



### Build gates where roads intersect with railways, Roads agency urged

Page 3

Page 3

### Tanga in appeal for investments to reclaim lost industrial hub locus

Page 4

### Tanzania, US in drive to combat AMR, zoonotic illness

Page 6

Page 6

### BUSINESS Equities market records 6.7bn/- weekly turnover

AngloGold inks Tanzania farm-in deal with EcoGraf

### Kili challenge to raise 2.5bn/- on anti HIV drives



### Tea, tea culture from central China showcased in Britain

### Mwanga-Hakika Bank unveils MSMEs loan



Page 13



Frauke Heinze, Regional Director East/Horn of Africa of Germany's DDV International programme, pictured at the weekend admiring various items made by women entrepreneurship groups with support from a community learning centre based in Kongwa District, Dodoma Region. The programme is chiefly meant to enhance adult education service in literacy and skills development. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

# DPM: Legal aid campaign must respect pillars of state

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

DEPUTY Prime Minister Dr Doto Biteko has directed leaders to respect the country's pillars and stop interfering with other decision-making bodies by issuing public statements that may affect their operations.

Launching a 10-day campaign set for Njombe Region as part of the

presidential Legal Aid Campaign initiative, he said the country is governed by the Constitution and divided by responsibilities where each pillar has its role.

It is not allowed that one pillar interferes with the other conduct its work properly to bring development to the people, he said, at an event to

TURN TO Page2

## SPORTS

Page 19



Erik ten Hag: I will win trophies elsewhere if Man Utd sack me

Page 18



Azam bolster squad with third Colombian signing

# Ethics commissioner cautions 'hide and seek' public officials

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

ETHICS Commissioner Judge (rtd) Sivangilwa Mwangesi, has cautioned a number of eligible public officials skipping the proper fulfilment of their obligations in providing explanations on the sources of their wealth, as well as the value of their assets, as provided for in the asset declaration form.

At a media editors' briefing over the weekend on successes of the secretariat during the past five years, he said that these errors give the impression that some leaders still do

*Steps taken by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to ensure that leaders observe ethics requirements "contributed immensely to make leaders responsible to submit their declarations on time*

not have enough understanding about how to fill in asset declarations forms.

The issues that need to be set out are clear on the form, but various officials intention-

ally hide assets obtained they can't explain their provenance or list assets whose sources are not sufficiently detailed, he said.

Similarly scores of leaders

have failed to provide details on their spouse in the forms, citing bank accounts information, while others fail to list gifts received and not declared, he elaborated, noting that due to those flaws the secretariat asked some eligible officials to amend their declarations.

They were required to conduct a review of assets and debts in line with the law governing public leadership ethics and asset declaration, he stated, adding that the

TURN TO Page2

# Stakeholders scan progress on Africa's food systems 2023 agenda

By Correspondent Ashton Balaigwa, Morogoro

SUFFICIENT and surplus food is available in Tanzania, which highlights achievement of goal number two of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a senior government official has declared.

Gungu Mibavu, the marketing and food security director at the Ministry of Agriculture, said this here over the weekend at a stakeholders' meeting to discuss pathways to build sustainable food systems, a three-day meeting organised by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

TURN TO Page2

# Extreme weather 'igniting' regional cholera outbreaks

By Special Correspondent

STAGNANT pools of green water stand in the streets of this impoverished town in Zambia. Some puddles extend right up to the walls of the basic, concrete homes in the Njele compound.

Children step over them and play inches from the fetid water.

It's the same story in Lilanda, an impoverished township on the edge of the Zambian capital.

Here the Banda family have paid an awful price for the unsanitary living conditions.

In the space of two awful days in January, Mildred Banda saw her 1-year-old son die from cholera and rushed to save the life of her teenage daughter.

The Bandas exemplify the people still at the mercy of a disease that shouldn't kill anyone in 2024.

Cholera is easily treated and easily prevented – and the vaccines are relatively simple to produce.

That didn't help Banda's young son, Ndanji.

When he fell sick with diarrhoea, he was treated with an oral rehydration solution at a clinic and released.

He slipped back into dehydration that night at home. Banda feels terrible guilt.

"I should have rushed him back to the hospital as soon as I realised that he was sick instead of staying with him at home," she says, sitting her tiny house.

"Staying at home for the whole day into the night is the reason why my child died," she adds.

Some residents of these townships blame the government for not doing more

TURN TO Page2



# DPM: Legal aid campaign must respect pillars of state

FROM PAGE 1

mark the start of massive public education on legal issues and systems performance, human rights and the fight against gender-based violence (GBV).

"We are all required to respect our legal bodies, adhere to the country's laws as this country is governed by a constitution where each pillar has been given its roles; the government, parliament and judiciary," he stated, insisting that each pillar ought to know its lines of demarcation and respect the respective pillars.

As the campaign also involves hearing and resolving legal conflicts, participants have to ensure that they provide close cooperation to the teams of advocates and stop being stubborn or adopt unhelpful, non-civic stances, to support the legal support initiative, he stated.

The government has convened a team capable of listening to people, identify challenges and provide needed support, he asserted, pointing out that a special commission to investigate the situation regarding access to justice, producing recommendations which need to be implemented in all levels, he told the gathering.

