develop a list of prospective partner countries.

Partnership for Inclusive Multilateralism

The BRICS reiterate the commitment to inclusive multilateralism and express concern about the use of unilateral coercive measures, which are incompatible with the principles of the UN Charter and produce negative effects notably in the developing world. The BRICS support a comprehensive reform of the UN, including its Security Council, to increase the representation of developing countries in the Council's memberships.

The BRICS call for reform of the Bretton Woods institutions, that reflect the role of emerging markets and developing economies in the world economy. The BRICS also reaffirm the support for the rules-based multilateral trading system with the WTO at its core, with special and differential treatment (S&DT) for developing countries, including Least Developed Countries. Finally, the BRICS reaffirm the commitment to ensuring the promotion and protection of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all with the aim to build a brighter shared future for the international community based on mutually beneficial cooperation.

The BRICS reiterate that the principle "African solutions to African problems" should continue to serve as the basis for conflict resolution. In this regard, the BRICS support African peace efforts on the continent by strengthening the relevant capacities of African States. The BRICS remain concerned at the situation in the Sahel region, in particular in Niger.

Currently, high debt levels in some countries reduce the fiscal

A bigger and better BRICS benefits Africa and the world



space needed to address ongoing development challenges aggravated by spillover effects from external shocks, particularly from sharp monetary tightening in advanced economies.

One of the instruments to collectively address debt vulnerabilities is through the implementation of the G20 Common Framework for Debt Treatment, with the participation of official bilateral creditors, private creditors and Multilateral Development Banks in line with the principle of joint action and fair burden-sharing.

The BRICS reaffirm the importance of the G20 to continue playing the role of the premier multilateral forum in the field of international economic and financial cooperation. Therefore, the BRICS are committed to a balanced approach by continuing to amplify and further integrate the voice of the global South in the G20 agenda as under the Indian Presidency in 2023 and the Brazilian and South African presidencies in 2024 and 2025.

The BRICS reiterate the support to the African Union Agenda 2063 and to Africa's efforts towards integration, including through the operationalisation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The BRICS also stress the importance of issues including industrialisation, infrastructure development, food security, agriculture modernisation for sustainable growth health-care, and tackling climate change for the sustainable development of Africa. The African continent remains on the margins of the global trading system and has much to gain through BRICS collaboration. AfCFTA and BRICS cooperation presents opportunities for the continent to transition away from its historic role as a commodity

exporter towards higher productivity value addition.

Enhancing Cooperation

During the Summit, Chinese President Xi Jinping and South African President Ramaphosa also co-chaired a China-Africa Leaders' Roundtable Dialogue under the theme "Promoting African integration and jointly building a High-Level Africa-China community with a shared future". The Dialogue was attended by 11 State leaders and representatives from AU, FOCAC, ECOWAS and other regional institutions.

On which path suits Africa best, the African people have the most say. Advancing modernisation through integration is the independent choice made by African countries and people. On this path to modernisation, China has all along been a firm supporter, and walking side by side with Africa.

Looking ahead, China will work to strengthen cooperation mechanisms with Africa through Belt and Road cooperation and FOCAC. China will work actively at the G20 Summit next month to support the AU's full membership in the group. China supports making special arrangements on the UN Security Council reform to meet Africa's aspiration as a priority. China will call on multilateral financial institutions to enhance the say of African countries.

To help Africa bring its integration and modernization into a fast track, China makes the following three proposals:

China will launch the Initiative on Supporting Africa's Industrialisation. In implementing the Nine Programs under the FOCAC framework, China

will better support Africa in growing its manufacturing sector and realising industrialisation and economic diversification.

China will launch the Plan for China Supporting Africa's Agricultural Modernisation. China will help Africa expand grain plantation and enhance cooperation on seed and other areas of agro-technology. Meanwhile, China will also provide additional emergency food assistance to African countries in need.

China will launch the Plan for China-Africa Cooperation on Talent Development. China plans to train 500 principals and high-caliber teachers of vocational colleges every year, and 10,000 technical personnel with both Chinese language and vocational skills for Africa. China will invite 20,000 government officials and technicians of African countries to participate in workshops and seminars. To support Africa in strengthening education and innovation, we will launch the China-Africa Universities 100 Cooperation Plan and 10 pilot exchange programmes of China-Africa partner institutes.

President Akufo-Addo rightly said during the BRICS Summit that "a strong partnership with the BRICS nations can help construct a prosperous and self-confident Africa". Next year, China will host the FOCAC meeting, where China and Africa may come together again and draw up new plans for our development. As we join hands to advance modernisation, we will deliver a better future for the Chinese and African people, and set a fine example in the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.

Lu Kun, Chinese Ambassador to Ghana.

Basic procedures of dealing with civil cases in court (1)

IT is common understanding in our society that a court of law is the right avenue for resolving disputes between parties particularly when out-of-court or amicable settlement proves futile.

As a matter of law and good practice, courts of law are premised on the constitutional principle and they are required to be neutral and impartial in resolving disputes between parties in discharging their day-to-day duties.

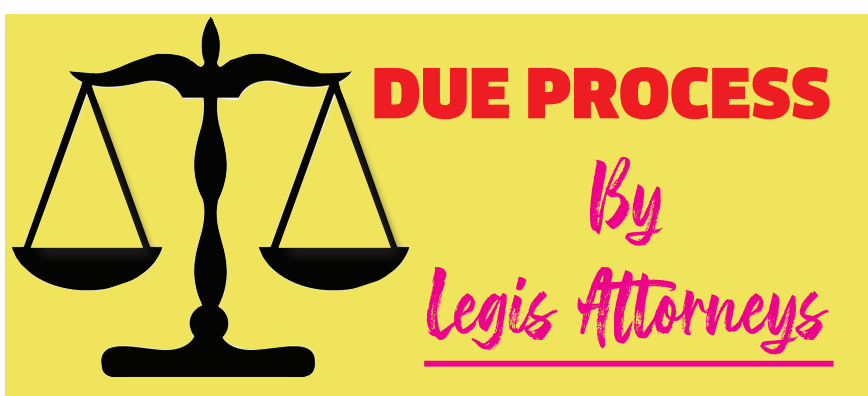
What the courts are required to do when exercising their constitutional mandate to determine the dispute is to apply relevant laws and facts presented before them and not otherwise.

However, for a court to be able to discharge its mandate properly, there are requisites or established procedures which courts of law need to comply with for fair determination of disputes.

One of them is Civil Procedure Code Act, Cap 33 R.E 2019. This is an act of parliament which provides procedures used for handling civil disputes in our country.

Despite the existence of other laws and regulations governing nature of specific disputes such as land and tax, the above law cuts across in handling almost every dispute either direct or indirect in court of law or tribunal. Therefore, this article is centred on the aforesaid law.

This article provides highlights on applicability of the above law in determination of civil dispute in our jurisdiction. It is one of the major



instruments or vehicles for lawyers which provide procedural matters in applying laws and regulations for fair determination of disputes.

Legal procedures are the tools or vehicles used by lawyers or any litigator particularly to ensure clear presentation of pleadings, documents, evidence and arguments in court of law with the view of achieving substantive justice or right.

In this article, our major focus is to deal with procedural presentation of case in court, determination and judgment as well as appeals in civil disputes.

For easier understanding of this topic, we shall

address the same from institution of resident magistrate's courts where cases are initiated by way of pleadings to the Court of Appeal of Tanzania. We are not conversant with primary court procedures but we are aware that its procedures are so simple and without technicalities as compared to upper courts.

A civil dispute is a legal conflict or disagreement between two persons on certain subject matter which can be either on contact or land or tort or family and so many. Usually, the case begins by the plaintiff filling complaints in court of law either resident magistrate's court or

High Court. It can also be a tribunal depending on the subject matter and remedy asked against the defendant.

For the purposes of addressing the existing procedures, we opt to categorize this article in various stages as follows (1) Pre-filing, (2) Pleading, (3) Discovery, (4) Pre-trial, (5) Trial (6) Post trial, (7) Judgment and (8) Appeal.

Pre-filing stage

A good lawyer or litigants should understand that amicable settlement is the best way to resolve a dispute before taking the same to the court of law. So many things happen in court before determination. In other words, a dispute passes through different stages before determination into its finality.

Considerable time would be taken in dealing with disputes on those various legal stages and worse enough, there is no guarantee the same would be decided in your

favour or not. So, employments of amicable settlement, including sending a demand notice expressing your intention to refer the dispute to court.

There is no format of how to a compose demand notice. Rather, it is a simple document providing explanation of what is the cause of action against adverse party and legal remedy you intend to ask and in case they fail to comply with the given time then the dispute would be preferred in a court of law.

As we explained in previous articles, issuance of a demand notice is not mandatory but the same can be issued as a matter of courtesy and good practice. However, it may be good ground for awarding costs in case it is proved that the adverse party received and did not act or reply on the same.

For a good practising lawyer, once the above stage is not successful is where extensive research on the matter is conducted on the subject of dispute regarding the law governing the dispute before presentation of the case in court.

Postmortem of the case would be required to be done through research on the right laws in connection with relevant facts along with possible defence available that can be used by the opponent.

There is a saying in legal fraternity that 'you win or lose a case on your chamber'. This is a very important stage after examination of the facts and the available law to enable one make informed opinion.

Further in this stage, depending on the nature or value of the subject of dispute, it is time to determine which court the dispute can be preferred either at the resident magistrate's court or tribunal or the High Court of Tanzania. This always depends on the facts and laws governing

the said disputes.

Limitation

Section 3 of the Law of Limitation Act, Cap 89.R.E 2019 requires courts from the beginning to be satisfied whether the preferred dispute is within time or not. The reason behind the said law is that everything done by the court preferred out of time is nullity or in other words is as good as nothing lawful because at the time the court deals with such a dispute, it has no mandate to do the same.

Pleading

Upon discharging what is found in the pretrial stage, include the issues pointed above then formal complaint by way of plaint or originating summons can be prepared.

In this article our main focus is suit by way of plaint as required under section 22 and Order VII of Civil Procedure Code. Suit by way of originating summons is applicable frequently in case of constitution petition or civil disputes which do not attract much evidence or the court will not deal with complex issues.

Plaint intended to be filed in court of law should contain, among others, names of the parties and the court in which the dispute is required to be filed or taken, facts constituting cause of action and when it arose, facts showing the said court has jurisdiction to deal with such a dispute, statement of value of subject matters of the dispute and which kind of reliefs or legal remedy you want the court to grant you. Once the above is properly considered, then the plaint is ready to be presented to a court of law.

The law takes into consideration the issue of jurisdiction if that court is vested with the mandate to deal with your dispute. Courts are creatures

of the statutes. Therefore, non-compliance with the above facts required to be pleaded in the plaint would result in your case to be struck out.

Let us point one of the vivid situations in case law. In the High Court Land Case 277 of 2022 between Matango S. Magambo vs Easy Network Ltd, the pleadings were prepared and presented in court in which substantial amount was paid in court upon filing of the same.

Before commencement of the hearing of the plaintiff's case, a legal issue was raised regarding facts not pleaded in the plaint.

Upon consideration of the arguments presented, the court held that omission is fatal and the same cannot be cured by overriding objective principle as jurisdiction of the court to deal with dispute was questionable hence the case was stuck out with costs to be paid to the defendant.

This is very embarrassing and caused more costs to the plaintiff. Therefore, compliance of what is required to be pleaded in the plaint is of paramount importance. We shall finalize this second stage and proceed to other stages in the next article.

Note: the material and information contained in this article are for general information purposes only. They only provide either elementary or basic legal knowledge on the above subject. Anyone considering legal action should consult an experienced lawyer to understand current laws and how they may affect a case in question.

You can send questions or comments to our email info@legisattorneys.co.tz or postal address Managing Partner, Legis Attorneys, P. O. Box 3750, DSM. You can visit our website www.legisattorneys.co.tz

By Mads Flarup Christensen

SUPER-CHARGING efforts and setting a fresh direction for the next phase of climate policymaking is what's urgently needed and on offer this month during the 78th UN General Assembly in New York, as mass heat waves, devastating wildfires, fatal floods, and withering droughts continue to wreak havoc across continents.

These extreme weather events, alongside geopolitical tensions, expose how fundamental it is for the world to have solutions inexplicably based on climate justice, collaboration and international cooperation to address ongoing impacts and to prevent future polycrises.

If we are to live up to the theme of this year's UNGA debate of "Rebuilding trust and reigniting global solidarity", we need to stop pitting the urgent fossil fuel phaseout against who should pay for climate impacts around the world. It's a false choice as we need both, and we need to act for the global common good.

Climate justice means both the end of the era of fossil fuels, through a green just transition, and holding country and corporate polluters responsible, legally and financially, for the harm caused by climate change.

The climate justice bill can start to be settled by rich countries making good on their long standing \$100 billion per year climate finance promise, and committing to scale up further.

Also, by governments introducing taxes to ensure the fossil fuel industry, and other major polluters, pay for the destruction and harm they have caused. The 'big five' oil and gas companies, for a start, had 2022 profits of \$200bn.

This more accurate meaning of climate justice is essential and global since climate impacts don't respect borders. Take the devastating wildfires in Canada in June, when New Yorkers all over the state were enveloped in smog and more than 50 million people were put under air quality alerts across the US.

Or how India, the world's largest rice exporter, brought in a ban in July on the staple, which dozens of countries especially in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa rely on, furthering food insecurity, hunger and discord.

May the race for climate justice leader begin



KlimaSeniorinnen (Climate Seniors) Visit in Athens, Greece. The KlimaSeniorinnen on their visit to Athens, Greece (24-27 of January). They spoke with volunteers and organizations including Greenpeace about the importance of a strong climate movement, its close relation to human rights and how to make the movement stronger.

Political leaders need to look past their country lines and their next election cycle, and act in the interests of the next generation and people on the frontlines of the climate crisis today, instead of the big multinational fossil fuel companies.

Oil, coal and gas are the largest contributors to global climate change and they are undeniably

killing us. Recent studies show that nearly 9 million people a year die from inhaling particulates produced by burning fossil fuels.

The toxic politics around the G20 summit are not shaping up to deliver anything useful on climate. This cannot set the tone of the United Nations Secretary-General's Climate Ambition Sum-

mit on September 20th.

Masses of people will be mobilising across the planet, and on the streets of New York, calling for climate justice and solutions that work for us all in the present day, and not untested tech fixes of the faraway.

A straight up climate justice action leaders could take from

is how 58% of Ecuadorians voted to keep new oil in the ground in the Amazonian Yasuni National Park, a home to Indigenous communities and highly biodiverse regions. As part of the result, the state-owned Petroecuador has one year to close up shop there.

This monumental vote by the people of Ecuador, somewhat to their government's dismay, is

in stark contrast to the UK government's tomfoolery in wishing to "max out" the North Sea's remaining oil and fossil gas reserves to shore up "energy security". This despite even the World Economic Forum stating in January that "short-term fixes will lead to a bleak future - to achieve energy security and sustainability, the only solution is to accelerate the low-carbon transition."