Dr Dorothy Gwajima, the Community Development, Gender, Elderly, Women and Special Groups minister, urged men to come out and air their

concerns before the team in order to promote an equal society.

Cases of domestic violence slightly declined as in 2023 there were 15,301 such cases reported to various authorities, she said, attributing the decrease to efforts taken by the government and stakeholders.

Dr Pindi Chana, the Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister said since the launch of the Legal Aid Campaign mid last year, teams have so far reached Ruvuma, Shinyanga, Singida, Simiyu, Manyara, Dodoma and Njombe, reaching an estimated 415,000 people.

Focused on essential education on accessing services in the legal system as well as human rights issues, the campaign has helped address various challenges, with a total of 4,942 disputes relating to land, marriage, inheritance or child care were received, with 516 conflicts registered as having been resolved.

Anthony Mtaka, the regional commissioner hailed the legal aid initiative, stressing the need for promoting human rights and good governance. The regional authorities had complemented the effort with an initiative to listen to challenges facing various individuals, so the campaign team has arrived in the region at the right time, he declared.

Implemented by the Constitution and Legal Affairs Ministry, the presidential Legal Aid Campaign was initiated in February 2023, intended to run until February 2026, officials noted.



Constitution and Legal Affairs minister Dr Pindi Chana (L, in specs) has a word with Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko at the launch of The Mama Samia Legal Aid Service Campaign in Njombe Region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Extreme weather 'igniting' regional cholera outbreaks

FROM PAGE 1

to clean the streets.

"When you look at here in Njele shanty compound, it is full of water and children play in this dirty water barefoot. That is why the issue of cholera will continue in Njele compound because there are diapers with faeces all over the place," says local Elias Banda.

"When the council comes here they only look at the taps and check our water bills, and not address the sewage problem in the area," he adds.

Malawi and Zambia have experienced their worst outbreaks in recent months, while Zimbabwe has had multiple waves. Mozam-

bique, Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia have also been badly affected.

All of them have experienced floods or drought – in some cases, both – and health authorities, scientists and aid agencies say the unprecedented surge of the water-borne bacterial infection in Africa is the newest example of how weather partly drives disease outbreaks.

Zimbabwe and Zambia have seen cases rise as they wrestle with severe droughts and people rely on less safe water sources in their desperation.

Days after the deadly flooding in Kenya and other parts of East Africa this month, cholera cases appeared.

WHO calls cholera a dis-

ease of poverty as it thrives where there is a lack of clean water and poor sanitation. It mainly affects Africa and south Asia while it's irrelevant in the developed world.

Historically vulnerable, Africa is even more at risk as it faces the worst impacts of climate change as well as the effect of the El Nino weather phenomenon, health experts say.

In what's become a perfect storm, there's also a global shortage of cholera vaccines, which are needed only in poorer countries.

The doses that might have saved Ndanji started arriving in mid-January. He died on Jan. 6.

In Zimbabwe, a drought worsened by El Nino has seen

cholera take hold in distant rural areas as well as its traditional hotspots of crowded urban neighbourhoods.

Tracy Dzinoreva from the capital, Harare, has been vaccinated but she says she lives in fear that it could come back because the root cause of the disease hasn't been dealt with.

"Nothing has changed. We don't have safe, clean water and sewage is still flowing everywhere, the situation remains the same," she says.

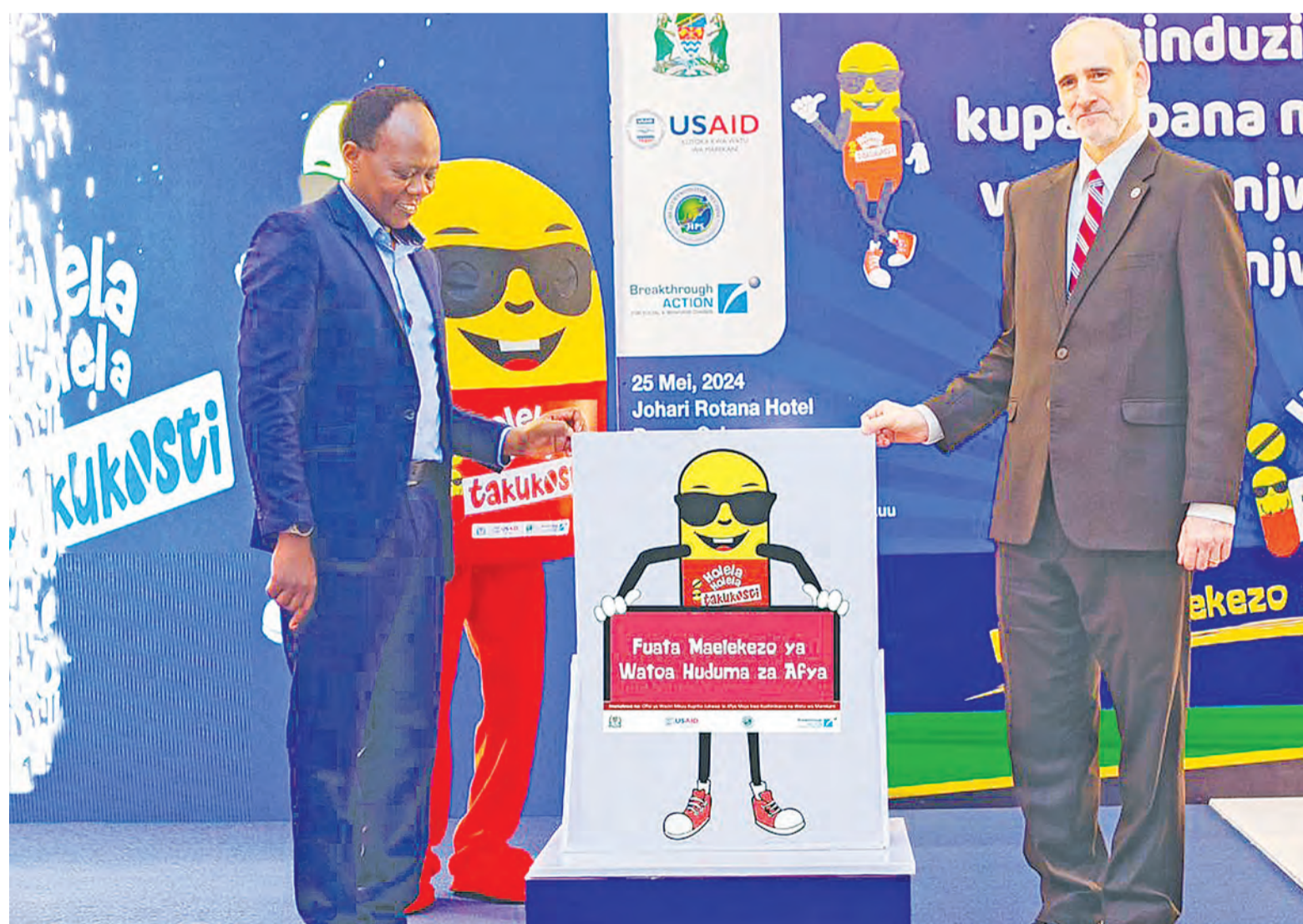
Augustine Chonyera, who hails from a part of the capital that is notoriously cholera-prone, was shocked when he recently visited the sparsely populated rural district of Buhera.