Who will be the climate justice leaders at the Climate Ambition Summit remains to be seen, but it is clear to civil society that young people are leading the charge. The end of August saw one of the largest climate justice camps take place in the mountains of Lebanon, where 450 young leaders from the world's most climate-affected regions co-created strategies and demands that call on leaders to put climate justice at the core of climate policy. They know the science is crystal clear and they demand a livable future.

The moment is upon decision-makers now, especially of the biggest polluting countries, to become climate justice leaders by delivering a fast and fair fossil fuel phase out that is funded and makes polluters pay.

It is the time for the political and corporate elite to act justly, cooperatively and collaboratively to stop us all from boiling.

Mads Flarup Christensen is interim Executive Director of Greenpeace International.

The gone dark days of pain for Mexican women

By Rosi Orozco

IN the years when Mexico did not have a general law against human trafficking, there existed an evil man known as “El Osito” (“The Little Bear”). His alias could mislead those who heard of his criminal record: he was a ruthless pimp, devoid of any trace of kindness in his body, who claimed to collect kidnapped women to exploit their bodies.

“El Osito,” whose real name was Noe Quetzal-Mendez, did not operate alone. Despite having not completed primary education and struggling with reading and writing, he built and established a path of pain between Mexico and the United States. This route began in his hometown of Tenancingo, Tlaxcala, and ended in New York City, United States.

Along these more than 4,000 kilometers, his victims suffered physical, emotional, and sexual violence within safe houses controlled by his criminal organization.

On the Mexican side, “El Osito” paid dirty police officers, human traffickers, and members of the Sinaloa Cartel who provided him with protection and aided in crossing hundreds of victims through Tijuana. He had eyes and ears on the country’s roads and cruelly punished any escape attempts.

On the other side of the border, he had corrupt authorities and a long list of clients eagerly waiting for the teenagers and women he brought to the United States to be raped in exchange for coins.

Arelí was one of his victims. Deceived, kidnapped, trafficked, sexually exploited for the benefit of “El Osito’s” criminal organization. She is one of the few Mexican women who survived his reign of terror and has the courage to tell how this man, who was once one of the FBI’s most-wanted criminals, operated.

Her testimony not only calls us to be ashamed of the past but also to reflect on the present and plan for a future without human trafficking: on both sides of the border, we all failed.

Arelí never imagined that life without “El Osito” could be as difficult as being in captivity. Once she escaped from his criminal organization, she did not find the necessary support in her own country, such as specialized shelters or emotional support. Her safety in Mexico was not guaranteed either, so she had to seek asylum in the United States out of fear of the Sinaloa Cartel.

Today, she lives in a secret location. Gradually, her wounds are beginning to heal thanks to family members who have taken her in and have not hesitated to lend a helping hand. Despite all the accumulated suffering, Arelí is one of the luckier cases because two more survivors of another binational human trafficking gang, Los Melendez, are abandoned by the United States government and need help as victims of this transnational crime.

These other two young women are experiencing a painful reality firsthand: neither in Mexico nor in the United States is there sufficient support from both governments for the victims of this crime that enslaves 50 million people worldwide and generates around 150 billion dollars annually for organized crime.

In the absence of action from the political class, it falls to civil society to step



International Summit Against Human Trafficking, July 2023, Washington DC USA Senate.

forward and take on a debt with the most vulnerable people on both sides of the border.

That is why on July 27th, a new binational center against human exploitation began, one of the most important agreements of

the International Summit Against Human Trafficking 2023 held in Washington D.C.

This historic center is funded by the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) and benefits from the expertise of American

and Mexican legislators, leaders, activists, specialists, and journalists, who will be guided by the testimonies and knowledge of survivors of this crime.

Among its most urgent tasks are raising awareness in educational

institutions, preventing the crime within families, creating new laws, promoting a culture of reporting, decriminalizing victims, and ensuring that exploitative clients are held accountable by the law as active members of human trafficking

networks.

In Mexico, ten brave mayors, such as Adrián Rubalcava and Fernando Flores, will spearhead efforts to teach more authorities how to combat these dark businesses. Their experience in fighting this crime will be crucial to ensuring the success of this mission on Mexican soil, led by Nallely Gutiérrez Gijón, president of the Association of Municipalities of Mexico.

This new center joins forces with the movie “Sound of Freedom,” produced by Eduardo Verástegui and starring Jim Caviezel and Mira Sorvino, who have surprised the world by getting involved in this fight beyond just a story about the courage to stand up against human trafficking. Now, it’s time to move from the excitement of the movie theater to taking action in real life.

These are times for the braves. The globalization of organized crime forces us to think about how to safeguard our families beyond the borders of both countries and political rhetoric.

This new center welcomes all people from all backgrounds, colors, and ideas who want to act under a single premise that contains an irrevocable truth: in no country in the world should a victim be abandoned by civil society.

We dare to dream of a world where no human can be for sale.

Rosi Orozco is Activist and Founder Unidos Vs Trata.

IPS UN Bureau



Legislative panel: Mexican Senator Nancy De La Sierra Aramburo, Congresswomen Cynthia Lopez Castro, Juanita Guerra Mena, Olimpia Tamara Giron Hernandez, Rosi Orozco Activist. July 28th 2023, Washington DC USA Senate.

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 MALLUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMUJAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 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)

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Radio One

PAPU tower becomes hub of postal innovation in Africa



President Samia Suluhu Hassan speaks during the inauguration of the state-of-the-art landmark building in Arusha recently.

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU) Tower in Arusha is set to become the hub of Postal Services in Tanzania, Africa and the world following the establishment of two specialised offices that will soon be operational at the office and commercial complex.

Inaugurating the state-of-the-art landmark building in Arusha recently, President Samia Suluhu Hassan commended the establishment of the two centres, saying the move paved the way to a new initiative in the delivery of Postal services in Africa.

President Samia said Tanzania had successfully established key postal infrastructure like the Postcode system (physical and virtual) and sub-marine optic fibre systems.

The PAPU Tower has a crypto stamp image.

This depicts a physical stamp that is connected to a digital one. It is a unique, verifiable counterfeit-proof digital item that brings new experience to stamp collectors.

It symbolizes the transformation of the Post into a vehicle of services delivered through electronic networks. PAPU has been promoting the development of electronic commerce among African countries.

Universal Postal Union (UPU) director general Masahiko Metoki said at the ceremony

that the Union would support the establishment of an information and communications technology (ICT) innovation and training centre at the complex, to serve its current 45 PAPU member states.

"UPU will support the installation of the PAPU ICT capacity building centre to enable operations, for inclusive sustainability of Postal Services in Africa," he explained.

The ICT capacity building centre will inculcate and upgrade skills among Postal Sec-

tor Officers, he added.

The UPU Regional Office housed at the maiden symbol of digital currency will cater for UPU projects not only in the East African Region but also for Africa and the world, improving the delivery of Postal Services.

UPU is implementing the Abidjan Postal Strategy and Development cooperation policy (2022-2025), which was approved by the 27th Congress in Abidjan, in August 2021

The Abidjan postal strategy notes that the postal sector plays an important role in promoting socio-economic development, with today's postal service having a much more active role than in the past.

It explains that Posts in Africa are comparatively well positioned to provide e-government, e-commerce and e-financial services to vulnerable populations that tend to be excluded, such as women, the poor, the less educated and those in the informal sector.

The strategy seeks to stimulate the development of efficient and accessible universal postal services of quality to facilitate communication worldwide by guaranteeing the free circulation of postal items over a single postal territory composed of interconnected networks.

Its other objectives are to encourage the adoption of fair common standards and the use of technology; ensure cooperation and interaction among stakeholders and promote effective technical cooperation; ensuring the satisfaction of customers' changing needs.

Dr Jabiri Bakari, Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) Director General said the construction of the 17-storey office and commercial complex will facilitate economic growth in Tanzania and Africa through digitalisation of postal services that will enhance efficiency.

The Tanzania Posts Corporation (TPC) has a service centre on the PAPU tower ground floor offering a variety of digitalized services, including financial solutions, and electronic commerce and serving as a one-stop centre for various government and public services.

Postmaster general, Macrice Mbodo said the corporation had adopted ICTs in its operations and diversified into many areas. It has improved its transportation fleet and logistics management, he added.

The tower has become an attraction to visitors to Arusha. It is automated and has a modern 400-seat conference facility.

Tanzania became the seat of the Pan African Postal Union in Arusha on 24 November 1984, four years after its establishment in Arusha on 18 January 1980.

Construction of the PAPU Tower started on 18 January 2020 and the project was jointly funded by PAPU and the Tanzanian government through TCRA.

INGELHEIM, Germany

THE Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the UK government Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, Boehringer Ingelheim and GALVmed announce the creation of a new partnership to work on solutions to combat African animal trypanosomiasis (AAT).

AAT is a disease of vertebrate animals affecting cattle, water buffalo, sheep, goats, horses, pigs, dogs, and other species. AAT is caused by the protozoan parasites *Trypanosoma congolense*, *Trypanosoma vivax* and, to a lesser extent, *Trypanosoma brucei brucei*, and is a major problem in Africa where it is mainly spread by tse-tse flies (*Glossina* spp.). Infection by *Trypanosoma vivax* also occurs in northern South America where it is transmitted by biting flies such as stable flies (*Stomoxys*) and horseflies (*Tabanids*), and it has more recently been reported in the Middle East.

Infectious parasites enter the bloodstream of the host animal and multiply causing fever, weakness, lethargy, and anaemia which lead to weight loss, reduced fertility and milk production, and may result in death.

In Africa, AAT is estimated to threaten more than 50 million cattle1 in known tse-tse endemic areas. However, as many as 90 million cattle2 are threatened if cattle outside the tse-tse belt—potentially at risk because of cattle movements, transhumance and mechanical transmission of *T. vivax* by biting flies—are also considered. AAT is estimated to kill as many as 3 million cattle2 annually.

Losses directly attributed to reduced meat and milk production as well as the cost of treatment and tse-tse control are estimated to be more than USD 1 billion annually3. Losses in agricultural gross domestic product in all affected areas in Africa are believed to be around USD 4.5 billion annually4.

New partnership working on solutions to combat African animal trypanosomiasis



Thanks to strong collaborations, great progress has been made in the control of African human trypanosomiasis which is targeted for elimination by the World Health

Organization (WHO) (WHO, 2020a)5. In contrast, control of AAT has been limited.

AAT is complex and more challenging to control than human trypanosomiasis for

many reasons including the diversity of host species, parasites and vector flies involved, and reservoirs of infection in wildlife. Existing control tools are considered to

be inadequate: there are no vaccines, no cost-effective pen-side diagnostic tools, and drugs currently used to treat AAT are associated with problems of counterfeiting and drug resistance. In addition, most countries in which AAT occurs are developing countries, with limited resources to monitor and control endemic livestock diseases. The newly announced partnership between The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the UK Government Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, Boehringer Ingelheim and GALVmed aims to develop and make available a new solution to address AAT.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the UK Government Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, Boehringer Ingelheim and GALVmed will conduct research and collaborate with other academic and international projects to promote and develop solutions to address AAT. Development of new veterinary products takes many years. It is a complex process, and the partnership has much work to do before it can declare that it has a highly prospective new solution and what a likely launch date would be. The partnership's aspiration is to be able to launch a new solution for AAT before 2030.

African startups mull home-grown solutions to combat climate change

NAIROBI

A group of young African startups made their presence known at the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, hoping to play a big role in promoting home-grown climate-oriented solutions.

In line with the recently adopted African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy (2022-2032), experts believe that broad-based ownership and inclusive participation are vital for engaging Africa's women and young people to showcase their 'game-changing' innovations.

According to Dr Yossi Matias, Vice-President of the Google Research initiative, pushing for innovative solutions and research around climate change remains critical for Africa when considering that the continent continues to feel the impacts of global warming in many ways.

"Most solutions promoted by African startups and innovators are in danger of being ignored because of many factors, but there is a way to overcome these challenges," Yossi told IPS.

Among the solutions put forward by young innovators at the Climate Action Innovation Hub, which took place on the sidelines of the summit, were clean energy, climate-smart agriculture and sustainable land management, biodiversity conservation, water storage and conservation, waste management, and circular economy.

The innovations can also enhance the key cross-cutting areas needed to amplify climate cooperation and action, including climate advocacy, empowerment, awareness raising, capacity building, and climate literacy.

Other key areas of innovation are green transport and climate-resilient infrastructure, resilient, climate-smart cities, digital transformation, and food security.

The latest estimates by the UN agencies show that changing precipitation patterns, rising temperatures, and more extreme weather contributed to mounting food insecurity, poverty, and displacement in Africa.

Official figures show that food insecurity increases by 5-20 percentage points with each flood or drought in sub-Saharan Africa.

While African Governments are committed to



Delegates outside the Climate Action Innovation Hub on the sidelines of the Africa Climate Summit. Credit: Aimable Twahirwa

supporting climate solution innovation to varying levels and with different approaches to tackle this phenomenon, some experts believe that what is needed is to encourage a growing number of African startups to shift in mindset—by becoming

providers of solutions to improving the continental climate change resilience.

"What is needed for these young African innovators is to look for mentors and incubators because, as an entrepreneur, you need to

learn how to develop a successful product that brings some short-term and long-term positive benefits to combat climate change in your community," Yossi said.

Through its Accelerator programs, the Google Research initiative cur-

rently seeks to empower startups, developers, and nonprofits, especially in Africa, to better solve the world's biggest challenges – from economic development, diversity, sustainability, and climate change – relying on its technology.

For example, one of the initiatives presented at the summit

seeks to produce plastic waste collected from local communities in the Rwandan capital Kigali where a startup is producing handcrafts from plastic waste collected in the city.

Sonia Umulinga, a young Rwandan female entrepreneur and owner of 'Plastic Craft', a company that seeks to tackle the problem of plastic pollution, told IPS that key priority had been given not only to help reduce plastic pollution but also to her new business model in using the collected waste to produce unique products on the markets.

Harsen Nyambe Nyambe, Director, Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy, African Union Commission, told delegates that the current situation where the lack of ownership over innovations, coupled with a whole narrative built around imported solutions, constitutes a major challenge for the continent to combat climate change.

"Africa needs to redefine on how to engage of the issue of climate change, and countries need to work together to find possible innovative solutions to the challenges they are facing," he said.

While some officials and experts cite innovation as an important driver of growth and the fight against hunger and malnutrition, which continue to affect major parts of the African continent, others believe there is a need for these African startup entrepreneurs to test and refine these ideas for the benefit of their community.

Current efforts for Africa's transformation emphasize switching agriculture from sub-

sistence to commercial, which means producing a surplus for the markets and making agriculture become a business while relying on home-grown innovative ideas.

Prof Kindiwe Sibanda, system Board Chair at the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), pointed out that the startup initiative is critical for the African Agriculture sector to expedite the production of food.