Chonyera has heard grim

tales of the impact of the disease; a family losing five members, a husband and wife dying within hours of each other, and local businesses using delivery trucks to take the sick to a clinic several miles away.

He says he headed back home as soon as he could – after giving a large bottle of treated water he had brought with him to an elderly woman.

"What I think is the best is instead of having more money elsewhere let's channel it to local governance, we know our pipes underground are dilapidated and they are breaking instead they should repair those pipes and put new ones for water and sewer," he says.



Health deputy minister Dr Godwin Mollel (L) and USAID's acting Mission Director in Tanzania, Alex Klaitis, pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend launching 'Holela-Holela Itakukosti' campaign. The drive is meant to raise public awareness on antimicrobial resistance and priority zoonotic diseases. Story on Page 6. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Stakeholders scan progress on Africa's food systems agenda

FROM PAGE 1

The meeting, supported by the UN food systems coordination office, set out to review stakeholders' proposals issued during the Africa food systems summit mid last year, as SDG goal number 2 aims at ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030.

In so doing it commits to universal access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food, while the director noted that the government has made the food security agenda a major priority to ensure the country "feeds itself but also produces surplus for others."

"This includes ensuring that the country's borders are open to facilitate export of surplus food, which is part of the implementation of SDG goal number two to eradicate hunger by 2030," he said.

Researchers and other experts who attended the summit need to ensure that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which were supplanted in 2015 by the 17 SDGs meant for realisation by 2030 are reached, he said, citing goal number one which

focuses on ending poverty.

The government has signed various protocols including the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) protocol on food trade as part of implementation of the government's vision of feeding the country and making the surplus available to others, he stated urging the public to increase grain production to maintaining food self-sufficiency.

Sihaba Haji Vuai, the head of policy drafting at the Zanzibar Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock, said the government has invested in strategies for transforming the agriculture sector.

There are six priority crops as well as fruits, spices, livestock and fishing, where the ministry was working on strengthening agro-sector infrastructure, especially irrigation schemes to increase rice and vegetable production.

"What we are doing is to ensure that we promote local processing and packaging of various crops and livestock products to enhance value addition and raise incomes," he added.

## Ethics commissioner cautions 'hide and seek' public officials

FROM PAGE 1

state of submission of asset and debt declarations form for various top government officials is satisfactory.

For the past five years the average rate of submission has been pegged at 96 percent of eligible officials annually, a much

higher level of compliance compared to 77 percent submissions on average, from 2009 to 2020.

The changed situation partially arises from efforts of the secretariat to provide education about the law on ethics and the importance of declaring resources and debts, administered among various groups in the public service, he said.

Steps taken by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to ensure that leaders observe ethics requirements "contributed immensely to make leaders responsible to submit their declarations on time," he stated.

The secretariat has been communicating with appointing authorities to ensure that all leaders, including new ones are aware of the importance of returning dec-

larations on time, for the forms' submission rate to reach 100 percent, he said.

Until June 2023, a total of 13,485 declarations or 87 percent of 15,556 declarations had been received and analysed compared to 7,732 asset declarations in 2019/2020, he remarked, affirming that there was a decrease in defective declarations per year on average

In 2019/20 defective declarations were 24 percent of the total while in 2022/23 they had decreased to 14 percent, with a key defect financial information of their bank assets, he specified, citing debt information, partial information like amounts of money they owe without showing who exactly owes the cash.

# Build gates at road-railway intersections, Tanroads told

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Tanzania National Roads Agency (TanRoads) has been directed to build automated gates in areas where roads intersect with railways to prevent accidents.

Works Deputy Minister Godfrey Kasekenya made the call yesterday here when inspecting the construction progress of the Mikumi-Kidatu-Ifakara road section (66.9km) which is being built at tarmac level as well as construction of a bridge at Great Ruaha River.

"This is very important for Tanroads and Tanzania Zambia Railways Authority (Tazara) to make sure that all intersections have automated gates that close and open to avoid unnecessary accidents," he said.

Kasekenya also directed Tanroads to meet with Tazara and work on the matter immediately.

"This will help to close the road or turn on the lights in case the train approaches and avoid accident," he said.

He also tasked Morogoro Regional Manager for Tanroads to ensure that he supervises the contractor who is implementing the project to strengthen the upper and lower canals to prevent water from entering people's homes

He suggested the need for Tanroads to design new bridges on the Kidatu-Mikumi road as the existing ones are small and narrow to allow vehicles coming from Mikumi to Kidatu to pass without any obstacles.

Kasekenya said that the project has four bridges including the Great Ruaha River Bridge and its construction has now reached 88 percent.

On the Mikumi-Kidatu-Ifakara road construction, Morogoro Regional manager for Tanroads Lazack Kyamba said that it has reached 90 percent, explaining that 63 kilometres out of 66 have been built at tarmac level and the remaining three kilometres were in various stages of implementation.

Thobias Ngise, an engineer with Reynolds Contractors, said that the whole project has now reached 95 percent and added that they were working day and night to complete the remaining five percent within the scheduled time.



Agriculture deputy minister David Silinde pictured at the weekend making remarks at a meeting of the Tanga regional defence and security committee chaired by regional commissioner Dr Batilda Burian (R, in head-cloth). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Experts for African unity to solve African problems

By Correspondent James Kandoya

DIPLOMATS and academicians have called on African countries to continue promoting and pursuing 'African Solutions to African Problems' to end conflicts instead of depending on external interventions.

They aired their views at the weekend in a public lecture to mark 20th anniversary of the official launch of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) that was held in Dar es Salaam.

The public lecture under the theme 'The Peace and Security We Want in Africa' was organ-

ised by Uongozi Institute in collaboration with the University of Dar es Salaam.

Tanzania's Ambassador to Ethiopia Innocent Shiyo said that throughout the month, member states will reflect on the significant strides made by the council in promoting peace, security and stability across Africa.

The envoy said that African leaders' priorities always must be to ensure the continent becomes free from any types of conflicts

"Our goal remains steadfast: to silence the guns, realizing

a conflict-free Africa, aligning with the principles outlined in the Solemn Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government on 26 May 1963 on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)," he said.

Lt Gen (rtd) Paul Mella, former Ambassador of Tanzania to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, said that PSC has made significant progress in deploying Peace Support Operations (PSOs) to stabilize fragile contexts, protect civilians and prevent further escalation of con-

flict situations.

He called on African countries to continue collaborating to eliminate disputes in the continent.

"I know for sure that it is not easy to be a conflict-free continent. Therefore, it is our duty to unite and ensure that our continent remains peaceful," he said.

Prof Adebayo Ulukoshi, international relations expert and Executive Secretary of Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) said African countries must unite to ensure the continent become gun-free

The don said PSC must look forward to explore innovative ideas on how to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness in discharging its mandate in the next two decades.

Prof Eginald Mihanjo, Director of Studies at National Defence College, said that there will be no peace unless human security is guaranteed.

University of Dar es Salaam Vice Chancellor Prof William Anangisye said that the aim of organizing the public lecture was to provide a platform for debating and charting a way forward to end conflicts.

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# Tanga Region seeks investments to help it reclaim long-lost industrial hub locus

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Tanga

AUTHORITIES in Tanga Region have called on stakeholders in education, innovation, agro-processing and value addition to chip in and invest in north-eastern region.

Tanga Distric Commissioner James Kaji made the call here yesterday when speaking to journalists ahead of this year's National Education, Skills and Innovation Week 2024 which kicks off today in Tanga Region and is to be graced by Minister for Education, Science and Technology Prof Adolf Mkenda.

More than 300 exhibitors from different universities, research institutes, international organizations, ministries, technical colleges and others take part in this year's event.

He said the region needs collaborative interventions and support to bounce back to former industrial hub status.

The DC said that regional

government is well prepared, including creating friendly investing environment to support investors from within and outside the country.

"We are very thankful and happy for the decision by the government through the ministry of Education, Science and Technology to pick Tanga to host this event," he said.

He said that Tanga produces crops ranging from cassava, fruits and vegetables to spices but the region as a whole does not fully benefit from the activities due to absence of necessary skills and capital to establish processing industries.

"I would like to challenge farmers, entrepreneurs, residents of Tanzania and neighbouring regions to turn out in multitudes to make the event a success," he said.

Kaji said that his office has been working in collaboration with Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) and Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) to impart youth and women with entrepreneurship skills.