"We should not give up because we need these startup home-grown solutions to help small-scale farmers meet their needs," she told delegates.

However, some small-scale farmers and pastoralists believe that indigenous innovation also constitutes another driver for innovation in African Agricultural systems considering that climate change impacts are stalling progress towards food security on the continent.

Tumal Orto, a livestock breeder farmer from Marsabit County in Northern Kenya, told IPS that weaving indigenous knowledge with scientific research remains critical.

"Small-scale farmers are also innovators in their own ways using local ingenuity in their practices," he said.

However, most experts at the innovation hub on the sidelines of the Africa Climate Summit (ACS) in Nairobi were unanimous that more productive and resilient solutions to combat climate change in Africa will still require a major shift in the way various resources are managed.

IPS UN Bureau Report



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SHELTER AFRIQUE URGES FOR CLIMATE-RESILIENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN AFRICA'S URBAN AREAS

By Guardian Correspondent, Nairobi

Nairobi-based, pan African housing development financier Shelter Afrique has implored African governments to adopt climate-resilient housing and create incentives for the production of well-located affordable housing that minimizes construction costs, enhances sustainability, and offers better mobility.

Speaking on the session themed 'Integrated Liveable African Cities' at the Africa Climate Summit - hosted by the Government of Kenya in collaboration with the African Union Commission, Shelter Afrique Managing Director, Thierno Habib Hann, said it was imperative to enhance climate adaptation mechanisms in climate-resilient affordable housing to minimize the impact of climate change.

Shelter Afrique is the only pan-African finance institution that exclusively supports the development of the housing and real estate sector in Africa.

"It is widely acknowledged that climate change will affect the socio-economic development trajectory of Africa, therefore governments should consider putting in place proper cli-

mate-change policies on land use and zoning and provide incentives on developments that are affordable sustainable and offers better mobility," Hann said.

He further urged governments to offer tax incentives and subsidies to developers who build affordable housing units; reserve public land for affordable housing projects to make it more accessible for developers focusing on affordable housing; facilitate PPP's between the public and private sectors; and develop legislations, tools, and policies to enhance climate-resilient affordable housing and urban development in the continent.

Climate-change policies He appealed to stakeholders in the housing delivery and built environment to take advantage of the climate-change policies in their jurisdictions - to introduce technological innovations that can mitigate the impact of climate change in the built industry.

"For instance, Kenya considers climate change a cross-cutting theme that is being mainstreamed in the medium-term plans of the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs), which in turn inform the country's de-



velopment blueprint - Vision 2030. Under these plans, the Government has mandated that all affordable housing projects be aligned with Global Green Certification requirements. Recently, Nigeria promulgated the 2021 Climate Change Act, which is the first standalone climate change legislation in West Africa. With such developments, it is pertinent for stakeholders to put in more effort in making housing safe and resilient to climate change related impacts. This in turn can help protect lives and livelihoods from disasters and build sustainable communities," Mr. Hann said.

moon.

The Summit was held during The Africa Climate Week 2023 (ACW), which runs from 4 to 8 September 2023 in Nairobi.

Shelter-Afrique is a Pan African housing finance and development institution established by African Governments to address the need for a sustainable housing delivery system and related infrastructure projects in Africa.

The institution provides financial solutions and related services to support the supply and demand side of the affordable housing value chain. It also provides advisory and project management services for large-scale affordable housing projects.

It's currently owned by 44 African countries, the African Development Bank (AfDB), and the African Reinsurance Corporation (Africa-Re).

As the Company for Housing and Habitat in Africa, Shelter Afrique work has a direct and positive impact on the lives of many by meeting the needs of the continent's rapidly growing urban population.

In July this year, South African rating agency GCR assigned a positive

outlook to Shelter Afrique on expectations of a return to profitability within the next two years.

Effectively, GCR has given the pan-African housing development financier's long and short-term issuer ratings of B- and B respectively.

The change in outlook to positive reflects the strong improvement in the fundamentals and the ongoing governance reforms at the organization.

The Company cut its non-performing loans ratio from 67 percent in 2021 to 51 percent at the end of last year.

"The outlook is positive based on our expectations of stability in governance structures and operational frameworks. We also factor improvements in risk management processes resulting in sustained improvements in asset quality, and capitalization to remain strong with the company returning to profitability within the next 18 months," said GCR.

"The ratings may be improved if there is a defined and material improvement in asset quality without a deterioration in leverage or reserve coverage ratios. The ratings may also be improved if there is a turnaround in earnings with sustained profitability."

China's developers soar in wave of speculative buying

BEIJING

Speculative bets that Chinese authorities will widen support for the property sector sent some of the country's ailing developers surging by the most on record.

A Bloomberg Intelligence gauge tracking Chinese builders gained nearly 10 percent Wednesday, the most in more than a month.

Heavily indebted developers with depressed valuations were among those to rally the most, with Sunac China Holdings Ltd soaring 68 percent alongside a spike in trading volume. China Evergrande Group closed up 83 percent - capping the biggest gain since its 2009 listing.

The sudden upturn comes after a rout in August, when the property sector showed signs of deepening financial problems. Authorities have been introducing bolder measures in recent weeks to put a floor under the crisis, including lower down payments and looser mortgage rules for some homebuyers. The latest boost came from a Securities Times article, which went a step further to say China should drop home-buying restrictions in most regions other than top-tier cities.

"It's some hedge funds speculating on more stimulus," said Xin-Yao Ng, investment manager of Asian equities at abrdn Asia Ltd. "The distressed de-

velopers are definitely the speculators' pick to bet on stimulus as they see the biggest delta to policy news."

The magnitude of the rally suggests some investors see a glimmer of hope from the government's latest efforts, though whether the measures will succeed in reviving the sector remains in doubt.

The surge in home sales in Beijing and Shanghai over the weekend shows sentiment improving. Investors also took note of looser restrictions in Shenyang, which was cited by the Securities Times as an example that should be followed by other cities. The capital of northeast China's Liaoning province has removed home-purchasing curbs in its city center.

A record wave of developer defaults has pushed many of them to mere penny stocks, whose shares trade at around - or below - one Hong Kong dollar. Such cheap valuation subjects them to volatile moves on any potential catalysts. The property gauge now trades at a price-to-book ratio of 0.3, compared with a five-year-average of 0.47. Even with this week's gains, the index remains more than 30 percent below this year's high in January.

Shares of Country Garden Holdings Co., once the country's largest property developer, now trade at around HK\$1.2 apiece, about 8 percent of their peak level. Wednesday's 21 percent jump, ac-



panied by a record trading volume, only added around \$750 million in value to the battered company's market capitalization.

"If you ask me if this sector is worth buying - for investors, it's a no. For speculators, it's a yes," said Kenny Wen, head of Investment strategy at KGI Asia Ltd. "It's likely that we see other property developers having new crisis through the end of this year. China's property trouble is not solved completely."

The rally may be driven by short squeeze of some heavily-shorted names, according to Steven Leung, executive director at UOB Kay Hian. The major gainers are mostly small- and medium-sized developers which tend

to have big swings, he said. Some market watchers point to the rally's speculative nature given that the gains have been concentrated in ailing private developers with liquidity stress and weak fundamentals. Shares of the country's stronger state builder China Resources Land Ltd. closed in the red. The CSI 300 Materials Index dropped 0.5 percent.

The broader equities market was muted, another evidence that investors expect the sector's rebound to be fleeting. The CSI 300 benchmark of onshore shares was down 0.2%, while the Hang Seng China Enterprises Index climbed 0.1 percent.

Zambia to hand disputed copper assets back to India's Vedanta

LUSAKA

Zambia has agreed to return control of Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) to Vedanta Resources, mines minister Paul Kabuswe has said, ending a row over the ownership of the assets that erupted in 2019 when authorities seized the mines.

The government, which owns a 20 percent stake in KCM through ZCCM-IH, will allow Vedanta to resume control and operate KCM's mines and smelter after the company renewed a pledge to invest more than \$1.2 billion to increase output and repay outstanding debts, Kabuswe said.

A shareholders' agreement is being reworked to make the commitments from both shareholders legally binding, Kabuswe added. The legal details of the agreement and reinstatement of the KCM board, would be finalised within the next three months, the minister said.

Ties between Zambia and Vedanta, owned by billionaire Anil Agarwal, soured after former President Edgar Lungu's government orchestrated the seizure of the KCM assets and forced liquidation in May 2019, accusing the Indian company of failing to meet plans to invest in increasing mining output.

The forced takeover nearly paralysed operations at the KCM and triggered protracted battles, with Vedanta mounting legal battles including approaching an arbitration court in London to recover the copper assets.

"It is not a secret that the asset has deteriorated a great deal and the production output has substantially reduced," Kabuswe told journalists in Lusaka. "This is a very sad development for a national strategic asset of the country."

The agreement was reached amicably after both parties abandoned court challenges in favour of negotiations. The deal could signal that Zambia President Hakainde Hichilema is meeting some of his targets to scale down the state's involvement in the mining sector.

The government, which seeks to triple copper output over the decade, is also searching for a new investor for Mopani Copper Mines.

Much of the \$1 billion that Vedanta has pledged is probably targeted at advancing the Konkola Deep Mining Project, an underground operation which despite holding one of the world's richest copper deposits, has suffered from a lack of investment.

"Underground operations have nearly been halted, KCM certainly needs immediate recapitalisation," Kabuswe said.

In addition to committing to investing \$1 billion over the next five years, Vedanta said in a separate statement it will also pay \$250 million to local creditors, spend \$20 million on community projects and raise workers' salaries by 20 percent.

The Konkola Deep mine holds about 250 million tons of copper ore reserves and "Zambia and the world have been waiting for a long time for this mine to be properly developed," ZCCM said.

Saudi Arabia's real estate, infrastructure projects top \$1.25trln

RIYADH

The value of Saudi Arabia's real estate and infrastructure projects launched in recent years have crossed \$1.25 trillion in the Kingdom, but affordability remains a key concern in the residential sector, according to a new study.

The total value of commissioned projects has crossed \$250 billion in the country, with housing developments accounting for a large part of the country's pipeline as it targets a population forecast of 50 million by 2030, according to the findings from the latest Saudi Giga Projects Report by real estate consultancy firm Knight Frank.

More than 600,000 residen-



tial units are currently in the pipeline, with Saudi capital Riyadh accounting for 18 percent of all real estate and development projects underway, totalling some \$229 billion; this includes plans to accommodate over 241,000 homes by 2030, the report said.

"... The volume of residential units planned [in Saudi Arabia] has risen to 660,000 units, up 30% in the last 12 months, which will come as welcome news to house hunters pre-vented by the recent spike in values, which has under-pinned a nation-wide decline

in the volume of homes being sold," said Faisal Durrani, Partner - Head of Research, Middle East & North Africa. "That being said, affordability is still a key hurdle for many buyers and so price points for the new inventory will be critical to reigniting domestic demand."

A shortage in Grade A office space has also been a concern in financial hubs such as Riyadh, with development projects underway to address this market gap as well to 3.6 million sqm of office space in the Saudi capital, with a nationwide plan that takes that figure up to 6 million sqm or more.

"Separately, the office pipeline is steady at 6 million sqm. This figure has of course been influenced by the 300,000

square metres of office projects that have been completed since last autumn. The swelling of the office pipeline is set against a backdrop of a severe shortage of prime Grade A space in cities such as Riyadh, which stands in stark contrast to other global centres where occupancy levels still trail pre-pandemic levels," Durrani continued, adding: "Elsewhere in the commercial market, 5.3 million sqm of retail space is now planned, with a further 289,000 hotel rooms that will go some way to supporting Saudi Arabia's goal of hosting 100 million visitors by 2030, up from around 17 million last year, which made the Kingdom the 14th most visited nation in the world."

AGRA ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF WOMEN AGRIPRENEURS AWARDS

By Guardian Reporter

AGRA has announced the winners of the 2023 Women Agripreneurs of the Year Awards (WAYA2023) at the Africa Food Systems Forum, AGRF2023 ongoing in Dar es Salaam.

The statement issued by AGRA yesterday said the selected exceptional women have illuminated the path to excellence through their groundbreaking innovations driving transformative growth in the agricultural sector across Africa.

"Women are the backbone of agriculture in Africa. They comprise over 50 percent of agricultural labour force in developing countries. The numbers underscore the importance of ensuring that women smallholder farmers enjoy a level playing field, that why Value4her exists, to appreciate and support women in agripreneurship," the statement said.

This year's heroines hail from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, and Senegal received a total of US\$85,000 in grant funding during the ceremony in the categories of: Outstanding Value Adding Enterprise, Female Ag Tech Innovator, Young Female Agripreneur (Rising Star), and Grand Prize.

The winners of the Grand Prize was Siny Samba, CEO, Le Lionceau, Senegal, while Lucy Chioma Aniagolu, Founder, Agrodemy Enterprises, (Nigeria), was announced as the winner of Young Female Agripreneur (Rising Star).

The Female Ag Tech Innovator award for this year went to Maryanne Ruguru Gichanga, Director, AgriTech Analytics (Kenya) and the Outstanding Value-adding Enterprise award winner was Bernice Dapaah, CEO, Bright Generation Community Foundation-Ghana Bamboo Bikes Initiative (Ghana).

Women Agripreneur of the Year Award (WAYA), currently in its third edition was



Winners of the 2023 Women Agripreneurs of the Year Awards - L to R- Lucy Chioma Aniagolu Founder, Agrodemy Enterprises, (Nigeria); Bernice Dapaah, CEO, Bright Generation Community Foundation-Ghana Bamboo Bikes Initiative (Ghana); Binta Touré Ndoye - AGRA Board Member; Siny Samba, CEO, Le Lionceau (Senegal) and the Grand Prize Winner of WAYA 2023; Sabdiyo Dido Bashuna, Head of Gender and Inclusiveness at AGRA and Maryanne Ruguru Gichanga, Director, AgriTech Analytics (Kenya).

launched in 2021 at the AGRF Summit in Nairobi, Kenya. It

is an important part of AGRA's VALUE4HER program.

WAYA recognizes women agripreneurs from across the

continent, who have excelled in different segments of the agricultural value chain and have shown remarkable innovation in their businesses.

The awards aim to create visibility for successful women, serving as positive role models, stimulating innovation, and fostering ambition among African women agripreneurs.

This year, the four exceptional winners were selected from a pool of 1,340 candidates spanning 42 African countries, all of whom, are recognized for their commitment to shaping the future of agri-food systems through pioneering new ideas, technologies, and sustainable practices to positively impact their communities.

This formidable task was spearheaded by a panel of resolute and experienced judges that included: Betty Kiplagat the Government Affairs Leader for Africa & the Middle East at Corteva, Binta Touré Ndoye a Pan-African banker, Caroline Emond the CEO of International Dairy Federation, Ma-

rieme Esther Dassanou the Director of Gender Programs at MasterCard Foundation, and Judy Matu the National Executive Chairlady at AWAK.