Minerals deputy minister Dr Steven Kiruswa (L) presents a certificate to an official of a mining firm in appreciation of its sponsorship of the just-ended forum on the participation of Tanzanians in the mining held in Arusha city. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## African countries asked to expand access to education

By Special Correspondent, Gaborone

AFRICAN countries have been called to ensure that every young African has access to quality education.

Lemogang Kwape, Botswana Minister of Foreign Affairs made the call at the weekend when speaking at the celebration on the Africa Day, themed

'Educate an African Fit for the 21st Century'.

Every year on May 25, Botswana joins other countries across the continent and around the world to mark the day.

"Education is the cornerstone of every development. We must ensure that every young African has access to quality education that prepares them

for the challenges and opportunities of the modern world," said Kwape in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana.

He underlined the need to overcome educational challenges such as poverty, gender inequality and regional disparities. "By doing so, we can tap into the full potential of the young and enable them to

make important contributions to the continent and the fast-changing global economy," said Kwape.

Kwape said the day commemorates Africa's joint journey, shared accomplishments, and forever dedication to the goals of unity, peace and progress. It also reflects on the progress that has been made and renews

the commitment to pan-African ideas and principles.

The Botswana government has allocated the largest share of the proposed 2024-2025 recurrent budget of 15.5 billion pula (about 1.1 billion U.S. dollars), or 24 percent of the overall budget, to fund a variety of needs, including food and books for students.



Shinyanga regional commissioner Anamringi Macha (in specs) assists farmers at a village in Kishapu District ready their cotton for pre-sale weighing at a cooperative society yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

## Shipment of new malaria vaccine marks landmark for child survival

Geneva/Copenhagen/New York

UNICEF delivered over 43 000 doses of the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine by air to Bangui, Central African Republic at the weekend with more than 120 000 doses to follow in the next days. It is the first country to receive the R21 malaria vaccine for use in routine childhood immunization, marking another step forward in preventing the disease and saving children's lives.

R21 is the second malaria vaccine to be recommended by WHO for children living in endemic areas. Along with the earlier WHO recommendation of the RTS,S vaccine, there is now sufficient vaccine supply to scale up malaria vaccination in Africa. The rollout of both vaccines is funded by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

"With two products now available to countries, expanded supply of malaria vaccines is a game changer for child survival and

health," said Director of UNICEF Supply Division Leila Pakkala. "Previous concerns about supply meeting demand are firmly behind us. Now our priority is for the vaccines to reach every child at risk."

The R21 and RTS,S vaccines are proven safe and effective in preventing malaria in children. The RTS,S vaccine was delivered to more than 2 million children in Ghana, Kenya, and Malawi in a four-year pilot programme that demonstrated a 13% reduction in all-cause mortality.

Malaria is one of the world's most lethal diseases, killing nearly half a million children under five years of age each year in Africa.

The Central African Republic has one of the highest rates of malaria incidence globally. In 2022, an estimated 1 733 000 malaria cases were reported in the country, averaging about 4747 cases a day. The disease also claimed around 5180 lives over the year,

or 14 deaths each day.

"Having two safe and effective vaccines means we have greater supply security and can be more confident about meeting countries' needs," said Dr Sania Nishtar, CEO of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. "That is what matters most - that countries where our vaccines can be most impactful are able to access them, saving thousands of lives each year and offering relief to families, communities and entire health systems."

Central African Republic, along with Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Sudan, and Uganda, are preparing to receive R21 shipments.

Around 4.33 million doses of RTS,S have been delivered to 8 countries so far - Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, and Sierra Leone - that are offering the vaccine in their routine child immunization

programmes as part of national malaria control plans. Burundi and Niger are next on the list for RTS,S shipments.

Vaccine deliveries to countries that are funded through the Vaccine Alliance depend on government requests and readiness to include the vaccine in routine immunization programmes.

Gavi, UNICEF, WHO, and partners are supporting governments as they prepare to receive and introduce the vaccines. This involves supporting countries to develop vaccine implementation plans and communication strategies, conducting health worker trainings and community engagement, and ensuring sufficient cold chain capacity.

"Malaria vaccines, introduced as part of the tools available in comprehensive national malaria control plans, will substantially reduce early childhood deaths and can help revitalize the fight against malaria. With the R21

vaccine now joining RTS,S vaccine for use in country immunization programmes, scale up of malaria vaccine across parts of Africa, where malaria remains a major cause of childhood death will continue. The high community demand for malaria vaccines also provides an opportunity for children to receive other childhood vaccines that may be due, resulting in even more lives saved," said Dr Kate O'Brien, Director of WHO's Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals.

Malaria vaccines are an important addition to the fight against the disease. Careful planning is essential to ensure the successful introduction of the malaria vaccines and to combine them with other interventions including insecticide-treated bed nets or targeted indoor residual spraying, chemoprevention, diagnosis and prompt treatments to maximize the impact on public health.

## AfDB to consider Africa's future at annual meetings in Kenyan capital

By Special Correspondent

THE African Development Bank Group's upcoming Annual Meetings in Nairobi from today until Friday are a golden opportunity to showcase the bank's successes as a catalyst for Africa's transformation.

Over five days the bank's management and governors will meet to exchange ideas and forge new relationships with a range of government and private sector partners on the road to creating a more inclusive, sustainable, and resilient Africa.