Speaking at the Awards ceremony, Dr. Agnes Kalibata, president of AGRA congratulated the remarkable laureates for their dedication towards transforming challenges into opportunities and re-shaping the landscape of Africa's agro food systems. She added that "Over the past two editions, we have witnessed remarkable stories of resilience, innovation, and unwavering dedication. These women have demonstrated their ability to drive positive change, inspire their communities, and contribute significantly to food security, climate adaptation, economic growth, and sustainable development. Their journeys inspire us all and stand as a testament to the incredible potential that lies within every individual, regardless of their gender".

By Guardian Reporter

African trade agreements can boost agricultural imports and exports and curb the adverse effects of climate change by including actionable provisions, according to the latest Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor (AATM).

Published yesterday by the AKADEMIYA2063 and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) on the sideline of the Africa Food Systems Forum (AGRF), the report has called for concerted regional- and continental-level action toward sustainable trade flows and more environment-friendly trade policies.

The report also delves into the negative impacts of the Russia-Ukraine war on fertilizers and food trade and recommends action to lessen the effects of the shocks on African countries and consumers.

AATM provides high-quality trade statistics using consistent indicators to monitor trends in Africa's participation in global trade as well as the status of intra-African trade.

The report finds that Africa's regional trade agreements (RTAs) do not exert a significant impact on its agricultural trade. The analysis attributes this to "shallow" trade agreements that focus on tariff reductions only, with limited impact on the agri-food market. The research highlights opportunities to include provisions on non-tariff measures and enhance their legal enforceability to accelerate intra-African agri-food trade.

The report also calls for RTAs to include climate-related provisions to boost the contribution of trade to combatting the negative impacts of climate change.

"Amid global shocks like Ukraine and COVID-19, as well as the climate crisis, which is emerging as the biggest threat to Africa's agricultural trade development, trade policy is indispensable to leveraging agri-food trade as the lynchpin of Africa's recovery and growth," said Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson at AKADEMIYA2063.

"The 2023 AATM analyzes opportunities to "deep-



Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson at AKADEMIYA2063

African trade agreements need to stimulate agricultural growth

"en" trade agreements to increase intra-African trade while prioritizing import diversification by tapping into the continent's natural endowments and the deployment of new and greener technologies to lessen the impact of global shocks like the Ukraine crisis. With the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement underway, there will be added value in policy reforms to streamline and harmonize agriculture-relevant 2 frameworks toward increased food security and a larger agri-food global market share for Africa," he said.

The report's analysis draws lessons from Africa's current engagements for application to future frameworks to enhance continental integration. For instance, including enforceable provisions on non-tariff measures (NTMs), such as well-designed rules of origin and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures in trade agreements, can increase exports of agricultural products by up to 26 per cent, potentially through increasing market confidence and raising demand.

Amid rising tempera-

tures which increased by 0.3°C per decade from 1991 to 2021, and the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine war has brought an additional layer in already turbulent global markets.

"The Ukraine crisis set in motion substantial price increases and significant supply chain disruptions for critical sectors such as fertilizers and food, particularly wheat and vegetable oils, given the high reliance on both Ukrainian and Russian imports," states Dr. Johan Swinnen, Director General of IFPRI.

"This year's AATM includes important recommendations for making Africa less vulnerable to such supply shocks, such as stronger social safety net programs to build the resilience of vulnerable households, increasing production on the continent to minimize import dependency, as well as diversifying imports".

Intra-African agricultural trade increased significantly since the early 2000s; however, figures from 2021 show it remains below its peak value of US\$16.1 billion recorded in 2013.

An analysis of the nutritional content of intra-

African trade indicates that the top agricultural product traded within the continent is pure sucrose, which accounts for 4 percent of intra-African agricultural trade, while a closer look at the cotton value chain suggests that African countries are primarily competitive in unprocessed products.

The report also assesses agricultural trade in the East African Community (EAC), finding that the region has one of the highest ratios of agriculture to GDP among the regional economic communities examined, as well as the highest introversion index, indicating a high intensity of intraregional trade.

This is largely due to zero customs duties on intraregional flows and high extraregional tariffs as well as improvements in logistic performance.

The Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor is produced and published under the African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium and the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) programs as a collaborative effort by AKADEMIYA2063 and IFPRI.

Heifer International call for youth driven innovations, tech adoption

By Guardian Reporter

Heifer International, the global nonprofit working to end hunger and poverty in low- and middle-income nations while prioritising environmental sustainability, has called upon stakeholders in Africa's agriculture sector to enhance their backing for youth-driven innovations, technology adoption, and the establishment of strategic partnerships.

These initiatives aim to bolster smallholder farmers and communities, ultimately raising incomes and catalysing a transformation in the continent's food systems.

Heifer International made this call at this year's Africa Food Systems Forum (previously known as AGRF), where it hosted side events, networking forums, and participated in several panels that centered discussions around transformative solutions for Africa's agriculture.

The AGRF 2023, taking place September 4-8 in Dar es Salaam, is Africa's leading venue for agriculture stakeholders to come together and agree on practical actions to transform food systems and end hunger.

More than 3000 attend-

ees from over 70 countries attended this year's summit, where more than 350 experts and policymakers engaged stakeholders on ways that Africa can build back better food systems and strengthen the continent's food sovereignty - with youth and women at the centre.

Heifer International has been working with farmers and communities in Africa for nearly 50 years to help them build sustainable and resilient food systems that can withstand shocks and stresses. Part of the organisation's work in the continent is innovative investments in young Africans working on transformative solutions and products within the agriculture ecosystem that have strengthened smallholder farmers' outputs, increasing women participation in agribusiness, and enhancing climate-smart practices.

Adesuwa Ifedi, Senior Vice President, Africa Programs, Heifer International, speaking to global stakeholders at the event, said: "Our profound experience of partnering with smallholder farmers and communities has provided us with a unique perspective - one that harnesses the innovation and en-

ergy of young innovators, alongside the limitless potential of technology, to craft scalable and enduring agritech solutions tailored to the unique needs of smallholder farmers. The impact of these have been transformative - driving heightened productivity, amplified incomes for farmers, job creation, unlocking commercial capital fostering agripreneurs, and elevating the capabilities of our food systems."

According to Ifedi, concerted efforts need to be made to boost Africa's food systems urgently to be able to accommodate the continent's forecast population of 2.5 billion people by 2050.

"The good news is that in the face of this challenge, we are endowed with two critical tools - our youth and technology," she said. "Africa possesses the youngest population globally, with nearly 40% of the continent's population aged 15 or below, as of 2022. In sub-Saharan Africa alone, an estimated 500 million people will be under 25 years old by 2050. Within these massive numbers, we see a reservoir of energy, ingenuity, and determination being leveraged to solve societal problems

across the continent." Heifer International also advocated for increased innovative capital for young innovators working on transformative solutions for the agriculture ecosystem. Speaking during the organisation's side event at the summit on September 4 that had youth innovators, policymakers, experts in finance and technology, and other stakeholders in attendance, Tewodros Ayele, Country Director Ethiopia, Heifer International, said: "Through various initiatives, we have provided innovative capital to young professionals developing and deploying tech innovations that are enhancing smart farming and food production across the continent. The impact of the various programs we have partnered with these young innovators on is heartwarming and encourages us to do more."

Ayele identified one of such initiatives as the AYuTe Africa Challenge, one of the most ambitious agriculture competitions on the continent which empowers and supports young professionals who are developing and deploying tech innovations that are reimagining farming and food production across the continent.

"Since 2021, we have awarded up to US\$1.5 million annually to our AYuTe Champions," said Ayele. "Our support doesn't end there. We also deploy a team of expert advisers - accomplished business veterans - to support AYuTe Africa Champions as they translate this funding into aggressive business expansion strategies. We believe innovative capital includes everything that helps these young agripreneurs innovate beyond their talent. It is a sum of the assets, tangible and intangible, that power them. It includes financing, networks and partnerships, human capacity, and mentorship."



Adesuwa Ifedi (L), Senior Vice President of Africa Programme, and Surita Sandosham, Chief Executive Officer (R), both of Heifer International, at the AGRF Summit.

CONSTRUCTION

PROCUREMENT, SUPPLY ANNUAL CONFERENCE SLATED FOR DECEMBER IN ARUSHA

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE 14th Procurement and Supply Annual Conference has been scheduled to convene at the International Conference Center (AICC) in Arusha city from 12 to 14 December, it has been unveiled.

Briefing over the ongoing preparations ahead of the meeting, Head of the Marketing and Public Relations Unit at the Procurement and Supplies Professionals and Technicians Board (PSPTB), Shamim Mdee expressed that the gathering is expected to attract the relevant professionals, stakeholders and other participants from within and outside the country.

Mdee informed that online registration for taking part in the conference has been opened, urged those wishing to participate to turn out in multitude and apply earlier in order to stand a better side to benefiting from the professional conference.



Head of the Marketing and Public Relations Unit at the Procurement and Supplies Professionals and Technicians Board (PSPTB) Shamim Mdee during a press briefing. PHOTO: Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

"On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Management of PSPTB, I would like to inform the general public, the esteemed professionals in the procurement and supply

chain that the 14th edition of the Procurement and Supply Annual Conference has been scheduled to convene in Arusha city at AICC," she informed.

Moreover, the PSPTB's Head of Marketing and Public Relations Unit extended deep appreciation to the stakeholders and sponsors who bankrolled the 13th conference during last year, appealing to them to chip in and extend similar support to have this year's conference run more fruitfully.

"PSPTB wishes to welcome all well-wishers companies and the relevant stakeholders to be part of the coming prestigious gathering through injecting our side with generous supports," she said, added that the opportunity will provide them with a crucial podium to expand their business as well as service delivery from within and outside the country.

She detailed that those who will patriotically wish to sponsor the event are supposed to communicate with the PSPTB's Board through the Marketing and Public Relations Unit.

"Those wishing to sponsor the conference are required to communicate with in order to get detailed

information" she expressed.

Pertaining to registration protocols and the set fees for participating in the envisaged conference, Mdee expressed that the participants who have so far register at PSPTB will be charged at 500,000/-, whereby the non-members participants, and those from other professionals will have to part with at least 650,000/-.

And she added, "The participants from outside the country will have to dig deep into their pockets to the tune of USD400 in order to book their place for the crucial conference."

However, she unveiled that PSPTB has taken into consideration the students who have yet to be employed, saying those wishing to take part will be charged at a reasonable fee of 300,000/-.

"As per the set participation registrations, the prospective participants are supposed to visit our official website," Mdee detailed.

The Procurement and Supplies Professionals and Technicians

Board (PSPTB) is a government institution established by Act No. 23 of 2007. PSPTB is charged with the responsibilities of developing, monitoring and controlling Procurement and Supplies Professionals in the public and private sectors in the country.

The 14th Professional Annual General Meeting (AGM) aims to bring together procurement and suppliers professionals and stakeholders within and outside the country to share their knowledge, skills and experience of professional practice and related issues in the profession.

The AGM is open to procurement and supply practitioners, tender board members, accounting officers, auditors, engineers, architects, quantity surveyors, pharmacists, academicians, consultants, researchers, policy makers, business community, entrepreneurs, suppliers, contractors, Non-government organizations, as well as any other stakeholders.

Lesotho to construct two major highlands bridges

MASERU

Work has started on the remaining two major bridges to be built under the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) Phase II after the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) awarded the M511.5-million construction contract to ConcorNthane Brothers M&K Bridges joint venture (JV).

The JV comprises main partners Concor Construction (South Africa) and Nthane Brothers (Lesotho), as well as sub-contractors Post Tensioning and Structural Solutions (South Africa) and Bridge Joints and Rehabilitation Contractors (Lesotho).

Work on the contract started on August 29 and the two bridges across the Mabunyaneng and Khubelu rivers are expected to be completed towards the end of October 2025.

The construction contract of the biggest of the trio of bridges - the Senqu Bridge - was awarded in late 2022, following which construction of the temporary site facilities has progressed and excavations have started for the massive pier and abutment foundations necessary to support the 825-m-long and 90-m-high bridge.

Once complete, the three major bridges will provide access to Mokhotlong town across the reservoir, even at full supply, and retain connectivity to the national road network along the A1, the main road between the Mokhotlong district in the mountainous north-east of the country and

the capital Maseru.

"The impounding of the Polihali reservoir will submerge existing roads and tracks, affecting communities in the valleys and tributary catchments of the Senqu, Khubelu, Mokhotlong, Moremoholo and Sehonghong rivers.

"The major bridges along with a network of feeder roads and the main access roads to the project area all contribute towards minimising this disruption and help to restore community access to healthcare facilities, schools, shops and markets," explains LHDA Polihali branch manager Gerard Mokone.

Phase II divisional manager Ntsoli Maiketso adds that the trio of bridges will form part of the safe and efficient road infrastructure network constructed under Phase II, as well as become a major tourist attraction contributing to long-term benefits in stimulating sustainable economic growth.

The Khubelu Bridge will be about 270 m long with nine 30 m spans and two abutments, while the Mabunyaneng Bridge, the smallest of the three major bridges, will be about 120 m in length and has four 30 m spans and two abutments. The bridges will both be 13.55 m wide.

Led by Zutari, work on the design of the Mabunyaneng and Khubelu bridges started in 2018. Zutari also designed the Senqu Bridge and is supervising the construction of the three bridges.



Minara Tanzania Country Manager, Mr. Tundo Samuila (left), shakes hands with Airtel Tanzania Chief Technical Officer, Dr Prosper Mafole, during the two-day Connect to Connect (C2C) ongoing summit. Centre is Airtel Tanzania 's government relations manager, Jennifer Mbuya. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

High quality internet connectivity vital for spurring productivity

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

The use of high-quality and reliable internet speed can bring significant productivity gains in various sectors such as entrepreneurship, agriculture, education, healthcare,

and other production activities.

This is facilitated by the significant ongoing investments in the country's telecommunications sector by various stakeholders, enabled by supportive policies under the oversight of various governmental authorities such

as the relevant ministries, Communications Authorities, Mainland and Zanzibar Revenue Authorities, among others.

Speaking at the two-day Connect to Connect (C2C) summit, which brings together over 300 key stakeholders in the communications sector from various African countries, held in Zanzibar, Airtel Tanzania Business Director, Joseph Muhere, emphasized the company's substantial and innovative investments in its network, starting with technology and equipment.

"At Airtel Tanzania, we have demonstrated our commitment to delivering our services to Tanzanians wherever they are through digital means, we started with 2G, 3G, and later 4G networks, and now we have 5G," he said.

The annual C2C conference gathers key stakeholders in the communications sector, including mobile phone companies, communication equipment dealers, manufacturers of various communication devices, international investors, communication experts and advisors, as well as policy makers and regulators from various government authorities.

Discussing the benefits of the company's

investment in network infrastructure, Muhere highlighted how internet usage has brought positive outcomes, particularly during this period of significant growth in online businesses.

"Internet usage with high-speed networks like ours, has benefited not only entrepreneurs but also in the field of education, the use of high-speed internet enables students and teachers to download study materials and conduct teaching, for example, we have a special application called VSOMO, developed in collaboration with VETA, to offer vocational courses online.

"To date, a total of 2,823 Tanzanians (including 876 women) have studied and obtained VETA certificates online through this platform and also, we are partnering with the Dar Teknohama Business Incubator (DTBi) to establish the AirtelFURSA Internet Lab, dedicated to nurturing ICT talents and helping entrepreneurs and students learn how to utilize the internet for their benefit. So far, the our Fursa lab at Kijitonyama Secondary School has benefited 1,158 girls from primary and secondary schools, 319 teachers from

these schools, 403 female entrepreneurs, and 170 women with special needs and our internet is also being used in webinars and online lectures," he said.

Muhere further noted that the revolution in internet usage has brought significant advantages to farmers, as it becomes easier for them to access market information, weather updates, and information about diseases and pests affecting their crops.

"Recognizing the importance of increasing smartphone ownership among Tanzanians, we have introduced this program where customers can get a phone with a small upfront payment and pay the remaining amount gradually based on their ability," he said.

This year's Connect to Connect (C2C) conference, with the theme "Meaningful connectivity," is organized in collaboration between the Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications, and Transport of Zanzibar and the Ministry of Information, Communications, and Information Technology of Mainland Tanzania. Among other things, the conference addresses various challenges facing the communication sector and seeks effective solutions.



Eritrea's Msilam dam to bolster food security

ASMARA

Eritrea has a long coastline on the Red Sea but limited fresh water. Its erratic rainfall has left most of the country arid. This is a challenge for Eritreans who depend on agriculture and livestock for their livelihoods.

But things are changing. In the space of three years, Eritrea harnessed local engineering talent and mobilised thousands of Eritreans, including students from the country's technical and vocational schools, to build the Msilam Dam.

The dam has a capacity of 350 million cubic metres and provides clean water to the towns of Dekemhare, Debarwa, Mendefera, and smaller surrounding towns. The Eritrean government

funded and built the Msilam Dam, located in the village of Gergera.

In addition to increasing the availability of drinking water, the dam is now a catalyst for transformative livestock, agricultural, and industrial production as part of the country's national strategy and sustainable development policy. Following this success, the country also built the Adi Halo Dam.

The water in the Msilam Dam has made it ideal for dairy farming. The area is now home to the Halhale Dairy Farm, part of an agro-processing facility for meat and dairy products. The farm covers 550 hectares and started with 660 cattle in 2017. Since then, the number of cattle at Halhale has increased. Eritrea is now looking to



trusted partners like the African Development Bank Group to scale up this innovative project.

African Development Bank president Dr Akinwumi Adesina paid a two-day official visit to Eritrea last week and toured the extensive facilities with President Isaias Afwerki on Saturday.

Afwerki said the government planned to use it as a pilot scheme to establish similar dairy farms in many parts of the country. He said this would help increase the number of dairy products and meat that people can buy at fair prices.

Adesina said that Eritrea's Msilam Dam and

the Adi Halo Dam Water Project—harnessing the power of commercial agriculture and food production—could potentially host the Bank's Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones initiative. He said a team from the Bank would visit Eritrea in the coming weeks to start immediate planning.

WORLD

Sheinbaum eyes historic presidency as Obrador legacy

MEXICO CITY

In a grainy 1991 black and white photograph, Claudia Sheinbaum - the favorite to be Mexico's next president - holds aloft a banner reading 'Fair Trade and Democracy Now!' in protest against the Mexican government of the day.

Sheinbaum and her mentor, President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, a trenchant critic of the establishment before he took power, would not meet until years later.

But the photo - posted by her on social media in June - underscores their shared zeal for curbing chronic inequality in Mexico and the belief that powerful elites perpetuate it.

Now, Sheinbaum, 61, wants to assume his mantle as a defender of the state, cementing public control of natural resources, and strengthening his welfare programs and flagship infrastructure projects. She is also set to push Mexico towards more renewable energy usage.

"There's no turning back from the transformation begun by President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador," Sheinbaum shouted to a crowd of supporters late last month in central Mexico City during her campaign for the presidential nomination of the governing leftist National Regeneration Movement (MORENA).

On Wednesday, MORENA said Sheinbaum, who in June stood down as Mexico City mayor to pursue the nomina-

tion, would be its candidate to succeed Lopez Obrador.

Her victory was not without controversy, with her main rival, former foreign minister Marcelo Ebrard, denouncing the selection process as marred by irregularities.

Under Mexican law, presidents can only serve a single six-year term.

If Sheinbaum or her opposition rival, businesswoman-turned-politician Xochitl Galvez, wins the June 2, 2024 election, one of them will become the country's first female president.

Sheinbaum has been scrupulously loyal to Lopez Obrador, even as he struggled to tame record levels of violence, picked fights with energy investors, pilloried critical media and alienated many wealthier Mexicans.

On security, she has outshone him, reducing murders in Mexico City by nearly half during her tenure as mayor. Sheinbaum also expanded public transport and pushed greener energy policies.

A punctilious former ballet student of Jewish descent whose student activism evolved into a distinguished career as a physicist and environmentalist, Sheinbaum is said by aides to be as analytical as the 69-year-old Lopez Obrador is political.

Lopez Obrador regularly lambasts adversaries at daily news briefings. Sheinbaum, by contrast, has pursued a more



Former Mexico City mayor Claudia Sheinbaum speaks after being named presidential candidate of the ruling Morena party for next year's presidential election in Mexico City on Wednesday. AFP

measured, scientific governing style, extolling cooperation.

"As a physicist I say this: It's easy to create chaos and pretty hard to bring about order, especially when you have a social vision," she told Reuters last year.

The president's approval rating has consistently held around 60 percent, making him crucial to MORENA's hopes of victory.

But as the presidential campaign gathers pace, Sheinbaum will have to strike a balance between loyalty to Lopez Obrador and offering new ideas, said political consultant Antonio Ocaranza, a former spokesman for ex-President Ernesto Zedillo.

Social justice

The photo Sheinbaum shared on X, formerly Twitter, showed her at the center of a protest against a 1991 visit to Stanford University by then-President Carlos Salinas, a champion of economic liberalism who has been long vilified by Mexico's left.

"A few years have gone by, but I still have the same feeling and yearning for social justice," she wrote alongside it.

Salinas oversaw major privatizations after a highly controversial 1988 election, and Lopez Obrador has long depicted the policies as the cause of modern inequality in Mexico.

A few weeks after Sheinbaum's photo was taken, Lopez Obrador launched

a weeks-long protest march dubbed the "Exodus for Democracy", claiming Salinas' Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) had rigged elections in his native Tabasco state.

The march to Mexico City helped propel Lopez Obrador to national prominence - and, later, to his first meeting with Sheinbaum after he was elected mayor of the capital in 2000.

Lopez Obrador appointed Sheinbaum city environment minister, and she became a close ally. In 2018, she was elected mayor as part of the team that swept him to power.

Soon after he became president, aides and political insiders began mentioning her as his political heir, seeing her as the most apt defender of Lopez Obrador's drive to make the state the engine of social change and custodian of the economy.

If elected, she would be just as nationalistic about the economy as Lopez Obrador, said Rene Cervera, a Sheinbaum aide who once worked for Ebrard, her MORENA rival.

Though while Lopez Obrador has pumped billions of dollars into state oil company Pemex, Sheinbaum, who was part of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change which shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, wants to tap Mexico's renewable power.

"With public investment," said Cervera.

Agencies

Climate change adds workplace costs and hazards

AS Texas baked in this summer's record temperatures, local UPS driver Chris Begley started feeling unwell before collapsing at a customer's premises. The 57-year-old's death in hospital was announced in late August - just as his trade union was ratifying a deal with UPS on improved heat protections.

"Chris Begley should still be alive to experience them," the Teamsters union said in a statement of provisions such as a promise to include air conditioning in new delivery vans from next year and to retrofit existing vehicles.

In a statement to local media, UPS said it was cooperating with the authorities as they investigated the cause of death. "We train our people to recognize the symptoms of heat stress, and we respond immediately to any request for help," it said.

As global warming leads to more frequent spells of extreme heat around the world, workers are among the most exposed to serious health risks because their livelihoods often depend on them carrying on regardless.

At the same time, studies show that productivity starts to be impaired at temperatures above 24-26 degrees Celsius (75-79 degrees Fahrenheit) and, for

some tasks, slashed by half from around 33-34C - levels repeatedly exceeded in a year which included the hottest July on record.

"Unlike some occupational health and safety risks you see a direct impact (from heat) on the health of workers and a direct impact on productivity," said Halshka Graczyk, a specialist on the issue at the International Labour Organization (ILO).

"So does it make sense for the employer to keep a job site running that day if it is more than 35C and productivity is less than 50 percent of what they are expecting?" Graczyk said of an awkward cost-benefit ratio that more workplaces will start to face.

Worker rights

Even on the optimistic assumption that the world hits its Paris Agreement goal of capping warming at 1.5C, productivity losses will amount to 2.2 percent of global work hours or \$2.4 trillion in output by 2030, the ILO estimates.

But finding the point at which employer costs can be minimized without compromising worker welfare is all the harder given the lack of clear data, uneven regulation, and



Standing in the mid-afternoon heat, a worker takes a break to drink during a parking lot asphalt resurfacing job in Richardson, Texas, United States, on June 20, 2023. (PHOTO / AP)

the unequal way that workers around the world will experience heat stress.

Not surprisingly, white-collar workers in air-conditioned offices will be less affected: the big impact will remain initially on outdoor workers in sectors from construction to agriculture and in particular those in the Global South.

Among the most exposed will be the world's 170 million migrant workers. Chaya Vaddhanaphuti, a researcher at Chiang Mai University in Thailand, said his studies of migrant workers from Myanmar underlined their vulnerability.

"These laborers tend to display extra stoicism and en-

durance - partly because they need to show to their Thai bosses that they can work and hence still get hired," he said.

"This puts them in more danger during the heatwave period and they often lack any paperwork or access to medical services."

An internationally agreed ILO convention grants workers a right to leave a workplace without fear of retaliation if they have "reasonable justification" to believe they are in danger - but labor advocates say few workers know of the convention or dare use it.

Many European and other usually temperate countries

still have no laws establishing maximum work temperatures.

Often that is because workplace regulators lack resources: the US Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OCHA) would need 165 years to check each workplace in its remit, estimates labor advocacy group National Employment Law Project (NELP).

"There has to be both carrots and sticks - and without enforcement there are not enough sticks," said Anastasia Christman, senior policy analyst at NELP.

Role for automation

While work temperature caps may prevent some casualties, they do not account for the fact that workers experience stress differently, according to their job role and health "The number on the thermostat is not as crucial as assessing the risks and talking to the workforce," said Owen Tudor, Deputy General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation.

Consultations might yield relatively cheap fixes: Tudor cited the example of a meatpacking plant which had found it could reduce heat transfer from worker to worker simply by spacing them out more. **Agencies**

Russian spies more effective than army, say experts

RUSSIA'S security and intelligence services have achieved greater success in Ukraine than its army, says a leading UK defence think tank.

Russian spy agencies began preparing for the invasion of Ukraine as far back as June 2021, says a report by the Royal United Services Institute (Rusi).

The Federal Security Service (FSB) has quickly dominated populations in occupied areas of Ukraine, Rusi adds.

The report was compiled using sources including captured documents, it says.

Ukrainian intelligence officials, intercepted communications and on-the-ground research also contributed.

Researchers say the FSB has been able to download government computer hard drives to identify pro-Kyiv individuals that its agents want to arrest and interrogate.

Electronic warfare units have been deployed to cut off occupied parts of Ukraine from the outside world to help them enforce control, Rusi says.

According to the think tank, the head of Russian foreign intelligence, the SVR, told President Vladimir Putin they needed more time to prepare and asked for the invasion to be delayed. His request was denied.

The 39-page report, titled Preliminary Lessons from Russia's Unconventional Operations During the Russo-Ukrainian War, Feb 2022-Feb 2023, is aimed as a warning to Western governments as to the extent of Russian covert operations to subvert a target country.

The report's main author, Jack Watling, points to the recent arrest of a senior German intelligence official accused of passing highly classified information to Moscow.

"It is evident," says the report, "that the Russian special services managed to recruit a large agent network in Ukraine prior to the invasion and that much of the support apparatus has remained viable after the invasion, providing a steady stream of human intelligence to Russian forces."

Russia's domestic spy agency, the FSB, the modern-day successors to the Soviet KGB, was able to do this by forming temporary operational groups that focused on target cities such as Melitopol.

As Russian forces advanced, FSB officers would seize Ukrainian government records from local headquarters, download the computer hard drives which then allowed them to build lists of who was working for the state and where they lived.

House-to-house searches then resulted in arrests and interrogations in basements. Torture was often used, says Mr Watling, not so much to extract information but more for intimidation purposes, to discourage the population from resisting the occupation. Russia has consistently denied multiple accusations of human rights abuses in Ukraine. **Agencies**

Study reveals why men, wealthy people are more likely to develop skin cancer

WASHINGTON

A new study sponsored by McGill University investigates why persons living in Atlantic regions are more likely to develop melanoma than other Canadians, providing lessons on skin cancer prevention for the entire country.

Rates of melanoma, a deadly form of skin cancer, have been rising globally, including in Canada. Current estimates indicate that up to 1 in 3 Canadians will develop some form of skin cancer during their lifetime. While some Atlantic provinces such as Prince Edward Island (PEI) and Nova Scotia have the highest incidence rate of melanoma in the country, neighbouring provinces like New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador have rates below or comparable to the Canadian average.

To find out why, the researchers compared UV exposure and behaviours among different groups in Atlantic Canada based on income, education, and gender, among other factors.

Higher-income individuals more at risk for melanoma - The study found that higher-income individuals had an increased risk of melanoma. Risk factors contributing to this include more lifetime sun burns, tanning bed use, and being tanned. Similarly, individuals with university education had higher rates of recreational sun exposure but were less likely to use tanning beds.

"A higher socio-economic status is known to be associated with more vacations in sunny climates and recreational tanning, which likely ultimately drives melanoma incidence in this population," highlights Dr. Ivan Litvinov, an Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine and Chair of the Dermatology Division at McGill University.

However, the study also showed that individuals earning less than \$50,000 a year were more likely to work outdoors and experience occupational sun exposure, placing them at a higher risk of developing skin cancer. These findings suggest that policies to protect outdoor workers could help reduce melanoma risk, say the researchers.

ANI

By Wu Yan, Lyu Li, People's Daily
Located in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, Tarim Basin is a major petroliferous basin in the country. The oil and gas resources at a depth of more than 6,000 meters underground in the basin account for 83.2 percent and 63.9 percent, respectively, of China's total.

Currently, China's exploration and development of the Tarim Basin has entered a comprehensive phase of ultra-deep drilling, and the largest ultra-deep oil and gas field in China has been built there.