The theme of this year's meetings - Africa's transformation, the African Development Bank Group and the reform of the global financial architecture - reflects the bank's commitment and determination to create an equitable financial world to drive sustainable development and transform the lives of more than 1.4 billion people in Africa - including almost 60 percent of them under the age of 25.

The African Development Bank is also celebrating its 60th birthday this year. The Nairobi meetings will be an opportunity not just to reflect with pride on the road travelled so far, but as Africa's premier development finance institution to look to the future and play a leading role in supporting the transformation of the continent.

The bank president Dr Akinwumi Adesina's High 5s strategy has provided a set of innovative solutions to make significant inroads into tackling the continent's challenges and improving daily life for people all over the continent.

He said: "Across Africa, the impact of our High-5s is being felt. In the past 7 years, the operations of the Bank have impacted directly on the lives of 400 million people. In that period, the African Development Bank Group has provided financing of over \$44 billion in support of infrastructure, making the Bank the largest multilateral financier of infrastructure in Africa."

The bank's Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) program is another example of an innovative, high-impact initiative that is delivering results. TAAT is a proven approach to scaling up agricultural technology across the continent. It has achieved significant successes in the production of wheat in Ethiopia and Sudan. In 2023, Ethiopia was a net exporter of wheat.



North and South Corporation representative Roberto Marta (L) and Legal Services Facility CEO Lulu Ng'wanakilala unveil plaque to inaugurate a dormitory at Namanga Secondary School in Longido District, Arusha Region, at the weekend. Right is Longido councillor Pendo Ndorosi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## ERB appeals to govt to prepare a policy on AI

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Engineers Registration Board (ERB) has called on the government to formulate policy on artificial intelligence (AI), saying the emerging technology is important for engineering profession in particular and construction sector in general.

Speaking at the closure of the 6th Annual Engineering Technicians Day (AETD 2024) in Dodoma at the weekend, the ERB Chairperson David Manga said AI is likely to affect the sector, thus the need for policy, law and regulations.

He said Tanzania cannot lag behind while the rest of the world moves to another level of technological growth, saying that is why the meeting had a discussion on AI emergence, its challenges and opportunities for development.

"ERB feels it is important to engage the government to see the importance of having AI policy as the new technology rolls out to different countries and Tanzania should not be left behind", he said.

Speaking at the opening of the meeting, Minister for Works Innocent Bas-

hungwa called upon ERB to submit an amendment proposal of their Act to the government to give it more power to deal with unscrupulous engineers.

He said that there have been concerns that ERB fails to take action due to legal limitations, leading to perceptions of lack of seriousness in their work.

"If there are shortcomings in the law that hinder you from implementing your duties effectively, then request for amendment for betterment of the industry's growth," he said.

He called on engineers in the country to work diligently, professionally and maintain integrity, stressing that incompetent people will not win future government projects.

He said that engineers who are not registered with ERB should join the fray since it helps the government when preparing for allocation in strategic projects to be implemented by Tanzanian engineers.

He advised engineering technicians to form groups so that they can be supported and to get various tenders in the construction sector as well as be linked with financial sector for soft loans to run their projects.

## DC appeals to residents to report 'casual lenders'

By Correspondent Josephine Majula, Bukoba

MISSENYI district commissioner John Wanga has urged residents here to name microfinance entities that operate illegally for the government to take action.

He made the call at the weekend here when he met with a team of experts from the Ministry of Finance who visited his office as part of the ongoing public awareness campaign on microfinance

services.

"It is important for citizens to provide cooperation to the government by disclosing firms which engage in provision of loans in their areas, many of which set high interest rates which aim to exploit and hurt borrowers," he said.

According to Wanga, the government will not hesitate to act accordingly against people found operating microfinance firms without having a licence from the Bank of Tanzania.

Flavian Nturwa, Missenyi District

Community Development Officer, highlighted the need for all coordinators of microfinance services to ensure that they educate people at all levels for them to have deep understanding of loans issues.

"Our people need to be educated on issues of loans, especially what is in the loan agreement and how to avoid signing contracts with difficult conditions, including high interest rates," she said.

Salehe Hamisi, one of loan service providers, advised that education should

also be provided to lenders on how to register their institutions in order to increase the base of microfinance firms that operates legally to further stimulate the country's development.

Mary Mihigo, Finance Management Officer in the Ministry of Finance reminded people on the importance of spending discipline as well as saving culture.

The team is in Kagera Region to educate residents on financial literacy in Missenyi, Muleba, Bukoba and Biharamulo districts.



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

### TENDER ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF SOLAR POWERED COLD ROOMS

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is implementing the Nutrition Component of the AGRI CONNECT programme under EU funded multi-sectoral programme "AGRI-CONNECT," through a project titled "Building Resilience of Agri- Food Systems and Better Nutrition in the Context of the Global Pandemic."

With the aim of accomplishing the project objectives, FAO has published the tender for the supply and installation of solar powered cold rooms at Makambako town in Njombe Region and Tukuyu town in Mbeya Region. The tender has been advertised on the United Nations Global Market Place Website (UNGM).

Qualified service providers are invited to apply through the link <https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice> tender reference number **2024/FRURT/FRURT/127333**.