In Xayar county, Aksu prefecture, a gigantic white-and-red derrick is standing in the desert, with the deafening sound of drilling rigs. This is the site of a drilling project of the Take-1 well by PetroChina, Chi-

China's largest ultra-deep oil, gas field built in Tarim Basin

na's leading oil and gas producer.

With a design depth of 11,100 meters, the exploration well will be the first in China with a depth of more than 10,000 meters.

In a prefab house beside the derrick, there is an intelligent control platform, which comes with a big screen that displays all types of construction parameters and real-time surveillance videos. It shows the progress of the drilling project.

So far, the well has been drilled to a depth of 5,856 meters, according to Wang Chunsheng, chief technical expert of the Tarim oilfield branch of PetroChina.

In the Tarim Basin, there are many other drilling projects probing deep into the Earth.

According to statistics, PetroChina's Tarim oilfield is home to over 1,700 wells with a depth of more than 6,000 meters, which account for over 80 percent of China's total. In particular, more than 100 of them have reached or exceeded the depth of 8,000 meters.

In general, a well between 4,500 and 6,000 meters deep is defined as a deep well, while those between 6,000 and 9,000 meters are super-deep wells. Those that are more than 9,000 meters are ultra-deep wells.

It is the overall improvement of industrial manufacturing capabilities that has enabled China to drill wells thousands of meters under-

The completion of the 11,100-meter drilling project is estimated to take 457 days. So far, over half of the targeted depth has been completed in just dozens of days, but that is less than 10 percent of the total workload.

As the depth increases, the difficulty of drilling grows exponentially, explained Duan Yongxian, manager of the geological investigation division of PetroChina's Tarim oilfield branch.

"The deeper you drill, the higher the pressure and the temperature it will be. At over 10,000 meters underground, we face challenges like ultra-high temperatures above 210 degrees Celsius and pressures above 130 MPa," Duan noted.

Drilling rigs are the "heart" of ultra-deep drilling projects. A 72-meter-high rig is adopted for the project of the Take-1 well, as tall as a 24-storey building.

Independently developed by China, the rig is the first one in the world able to drill to a depth of 12,000 meters. Compared with regular rigs, it has improved its lifting capacity from around 300 or 400 tons to 900 tons, which means it can lift 150 adult elephants at once.

Besides, the rig is equipped with high-performance PDC drill bits and fluids that ensure work efficiency in extreme temperatures.

How are oil and gas discovered in the deep underground?

Some metal rods are equipped

with downhole logging tools that can work at a temperature of 200 degrees Celsius and transmit real-time drilling data 8,000 meters below the surface to the ground control platform. They help the drill bits to find the right directions.

Ultra-deep drilling is the field with the most bottlenecks and challenges in oil and gas engineering, facing extreme temperatures, ultra-high pressures, and fragile strata. The complex underground rock combinations in the Tarim Basin make the drilling even more difficult.

The Tarim Basin ranks first globally in seven of the 13 globally recognized indicators for engineering difficulty, and it also ranks high in the remaining indicators, Wang said.

People's Daily

Overuse of social media, electronic devices by children top concerns of parents

MICHIGAN

As children return to school, two subjects dominate their parents' minds: the impact of social media and the internet on children's lives.

According to the University of Michigan Health C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health, more than half of parents identify mental health issues as their top health worry for their children and teens.

Overall, mental health and technology use topped this year's top ten list of parent worries about health-related issues for children in the United States, surpassing childhood obesity, which parents considered as the top children's health issue a decade earlier.

"Parents still view problems directly impacting physical health, including unhealthy eating and obesity, as important children's health issues. But these have been overtaken by concerns about mental health, social media and screen time," said Mott Poll co-director and Mott pediatrician Susan Woolford, M.D., M.P.H.

Two-thirds of parents are worried about children's increased time on devices, including overall screen time and use of social media, taking the No.1 and No.2 spots on the list of children's health concerns this year, according to the nationally representative poll.

"Children are using digital devices and social media at younger ages, and parents may struggle with how to appropriately monitor use to prevent negative impacts on safety, self-esteem, social connections and habits that may interfere with sleep and other areas of health," Woolford said.

Screen time became a growing concern for parents during the pandemic, previous reports suggest. Woolford encourages parents to regularly evaluate their children's use of technology and consider limiting use if they notice signs of unhealthy interactions or behaviours. Certain social media and device settings can also help protect kids.

Mental, and emotional health concerns are top of mind

The poll findings, which are based on 2,099 responses collected in February, also demonstrate parents' continued concern about children's mental health. The majority of parents view depression, suicide, stress, anxiety, and related topics like bullying as big problems.

And nearly half of parents expressed concern about a lack of mental health services. "The mismatch between the growing number of youth with mental health concerns and the limited access to mental health services has serious implications for children's well-being," Woolford said.

Parents also shared a high level of concern about school violence, which may reflect direct experience with school shootings or fights as well as media coverage about such events, Woolford said.

She added that changes to the school environment, such as metal detectors, armed guards and locked doors, as well as active shooter drills may remind children and parents about the potential for school violence. Parents may struggle with how to manage their own stress and anxiety while they try to reassure their children. "Parents may want to talk with their child periodically about how safe they feel at school and what they've heard about violent incidents," Woolford said.

"They should tailor the information to their child's age and avoid sharing graphic details while offering reassurance about safety measures that their school has in place." Parents in low-income households were more likely to view several children's health issues as a major concern, including depression and suicide, bullying, school violence, unsafe neighbourhoods, drinking and drugs, smoking and vaping, teen pregnancy and sexual activity, child abuse and neglect, parental stress, discrimination, COVID, and health risks from pollution.

Meanwhile, parents in middle and high-income homes are more likely to rate overuse of devices and social media as significant problems.

"Differences in how parents view children's health problems may reflect their day-to-day experiences dealing with environmental challenges such as unsafe neighbourhoods, as well as discrimination that may be more frequently experienced by children from low-income homes," Woolford said.

ANI

How dietary advice can improve fertility treatment for female cancer survivors

PENNSYLVANIA

A young woman's chance of being infertile increases after receiving a cancer diagnosis. While it has been discovered that eating a healthy diet, which includes whole grains, fruits, and vegetables, as well as healthy fatty acids, can improve fertility and cancer survivorship, over 90 per cent of young adult cancer survivors do not follow the dietary guidelines and have diets that are high in fat and low in fruit and vegetables.

The barriers to and strategies for encouraging healthy eating habits among female cancer survivors who are having trouble getting pregnant were investigated by researchers from Drexel University's College of Nursing and Health Professions.

Recently published in *Integrative Cancer Therapies*, researchers conducted in-depth interviews with young, female cancer survivors with fertility challenges to collect information about their dietary intake and help inform the development of dietary interventions for this population.

"Clearly, barriers exist for these young women who are unable to meet healthy dietary recommendations. Yet, to date, no study has investigated nutrition-related barriers to female cancer survivors experiencing fertility challenges," said Brandy-Joe Milliron, PhD, an associate professor in the College and corresponding author of the study.

In addition to the in-depth interviews, 20 female cancer survivors of reproductive age gave three 24-hour dietary recalls - a self-report of food and beverages they consumed the day before - to gauge the quality of their diets based on the Healthy Eating Index (2015) and how closely they adhered to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The researchers followed up with some participants in focus group discussions to ensure the meanings and perspectives of participants were accurate.

Overall, women in the study reported a poor-quality diet, with four main barriers to eating a healthy diet emerging from the data: Challenges of work-life balance, treatment-related fatigue, and dietary guidance, if provided, was too rigid for them to follow.

Lack of nutrition resources and minimal guidance tailored to their unique needs during treatment and throughout post-treatment life

Despite these barriers, the research team did identify several facilitators of healthy eating, especially among participants with higher-quality diets. These included building trust between patients and their healthcare provider, identifying a high motivation to improve nutrition-related behaviours and recognising of the additional benefits of nutrition and a healthy diet.

The research team noted that the findings are not generalizable, and future research should continue to investigate and explore the unique nutrition- and wellness-related needs of young female cancer survivors with diverse racial and ethnic, educational, and socioeconomic backgrounds and across different cancer types and treatments.

They recommend that nutrition programs and interventions for female cancer survivors use evidence-based strategies and tools such as motivational interviewing, self-monitoring, and social support. Customized interventions should accommodate women's work schedules to improve adherence, and culinary education resources may help improve survivors' confidence in cooking, motivation and fatigue management.

"Nutrition interventions that seek to strengthen fertility treatment can be optimized by considering and addressing barriers and facilitators during the development stage," said Milliron.

ANI

Food insecurity looms for low-income countries in Mideast, Africa amid Black Sea grain deal stalemate

CAIRO

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's meeting with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on Monday failed to yield a breakthrough in the revival of the Black Sea Grain Initiative, according to experts.

Following the meeting, Erdogan expressed optimism about the initiative, but concrete evidence of a breakthrough remains elusive.

Meanwhile, Putin reiterated accusations against the West for failing to meet its obligations under the agreement. Analysts are concerned that the absence of the grain deal will threaten food security in low-income nations in the Middle East and Africa, urging the West to offer Russia the necessary guarantees to maintain a crucial food supply chain.

"Persuading Russia to engage in a second grain deal is an uphill battle ... To secure a deal, Erdogan must redouble his efforts," said Serkan Demirtas, a foreign policy analyst based in Ankara, Türkiye's capital.

The Turkish leader noted that Russia's concerns should be addressed, adding that Türkiye and the United Nations (UN) had collaborated on a new package of suggestions to address Russia's concerns. Erdogan also called on Ukraine to adopt a more flexible position in negotiations with Russia regarding the revival of the deal and consider exporting more grain to Africa rather than Europe.

However, Putin maintained that the revival of the UN-brokered deal hinges on whether the West can meet Moscow's demands related to agricultural exports and other issues.

Putin also emphasized the importance of keeping the Black Sea corridor free from military activities as a condition for a po-



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres speaks to the press on the Black Sea Grain Initiative outside the Security Council Chamber at the UN headquarters in New York, July 17, 2023. File photo

tential return to the agreement.

Despite acknowledging the deal's significance, Western nations remain hesitant to make concessions to Moscow.

The United States and the European Union have dismissed Moscow's complaints as lacking merit, asserting that their sanctions do not target Russian grain or fertilizers.

German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock criticized on Monday Putin's decision to block the Black Sea grain deal, accusing him of playing "cynical" games.

However, analysts argue that the developed countries failed to recognize the situation's urgency as the developing countries in the Middle East and Africa do. "The U.S. and NATO economic embargo decisions not only harmed Russia but also caused significant financial losses to many countries worldwide, especially in Africa and the Arab countries," said Kamal Ben Younes, the director of Ibn Rushd Foundation for Arab and African Studies in Tunisia. "It is in the interest of Tunisia, African countries, and all countries worldwide to exert pressure on the deal talks to control the prices of such essential commodities," added the Tunisian scholar.

While Türkiye and the UN are having difficulty bringing the relevant parties together, recent reports have hinted at a potential new role for Qatar in finding a new way to export both Russian and Ukrainian grains.

"There is no doubt that Qatar, leveraging its soft power and growing regional and international presence, aims to address a global crisis and food dilemma that could threaten the food security of many impoverished and low-income countries, especially in Africa and the Middle East," said Kheir Diabat, a professor from the International Affairs Department of Qatar University.

The failure to resurrect the Black Sea grain deal could have far-reaching consequences on low-income countries in the Middle East and Africa, which heavily rely on Ukrainian and Russian grain exports.

Before its suspension, the original deal facilitated the export of nearly 33 million tonnes of grain from Ukraine to global markets, benefiting

developing countries, particularly in the Middle East and Africa.

Russia's withdrawal from the agreement in July had already impacted global grain prices, raising concerns about food security and a potential worldwide food crisis. Egypt, one of the world's largest wheat importers, felt the repercussions of Russia's departure, with rising prices affecting its food supply.

"Egypt largely relies on grain imports from these warring countries, as 80 percent of its wheat imports come from Russia and Ukraine," said Al-Bahi Heikal, an Egyptian agricultural engineer.

He added that the increase in grain prices has strained Egypt's limited foreign currency reserves, preventing the most populous Arab country from importing fertilizers, seeds, agricultural tools and machinery necessary for expanding its agricultural lands.

Younes also said the Western sanctions on Russia "caused the increase of the trade deficit and the state budget deficit in Tunisia due to soaring global grain and fuel prices."

"The ban does not stop at depriving Tunisia of obtaining Russian and Ukrainian grain at a reasonable price but also suspending tourist income that was provided by Russian tourists to Tunisia every year," Younes added. While the grain deal doesn't directly impact Gulf countries like Qatar, oil-rich countries in the region heavily rely on grain imports, rendering them susceptible to global price fluctuations, regardless of the Black Sea supply.

"Boosting strategic grain reserves and increasing domestic food production is key to strengthening Qatar and other Middle Eastern nations' long-term food security," said Steven Wright, associate professor of International Relations at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences of Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar.

Beijing E-Town highlighted by innovative development

THE Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area, or Beijing E-Town, located in Yizhuang, the southeast suburb of Beijing, has become a major force of the Chinese capital's high-tech industry.

With just 0.35 percent of Beijing's land, Beijing E-Town generates nearly 30 percent of the city's industrial added value. It is home to four booming hundred-billion-yuan (\$13.72 billion) industrial clusters in new-generation information technology, high-end automobiles, industrial internet, and biomedicine.

Driverless cars, modular vertical factories, naked-eye 3D displays, and 24/7 unattended production lines are common there. The area also boasts excellent livability - over 94 percent of it is within a 500 meter service radius of a park or green space and all sewage there is collected and recycled.

It has grown from a small industrial park that covered 3.83 square kilometers some 30 years ago to a 225-square kilometer economic-technological development area. Its share in Beijing's total industrial output once stood at just 0.1 percent, but today it is the largest contributor in this regard.

Beijing E-Town is impressive for its futurism and imagination.

The Tongming Lake National Information Technology Application Innovation Park located in Beijing E-Town, which is also known as the national information technology application innovation base, is a hub for high-end, frontier and high-value information enterprises.

According to a management executive of the park, the park is home to nearly 250 enterprises engaged in chip development, supercomputing, databases, sensors and more, and over 90 percent of China's top IT firms have set up offices there.

In a warehouse spanning tens of thousands of square meters owned by Chinese e-commerce giant JD.com in Beijing E-Town, no human worker was in sight. The only things moving were a group of red robots climbing up and down the shelves.

"We are enabled by AI to accurately predict sales in certain areas, so we can better prepare our stock. The accuracy is about 92 percent and the forecasting tech is fully self-developed," said Wu Meng, vice president of JD.com.

"A lipid spheres looks like a 200-nanometer ball under an electron microscope. The drug features targeted delivery technology that can transport the lipid spheres to blood vessel lesions for precise treatment," said Zhao Yanping, vice president of Beijing Tide Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., showing the company's achievements in pharmaceutical technology.

At the general assembly plant of Beijing Benz, a joint venture between the Mercedes-Benz and BAIC Group, multiple models of vehicles were being manufactured by flexible production lines, on which a vehicle was rolled off every 45 seconds.

According to Sun Hui, chairman of Beijing Benz's labor union, the plant is able to produce front-, rear- and elec-



Photo shows a production line of Beijing Benz. (Photo from Beijing Benz)

tric-drive models, as well as engines and power batteries. "We are also exporting core engine components and whole engines," Sun added.

Director of the Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area Management Committee Kong Lei noted that as Beijing's only economic and technological development zone at national level, the area is actively bettering its layout in cutting-edge industries and spearheading technological innovations. The area aims to build itself into a new hub of high-quality growth, Kong added.

Beijing E-Town focuses on both manufacturing and high-tech industries. "We are engaged in the high-tech sector. Firms settling here must fit our positioning," Kong noted.

According to him, Beijing E-Town's per-unit industrial output has kept rising, reaching around 31 billion yuan per square kilometer.

From high-end medical equipment makers setting up global innovation centers there, to breakthroughs in domestic production and mass application of ultra HD and flexible displays, Beijing E-Town is growing into a platform for aggregating innovative resources and a pivot for transforming outcomes into realization.

To optimize the business environment, Beijing E-Town is accelerating

the transition of approval process from "streamlining" to "maximum simplification." It is comprehensively advancing reforms to make the business environment market-oriented, law-based, internationalized and convenient.

Tu Ruimin, who works at the administration service center of Beijing E-Town, told People's Daily that it used to take four trips to two offices over 17 work-days for a foreigner to get work permit, and now it can be done in a week through a one-stop service counter.

Since its founding, Beijing E-Town has attracted 1,043 foreign-invested firms with nearly \$11 billion in utilized foreign investment. This shows the confidence of foreign investors in the business environment of Beijing E-Town.

The first million-square meter international talent community recently broke ground in Beijing E-town, with an aim to attract more talents from across the world. It will feature a 40,000-square meter park, ancillary facilities blending diverse cultures, and fully intelligent and eco-friendly community scenarios.

It is learned that the total talent pool of Beijing E-Town currently reaches 349,200 people, and the number of invention patents per 10,000 people stands at 839, more than three times the average level of Beijing.

People's Daily



Tanzania's national volleyball team head coach, Alfred Selengia.

Dar volleyballers inch closer to exiting 2023 Men's African Nations Championship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S national volleyball team's hopes of finishing in one of the top three places in the group stage of the ongoing Men's African Nations Volleyball Championship in Egypt were, on Wednesday, shattered as the team lost to Tunisia.

The national volleyball team lost 3-0 (25-10, 25-13, 25-17) to the North African nation's side - the continental competition's defending champion - in a Pool B clash to settle for three points having garnered one victory and lost two duels.

The results mean that Tanzania's volleyballers will meet Rwanda in what is generally a formality slated for today.

The national volleyball team on Monday went down 3-1 to Chad in the opening clash and, on Tuesday, bounced back to defeat Mali 3-1.

In the Wednesday encounter, the national volleyball team lost to the defending champion who was more over one of Africa's representatives in the FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship.

National volleyball team head coach, Alfred Selengia, on Wednesday, could not be reached for his reaction on the defeat.

Tanzania Volleyball Association (TAVA) Assistant Secretary, Shukur Ally, nevertheless said although in any match anything can happen, the Wednesday results were expected. He said Tunisia is one of the best

volleyball teams in the world but hailed Tanzania's volleyballers for playing well against the defending champions.

The official pointed out: "Tunisia's volleyball team is beyond us, they are the best not only in Africa but also the whole world, I must thank our players for playing well against the defending champions."

"Our focus should be on the coming clash versus Rwanda, I'm sure with a high level of morale and confidence we can beat them," Ally added.

The 2023 Men's African Nations Volleyball Championship is the 24th edition of the Men's African Volleyball Championship.

It is a biennial international volleyball tournament organized by the African Volleyball Confederation (CAVB).

The continental tournament, which tipped off in Cairo, Egypt on September 3 will climax on September 13.

Tanzania's national volleyball team has been slotted in Pool B of the continental tournament, locking horns with Mali, Chad, and defending champion Tunisia.

The Pool standing procedure is determined by number of matches won, match points, sets ratio, points ratio, and results of the last match between the tied teams.

The top three teams of the tournament qualify for the 2025 FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship as the CAVB representatives.

Shakhtar to field Dismas in UEFA Champions League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIAN midfielder Novatus Dismas has been added to Ukraine's Shakhtar Donetsk squad, comprising 33 players, for the UEFA Champions League 2023/24 season.

Shakhtar will play Barcelona, FC Porto, and Royal Antwerp for the Group H fixtures to be played in Hamburg, Germany.

Shakhtar has not played at the club's home facility, Donbass Arena, since 2014, first being forced to move to Lviv, then Kharkiv, and now Kyiv.

However, the war in Ukraine means the Miners are unable to host UEFA fixtures. Last season, they played their continental home games in Warsaw, but scheduling conflicts meant that was not an option for the coming campaign.

Dismas, mostly used as a left full-back when turning out for Tanzania's senior national squad, has joined Ukrainian side, Shakhtar Donetsk, on a loan transfer from Belgium side Zulte Waregem, with the deal expect-

ed to run until the end of the 2023/24 campaign.

Waregem was relegated from the Jupiler Pro-League after finishing in 17th place out of 18 teams in the log after amassing 27 points from 34 games, winning six ties, settling for a draw in nine outings, and suffering 19 losses.

The 21-year-old midfielder played 31 games in all competitions as he was used as a left-back, left central defender in either a 3-5-2 or 3-4-3 formation and was at times defensive midfielder.

Yet to play for the Ukrainian record champions, he is expected to make his home debut against Obolon-Brovar at Metalist Stadium in the domestic premier league on September 16.

UEFA Champions League debut for Dismas is slated for September 19 as his club is set to take on FC Porto at home, with coming off the bench more of a reality for the midfielder after missing the majority of the opening fixtures with Shakhtar.

Yes, fans wish all the best for our experimental Taifa Stars

By Correspondent John Kimbute

FINGERS were crossed among pundits and fans on the scheduled late kick-off between Taifa Stars and the Desert Warriors of Algeria, in a match the North African side didn't need to either win or even draw. Tanzania is the one that had all the stakes in the match, while there are few reasons to expect the side can pull a surprise and attain a draw, which would still put it in a good position to advance.

The side has done some good work, despite that it retains a project character that divides fans.

Surprisingly, it is from the fans who are technically less knowledgeable than the pundits, that this disquiet is heard, while the pundits are on the whole satisfied with the squad, and some of them insist that its project profile is insufficient.

One such pundit went to the extent of sacrilege, that the squad picked is designed 'merely for AFCON qualification' rather than the future as if AFCON qualification can be taken for granted. Nor is it clear what future starts with losing the qualification run.

The most substantial aspect in either the project or experimental character of the side is leaving out indomitable Simba SC fullbacks Shomari Kapombe and Mohammed Hussein 'Tshabalala', trusted to hold the backline of Tanzania's most ambitious and continentally respected side.

There is this feeling among some pundits that is even stronger with local coaches as a lobby, where a certain distrust is noticed for players of the top city sides, thus easily accommodating any deliberate leave out of key players. We hear endless pontification on Ali Salim as too young at goal, etc.



Footballers making Tanzania's senior national football team are pictured participating in drills in Egypt recently to shape up for qualifiers for the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations slated for January 13-February 11, 2024, in Ivory Coast.

The project formula for picking Taifa Stars rules, but it is unclear how far it is a method espoused by the Belgo-Algerian coach now in charge of the side, Adel Amrouche, or it has been imposed on the coach by the federation.

There is no doubt that while the city rivals and some other clubs are taking up an increasingly professional look, Taifa Stars will remain an amateur-run side for a while to come.

The reason is that it doesn't have a sponsor who calls the shots, and Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) officials use the team for their limited ends in politicking, pleasing interest groups seeking a toe-hold there.

There is at least one technical aspect to this experimental side, tied up with the wider amateurish character of the side, that top local club players aren't always happy to be called up.

The reason is that injury in national team encounters falls back upon

ideas, and scorn it.

Another aspect is that if a player is injured on national teamwork, the federation shares the bill for treatment, and owing to the star treatment of such players, an outfit that lacks a sponsor is unlikely to have the pockets to associate with the relevant club in treating the player.

The federation needs to be co-owner of a player when he is with Taifa Stars and that means picking up the bill in case of injury, despite that room has to be left to negotiate the details.

Outside a visible sharing of responsibilities, players turn out because FIFA demands that clubs release them.

There is an auxiliary dimension where players relish the publicity of appearing for the national side, as a chance exists some scout might be sitting on the VIP rostrum to watch the game at close range, and that means good things if he sees anything exciting, by some chance.

Technically that would at least need a sponsor, with some sort of logo on the shirt, but conservative officials will do with the little they get from the federation, skipping all such

This is obviously in the order of guesswork but it is in synchrony with the psychological outlook of youthful players picked in a 'project', environment as if it was an under-20 squad.

The veterans are not animated in a like manner, but they boost their local standing with fans, or with community members.

Looking at it that way, nearly everyone wins with that kind of organization, with the possible exception of the naïve, militant fan base wishing simply the best Taifa Stars that can be collected, playing with passion and animation as if it was a club-level encounter, by the mere fact of being pitted against

an opponent on the pitch, where a drubbing will be the stuff of nightmares and collective recollections for a while, even an epoch, the players have no option but to play their hearts out.

That means an opening for a good result, but do not leave the door wide open for the bet.



Arusha's athletes participated in regional trials that took place at Sheikh Amri Abeid Memorial Stadium in the region recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF ATHLETICS TANZANIA

Athletics Tanzania lauds kit sponsorship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) has applauded the sponsorship garnered from a Chinese manufacturing company of sports equipment, Xtep International Holdings Limited, describing the deal as a game changer.

Jackson Ndaweka, AT Acting Secretary-General, noted in a recent interview the agreement with the Chinese company will develop athletics in the country.

He said the agreement spans three years but begins with 18 months (July 2023

to December 2024) and depending on the agreement reached by the parties, the remaining 22 months are subject to extension.

Ndaweka, also a lawyer, pointed out that in the current 18-month deal, there is no financial component from Xtep International Holdings Limited to AT, starting from the time the agreement was signed in July.

The company is entitled to provide 50 sets of kits for national athletics squad members and 250 kits next year.

He said the sponsor honoured the agreement as the

firm already provided AT with the 50 sets of kits.

The only financial component in the agreement, Ndaweka stated, is bonuses handed over to national athletics squad members that will, during the period of the contract, win medals in international competitions.

He said in the recent World Athletics Championships in Budapest, the sponsor pledged to award \$30,000, \$20,000, and \$10,000 to any local athlete who would have won gold, silver, and bronze medals respectively.

Ndaweka also disclosed that the company has pledged to award local athletes \$50,000/-, \$30,000/-, and \$20,000/- for gold, silver, and bronze medals to be won in the 2024 Paris Olympics.

The AT official further said in August, next year, the body and Xtep International Holdings Limited officials will meet to discuss the contract extension and negotiate on other conditions and benefits of the agreement in the remaining 22 months.

He said since 2009 AT has had no kit sponsor for the

national athletics squad. The official said: "The agreement with Xtep International Holdings Limited has come at a good time when AT has been operating without a national team's kit sponsor."

"We last had a national team's kit sponsor was in 2008 during the Beijing Olympics, the sponsorship with the firm was terminated after our national athletics team donned kits provided by our kit sponsor's competitor," he stated.



Fears transfer system could collapse if Saudi clubs default on fee payments

By Sam Wallace

EUROPEAN clubs who have profited from a huge €878 million (£753 million) in transfer fees from the Saudi Pro League this year want Fifa to establish regulations that guarantee they will get their money - amid fears that late payments could collapse the transfer system.

Premier League clubs, including the 'Big Six', took part in behind-closed-doors talks on Wednesday over the future of the European game, with concerns raised that Saudi Arabia has now become such a major trading partner that it will have to submit to some regulation.

Leading clubs were told at the European Club Association (ECA) general assembly that Saudi investment in their players has soared to such an extent this year that transfers agreed by the Gulf Kingdom's clubs now account for 11 per cent of all fees paid to sides in Europe's top divisions. Previously it has never been higher than two per cent, and even last year was a comparatively modest €51million.

In Europe, the transfer system is underpinned by Uefa's "no overdue payments rule" that means clubs must meet their obligations to fellow football club creditors and tax authorities by agreed deadlines. It is designed so that one club in financial straits cannot bring down others to whom it is indebted. Should a club fail to meet its transfer fee obligations it will not be licensed to play in Uefa or domestic competition.

However, no such leverage is available over Saudi sides, whose spending spree in Europe over the last two windows has been such that clubs have become concerned that they have left themselves exposed. Among those who have generated significant fees in the Premier League are Liverpool, Chelsea, Manchester City, Fulham, Newcastle United and Wolves.

The matter was discussed privately by clubs at the conference in Berlin, where they gathered to agree on the distribution of revenue from Uefa competitions for the next three seasons, starting in 2024/25. The new Champions League format begins next season with eight group stage games, up from six.

Fifa operates its transfer matching system (TMS) which oversees the smooth running of the transfer window but the

clubs want tougher guarantees now Saudi Arabia has emerged as a major spender. Four of the clubs in the Saudi Pro League are owned by the sovereign wealth Public Investment Fund that controls the consortium that owns Newcastle.

Nasser Al-Khelaifi, the ECA president - and Paris St-Germain chairman - announced a deal with his Uefa counterpart Aleksander Ceferin to share the future wealth of the Uefa competitions. They are projected to earn €4.4 billion (£3.7 billion) a year in broadcast and commercial deals from next season.

As part of the deal, 10 per cent of the net profits, around €380 million (£325 million) annually, will be shared among the 616 European top-flight clubs who do not make it to the group stages of one of the three Uefa competitions. Those solidarity payments are up significantly from the current €175 million (£150 million) annually. There are 724 top flight clubs in Europe and 108 qualify for the group stages of the Champions League, Europa League and Europa Conference League.

With the competitions expanding next year, and broadcast revenues projected to increase, there was pressure on Uefa and the wealthiest members of ECA to share the greater profits with those outside its competitions. The deal was welcomed by organisations such as European Leagues which represents domestic leagues in Europe, including those clubs who do not participate in Uefa competitions.

In the new deal, Champions League clubs will take 56 per cent of the gross earnings; 13 per cent will go to the Europa League clubs and seven per cent to the Conference League. Uefa earns six per cent while costs are around nine per cent.

The calculation of those payments to individual clubs will also change with a greater emphasis on the performance of a club in any one season. Currently, a club's Uefa coefficient - its historic performance - and the revenue earned from broadcasters in its own country account for about 45 per cent of the calculation of a club's Uefa competition earnings. That will fall to 35 per cent with the two categories combined. Performance in the competition will rise to 37.5 per cent with the remaining element shared equally.