The applications should be uploaded on UNGM not later than 09<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

### TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LTD (TIPER)



TENDER No: TP/05/2024/NCB/W/015

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27 May, 2024

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- Eligible bidders are reputable civil and building contractors locally registered by the Contractors Registration Board (CRB) as Class V and above with at least 5 years of experience in similar works, working with reputable organizations.
- Bidders who don't meet condition stated in line 2 above are not eligible to bid for this tender.
- Interested and eligible bidders may request an electronic copy of the tender document by sending their request letters through the following email: [tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz](mailto:tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz) from date 27 May, 2024 to 7 June, 2024 from Monday to Friday, between 8:00 A.M.O.A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
- Bidders MUST visit the site before bidding. The site visit will be conducted on **Thursday 30 May, 2024 from 10:30 am to 12:30 am local time**.
- During the site visit all bidders will be required to come with their own PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) which meets TIPER standards. This includes **Steel Toe Safety Boots, Cotton Overcoat, and helmets**. Static Reflective vests are not allowed onto site. Bidders without PPE will not be allowed onto the site.
- Bids MUST be submitted in hard copies only in envelopes sealed with postal seals or fire seals. Softcopies of bids should be submitted via a USB flash driver embedded in the hardcopies of bid submitted. No bid should be submitted by email.
- All bids submitted in plain sealed envelopes in one original plus one copy, properly filled and marked **TENDER NO. TP/05/2024/NCB/W/015 FOR REPAIR OF TERMINAL ROADS AND FILLING POTHoles ON GANTRY ACCESS ROAD**. All bids must be delivered physically to: **The Secretary, Tender Committee, Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Limited (TIPER), P.O. Box 2608, Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam**.
- The deadline for submission of Tender documents will be **4.00 P.M. local time on 10 June, 2024**.
- There shall be NO public opening of bids.
- Late bids, a portion of bids, and electronic bids will not be considered for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
- TIPER is not bound to accept the lowest or any bid.

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

# Tanzania, US in joint drive to combat AMR and zoonotic illnesses

By Guardian Reporter

THE government in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is set to implement a campaign that aims to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and zoonotic diseases.

Some behaviour that contributes to AMR is limited medical and scientific understanding among communities, thus leaving the country vulnerable to outbreaks of infectious diseases.

"This new campaign will bridge knowledge gaps and offer examples of what people can do to reduce chances of spreading disease or getting sick," said Dr Godwin Mollel, Deputy Minister for Health in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during the launch of the campaign.

Dr Mollel added that raising awareness and fostering behaviour change would help mitigate the threats posed by antimicrobial resistance and zoonotic diseases.

He said zoonotic diseases spread between animals and humans and are problematic because many cause outbreaks and pandemics. He said it is important to focus on identifying, managing and ultimately stopping the diseases to keep people and animals healthy, thus avoiding economic and societal problems.

Dubbed 'Holela-Holela Itakukosti' (Recklessness Will Cost You), the campaign will be implemented by Johns Hopkins' Center for Communication Programmes as part of the USAID Breakthrough Action project.

Alex Klaitis, Acting Mission Director for USAID said: "The campaign highlights the critical role of partnerships in fostering positive impact and ensuring long-term sustainability, uniting One Health stakeholders from diverse sectors to

combat priority zoonotic diseases and antimicrobial resistance."

Klaitis said that the US government remains committed to building healthy communities and moving from awareness to action.

"We encourage everyone to support this campaign. Together, let us move forward to protect the health and well-being of Tanzanians," he said.

"Addressing AMR and zoonotic diseases requires a holistic approach that includes human health, animal health and environmental health," said Brig Gen Hosea Ndagala, Director of Disaster Management in the Prime Minister's Office.

Dr Salum Manyatta, Assistant Director for One Health at the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, emphasized the critical role of proper livestock management.

"Improving animal husbandry practices and ensuring the judicious use of antimicrobials are essential to controlling the spread of zoonotic diseases. Our efforts in this campaign will help protect both animal and human health," he said.

The campaign marks a significant step forward in Tanzania's efforts to address antimicrobial resistance and zoonotic diseases through a 'One Health' approach, he said, adding that by uniting human, animal, and environmental health sectors, the campaign will ensure a sustainable and healthier future for all.

The 'Holela-Holela Itakukosti' campaign builds on the 60 years of partnership between the people of the US and Tanzania. As Tanzania's largest bilateral donor, the US has contributed more than \$7.5 billion in assistance in the last 20 years to strengthen security, boost economic growth, expand democratic participation and improve health, education, and nutrition for ordinary Tanzanians.



Dodoma district commissioner Jabir Shekimwari plants a tree at Miyuji in Dodoma Urban District yesterday in the course of the implementation of an environmental protection drive. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

# RC tells traders in Tanga to issue genuine receipts

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

TANGA Regional Commissioner Dr Batilda Burian has urged traders to ensure that they issue genuine receipts via electronic fiscal devices (EFDs) in order to increase collections and stimulate development.

Dr Burian made the call here at the weekend when a team of TRA officials visited her office as part of the ongoing door-to-door taxpayer education campaign in

the region.

The team was led by Hudson Kamoga, TRA Director for Taxpayer Services and Education.

She said it is important for traders to issue legal receipts but also customers to ensure that they demand receipts after their purchases.

She urged traders in the region to provide cooperation to the TRA team which visits traders in their areas of business.