THE TELEGRAPH

Arsene Wenger reveals his blueprint for the future of football - 2

By Miguel Delaney

IT may bring a change in centre-halves, too, given how interlinked the two roles are. As someone who used to play in that area himself, Wenger now feels Jamie Carragher is right that it might be the most demanding position in the game.

"At the end of my career, you wanted centre-backs to play out from the back. Today you want the centre-back to play like a number-10 and to defend as well, to be tough. Fighting and to play. It's tough to always find that balance."

That, for Wenger, is also where the beauty lies.

"You know, football is magic for me because there is a good balance we have to make between the technical, the physical and the tactical," Wenger adds. "So, for example, one of the things we are cautious to change is the offside rule because we want to keep that balance right."

If I play for example against [Kylian] Mbappe, the only advantage I have is to play him offside. If offside is even more difficult for me to play, I have no chance anymore. So what can I do? When his team has the ball I can run in the box because I wait for him. The rest, I have no chance! Haaland is the same.

"So, when you press, the defence has to move up, and the space is behind me. Against the quick players, it becomes even more difficult. That is a good example of the evolution of the game. The attack gives you a new problem. The defence responds by analysing your superiority. Then the attack finds a new solution and creates again a new problem and the defence comes behind."

"So I would say now how do you slowly fight against the pressing, it's by getting the players better technically. Evolution is created by opposition."

There is a similar dynamic in the transfer market, which has influenced some of this summer's excesses. Whereas it used to be that Luis Figo and Zinedine Zidane would command the record fees because they were in their prime and had established careers that offered absolute proof of quality, that sort of expenditure is now geared towards much younger talent. Even teenagers like Rasmus Hojlund and Jude Bellingham have gone for huge fees. Part of that is their ability, particularly with Bellingham. Part of it is the premium on their positions, particularly with a striker like Hojlund. Part of it is the thinking.

"What is happening now is because clubs think that confirmed players are so expensive, they try to fight for the younger players. They are thinking they will get them at the cheaper price. The fact that everybody thinks the same makes the prices of the younger players too high, in my opinion. Why? Because it is at 19, 20, 21 where you see if the player has the capacity to cope with the pressure."

"For the confirmed players, with the high levels of transfers come high wages and even clubs like Real Madrid cannot cope with both. What is the trend in the top markets? They get the players to go to the end of the contract to be capable of giving the players



Arsene Wenger

the wages they want. And it looks like now the competition with Saudi Arabia will even increase that, so overall I would say there's more fight for the young players.

"But two questions. Does the world produce enough good players? I think no, and I believe as well that the prices depend on the identity of the buyer. If he is tomorrow president of Young Boys Berne [gesturing towards Fifa media officer Stefan Curtis] and I am Arsenal, I will come to see him. 'Who are you? Arsenal, OK, English, I have a good player.' In Switzerland he would sell for £5m, in England for £50m. So somewhere, the identity of the buyer fixes the price."

It's a theme that brings together much of Wenger's work, and why it is so important for the game, as well as how it's played. So much of the money is concentrated in western Europe, and particularly the Premier League, which has in turn generated even more mega interest around the rest of the world. Many countries don't have anything like the same resources, though, which has meant they cannot maximise the potential talent. The talent they do have is meanwhile quickly bought up, reducing the quality of their domestic competitions as well as the money the football culture can consequently invest.

Part of Wenger's great mission, beyond just changing the world by changing the football world, is to lift the level of their entire game; to restore a vitality.

"I believe the globalisation of the world has concentrated the big money in a few number of clubs," Wenger emphasises. "his few number of clubs has a huge potential and the rest of the world watches the Premier League. So, what does a guy in China or South Africa do in the morning? He thinks 'ah, Premier League.' Why? Because the best players play

there and that reinforces the Premier League even more, so that means the concentration of the money in the small number of clubs has created even an inflated market."

"And then once you have all the best players in the world in the same league, that means if I have a Chinese player in the Premier League, all China will watch the Premier League. That reinforces even more that superiority."

"What I want to create is that in Angola, for example, we produce as well players who are good enough to produce a quality in their own championship, that the guy can have a choice. 'Yes, I will still watch the Premier League but in my league something is happening as well - oh, here we have as well some good players'. Then it creates interest."

"That's why I tell you the deficit of education today is detrimental to the quality of the championships and as well to the quality of the national teams worldwide."

This is the "dysfunction" Wenger spoke about.

"For example, the television audiences in India are very high, in China very high, but the players are not educated at the same pace," Wenger maintains. "What we want is to provide them with the capacity to play. That's our target." If the targets are the

same for every country, the challenges are different. While an emphasis will inevitably be on countries of inferior resources, those with more resources can bring the opposite problem, which is privatised football; or coaching that costs parents more money. The most obvious example is the United States' "pay to play" system.

"We have in some countries a lack of football culture," Wenger concedes. "A lack sometimes of structures, and in some countries, because the private academies have taken over, a child from a poor background cannot pay to get into the football school. It's exactly the reverse of what I want to do."

It's also the opposite of what football represents.

"You can play with an orange or you can make a ball with paper. That's why football is so popular. But today if you want to get to a good level of education in football, in some countries you don't get it. I find that not right because, in many countries, there are some private initiatives, but the parents have to pay to get the children in there."

"For me it doesn't matter if you're rich or poor. If you are good, you come in. Our academies are free, just open to talent. You have to adapt and find a solution in every country."

It is here when another

Wenger thought opens a whole new avenue of discussion. In this case, it is how some national teams constantly overperform.

"What we found out, and what explains countries like Croatia, like Uruguay - who are small countries, three million people - is that a number of good players on a short surface is more important than a number of good players on a big surface."

In other words, they've realised how to use their size to an advantage, by being able to bring the best talent together more easily and enjoy a multiplying effect.

"I realised 40 years ago from a study I made for Netherlands, why I want to put the best with the best. Because they play against each other, they stimulate each other. That explains countries like Netherlands, Croatia, Uruguay."

"They keep creating teams and players because they have a good level of education and identification of talent."

"Croatia was in the last four of the last two World Cups so that means success is not limited to big countries. It is just limited to the quality of education and organisation."

It is also a newly romantic virtue of international, that has inverted a lot of football history. It now offers a vitality that the club game can't. No matter how

big the population, international managers have to make do with what they have. The biggest clubs just buy what they lack.

"Yes, the international team game is rewarding the quality of the educational work. The club game, and I am a big fan of big clubs, is the recruitment of the best players from all over the world. It's fantastic, but I think you need the two, to give everybody the chance."

"For example, Croatia today cannot compete with their clubs, at the top level, because the players leave early. Then they come back and compete with their national team so they are rewarded for the quality of their work."

"That's our target. In Africa, it's the same. In Concacaf it's the same. I come back from Australia, football is unstoppable."

"The boy or the girl wants the dream. When they watch football players, when they see the World Cup, when you watch it, you have the dream, which is to play football and to lift the World Cup. We create the dream. But we do not have at the moment the capacity to fulfil this dream."

That's what he is pondering as he sits at that desk. It is in some ways the same as when he was a club manager, speaking to why the game is so popular. It's to fulfil the dream.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

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Deputy Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, Hamisi Mwinjuma, speaks during a function for launching Dodoma Jiji FC's sports equipment shop in the region. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT VALENTINE OFORO

Dodoma Jiji FC receives major boost from Netsports Inc Limited

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

TANZANIA'S key manufacturer and seller of all sports equipment, Netsports Inc Limited, has extended its investment footholds in Dodoma with an eye on supporting the NBC Premier League club, Dodoma Jiji FC.

Under the timely development, the Dar es Salaam-based company has so far designed, produced, and opened a state-of-the-art sports equipment shop for the team in Dodoma.

The facility will, among other items, be marketing the team's jerseys and other relevant equipment.

The investment, which will be run by the Dodoma Jiji FC, includes a mobile shop that has been specifically tailored to help dispense vital services to the soccer enthusiasts dwelling across the country's capital city at affordable prices.

Speaking during the colourful event for the official inauguration of the potential investment, the Director of Netsports Inc Limited, Simon Mkenda, said that the development was part of his company's sponsorship towards the up-and-coming squad.

"We have decided to chip in and support Dodoma Jiji FC in a unique approach by ensuring the team's players are going to the pitch while adorning the mesmerizing outfits," he disclosed.

He revealed that at the shop the team's jerseys will be marketed at a reasonable price, 30,000/-, adding the facility also comprises other vital sports gear to be sold.

"The support, among others, focuses on giving the team a meaningful morale to efficiently compete in the current season of the NBC Premier League," he expressed.

The event's chief guest, the Deputy Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, Hamisi Mwinjuma, in his brief remarks, hailed the company for such a timely intervention to assist the team.

"Dodoma Jiji FC is one of the prominent outfits in our country's soccer as the squad has a major task of representing and maintaining the good image of Tanzania's capital," he revealed.

The Deputy Minister noted that the investment and support are a great milestone achieved by the squad as there are few teams, at least four, in Tanzania owning such investments.

Dodoma District Commissioner, Jabir Sheikhmweri, said the investment was communicating a clear message on how professional the stakeholders, including the Netsports Inc Limited, are seriously backing the club.

"We have been impressed with your patriotic vision to chip in and support this team and we will stand at the forefront of rolling out other needed support to ensure the team performs well in future games," he stressed.

The DC similarly urged the football fans within the capital city- and those residing in neighbouring regions- to turn out in multitude and purchase Dodoma Jiji FC's eye-catching outfits.

Al Merrikh head coach wary of Yanga's midfield prowess



Tanzania's Yanga players, midfielder Salum Abubakar (L), and winger Jesus Moloko are pictured participating in the squad's drills in Dar es Salaam recently in preparation for 2023/24 CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round's first leg versus Sudan's Al Merrikh SC set to take place at Kigali Pelé Stadium in Kigali on September 16. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SUDAN'S Al Merrikh SC head coach, Osama Nabih, has identified Yanga's midfield as the most effective part of the squad ahead of the two clubs' first leg meeting in this season's CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round slated for September 16 at Kigali Pelé Stadium in Kigali, Rwanda.

The Sudanese side eliminated AS Otoho of the Republic of the Congo after the two teams were locked to a barren draw in the First Preliminary Round rematch at the Huye Stadium in Rwanda.

The barren draw helped the Sudanese side progress to the Second Preliminary Round via away goal rule with a 1-1 aggregate score.

Nabih said they realize their team lacks match fitness following the failure to take part

in competitive matches due to their league being postponed and, for that matter, opted to move to Rwanda where they have lately been participating in friendly matches.

Last week Al Merrikh played against Rayon Sport of Rwanda and succumbed to a 1-0 defeat. It was a special

game for the Sudanese ahead of their preparation before meeting the Tanzanian football giant.

"We have watched our opponents, they seem to be ready. It is a team that is fit and the worst thing for us is that they have won by large margins in their league matches and

two First Preliminary Round matches against ASAS of Djibouti, with star players like Pacome Zouzoua and others who have been strong at midfield," Egyptian national said.

Yanga cruised to a 7-1 aggregate victory over Djibouti's AS Ali Sabieh (ASAS) at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es

Salaam.

In the first leg, Yanga won 2-0 before sealing a hefty 5-1 win in the rematch, with both encounters having been played at Azam Complex Stadium.

Nabih said Yanga's midfield is the strongest area on the pitch for the Tanzanian outfit with more videotape analysis ongoing to combat them effectively and match the midfielders' intensity.

The gaffer pointed out: "We have to play many more friendly matches which of course can help us, but not as much as when you play competitive matches like the league."

"We will continue to organize ourselves more and see if we will get another friendly match here soon in Rwanda."

The gaffer revealed: "Their greatest quality is in the midfield area. In various matches we have looked at, if we don't have the quality to control them in that area, we can make mistakes, but also in defense, they are a good team."

"It will not be an easy match for us and even for them, I have told my players that this is going to be like a final for us that will decide our journey in this tournament, we have to play like soldiers," the former Zamalek SC head coach noted.

Al Merrikh will host Yanga in Kigali, Rwanda because of the prevailing unstable political situation in Khartoum.

NBC, TFF unveil new 'NBC Championship' branding

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) and Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) yesterday officially unveiled a new branding for the Championship League, currently known as NBC Championship, in Dar es Salaam.

The occasion coincided with the launch of the 2023/24 Championship League.

The introduction of the brand is part of the implementation of a recently signed sponsorship agreement between the two parties, which allows the bank to continue its sponsorship of the NBC Premier League until the 2027 season.

The contract, worth 32.56bn/-, also includes the youth league for clubs participating in the Premier League, to be known as NBC Youth League, and the NBC Championship.

The unveiling of the new branding took place in the city and was attended by various stakeholders in the sport, including senior officials from both sides, football journalists, and analysts.

Speaking on behalf of NBC Bank's Managing Director Theobald Sibi, the Director of Retail Banking at NBC Bank, Elibariki Masuke, said it is part of the bank's strategy to continue improving the league by focusing on important aspects.

The aspects, according to the official, entail developing players' talents and increasing competitiveness in the sport, which has successfully captured the emotions of many peo-



The Director of Retail Banking at NBC Bank Elibariki Masuke (Fifth L), and the Director of Legal Affairs, Information and Marketing at Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Boniface Wambura (Sixth R), congratulate each other alongside other employees of the two institutions after officially launching the new brand for the Championship League, currently known as NBC Championship, under the sponsorship of the bank. The launch event took place in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

ple in the country.

Masuke stated: "It is clear that currently, football tournaments, especially our local leagues, have become not only an entertainment attraction for millions of sports enthusiasts but also a facilitator of social and economic opportunities such as providing employment and facilitating economic activities."

"These achievements have been crucial for us as a financial institution because they provide us with the opportunity to serve a large group of athletes and stakeholders in this important sector," he

said.

According to Masuke, the partnership between the bank and the football stakeholders in the country confirms the bank's intention to connect Tanzanians with various opportunities.

Masuke, on behalf of the bank, promised it would continue promoting the sustainable growth of football and economic opportunities in the country.

Speaking at the event, the Director of Legal Affairs, Information and Marketing at the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Boniface Wambura,

who represented TFF's president Wallace Karia, praised the bank for its continued efforts to increase its sponsorship in the sport.

He added that the bank's sponsorship of youth and first-tier league would also strengthen the NBC Premier League due to the increased talent and competition resulting from the bank's investment in the package.

Wambura noted: "This is a significant milestone for us because it is the first time we have a single main sponsor committing to our leagues."

"The importance of this step

is seen in the ease of decision-making without any unnecessary delays. We are grateful to NBC for recognizing the importance of sponsoring the entire chain of these leagues, which are highly interdependent. We anticipate even greater success for our football," Wambura disclosed.

According to Wambura, the witnessed success in the country's football growth is evidence of the support offered by various stakeholders in Tanzania for the sport and its leadership.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