According to her, as the team

passes through every trader's door to provide them with tax compliance education, traders can utilise the time to air their challenges for the officials to take action.

In his remarks, Kamoga said that the 10-day campaign which commenced in Tanga on May 20, also involves educating businesspeople on the importance of formalising their businesses as well as listening to their grievances and resolving the same.

He said the authority will continue enhancing its education and awareness programmes to tax payers in order to increase voluntary tax compliance and thus expand tax base.

The official urged traders and other taxpayers to utilize the education by making sure that they conduct their activities as per the country's laws which include issuing EFD receipts and paying taxes on time.



It's gold panning time for these artisanal miners, as witnessed at Matimba in Songwe District at the weekend, but at very high risks - including handling mercury and other chemicals without any personal protective equipment. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

# Coalition campaigns for increased women participation in leadership

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE coalition on Women, Constitution, Election and Leadership (WCEL) has issued several recommendations aimed at increasing women's participation in political leadership, with primary focus on advocating for free and inclusive elections.

In a communiqué read in Dar es Salaam recently by Anna-Scholastica Ndagiwe, Chairperson of Wanawake Laki Moja organisation, the coalition highlighted the need for all institutions involved in elections to create enabling environment to ensure that all capable and interested women participate.

She underscored the need for the government to continue to review policies, laws and guidelines governing the country's general and local government elections as well as political parties so as to increase women's participation in leadership.

"It is important for all stakeholders to increase efforts to break cycles of inequalities and increase participation of women in elections

and leadership," she said.

Ndagiwe said that institutions responsible for overseeing elections and delivery of justice should also establish supportive environment and uphold justice at all levels, including providing protection to witnesses.

According to the coalition, despite progress in women inclusion, there are still gaps which hinder participation of women in various leadership positions and decision-making.

"Later this year we will go for local government elections. As a coalition, we request that the rules and procedures guiding these elections be transparent, inclusive and incorporate gender issues, including considerations for people with disabilities," she said.

WCEL organized a national conference on May 20 and 21 in Dar es Salaam which brought together over 200 network members to reflect and strategize on participation of women in elections and leadership. Ndagiwe further stated that another demand from the network is monitoring of obstacles that arise




at various levels of election process such as candidate nominations.

"Political parties must ensure that their nominations and selections of candidates adhere to principles of gender equality and provide protection against all forms of violence," she said.

She said there are a good number of women who are competent and can contribute significantly if given the opportunity but due to various reasons, they fail to participate in elections and leadership.

The communiqué that was read during the national conference also pointed out the need for political parties to ensure equitable distribution and use of election resources and create a level playing field between male and female candidates within the parties.

"All candidates, including males, should advocate for an inclusive agenda that includes the rights of women and children. The network has prepared its agenda using the election manifesto, hoping that this manifesto will be reviewed and incorporated into the candidates' campaign agenda," she said.

## Call Applications for SMAW Welding Training

CHINA PETROLEUM PIPELINE ENGINEERING CO, LTD is a contractor for Pipeline of East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. Sunmaker Development and Consulting (Tanzania) Limited is contracted by CHINA PETROLEUM PIPELINE ENGINEERING CO, LTD to undertake:

### 1. Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) - Welding Training

The individual originating candidates will be covering the whole Tanzania nationally.

**Eligibility / Requirements:**

- Must be above 18 years of age
- An individual needs to understand the working environment very well and be able to adapt smoothly to various working situations.
- Individuals must hold National Vocational Awards/Vocational Certificates Levels I or II or III in Welding and Metal Fabrication / Auto Body Repair / Fitter Mechanics / Fitter Turner / Auto Body Repair / Boiler Mechanics / Plumbing / Pipe Fittings.
- Successful applicants should be ready to stay at the training Institute for at least 280 training hours to complete the training.

**Physical Requirements:**

- Eyesight Test; This will be tested by the Selecting Officers using Optotype. Minimum requirement is <= -1.0D.
- Steady Hands and Good Hand-Eye Coordination
- Ability to be able to perform all essential functions required; Sit, climb, see, balance, hear, walk, smell, talk, reach, stand, stoop, kneel, crouch, and crawl. This will be tested by the Selecting Officers during Interviews.
- Colour Blind Test; This will be tested by the Selecting Officers during Interviews.
- Vision test Jaeger N°1 @ 30cm; Ability to read J1 without squinting

**Knowledge Requirements:**

- Ability to spot a dangerous environment and implement procedures to prevent illness or accidents, as well as circumstances that might negatively affect morale or mental health. This will be tested by the Selecting Officers during Interviews using specific tools/instruments.
- Strong critical thinking skills, Ability to practice and maintain active listening, problems solving, Team management Ability to articulate and communicate well with others. This will be tested by the Selecting Officers during Interviews using specific tools/instruments.

**Application Procedure:**

- Interested candidates should get the Application Forms from the designated offices/locations in the districts as indicated below. Or email your CV to [nadjakabati@brpetro.com](mailto:nadjakabati@brpetro.com).
- Fully completed application forms with supporting documents attached should be returned to the designated offices/locations where the forms were collected before the deadline date mentioned below.

**Physical Interviews will be conducted at: Arusha Technical College (ATC)**

- After completing the application form, return it with supporting documents; National ID Card Copy, Latest Education Certificate and all previous education certificates, Passport size Picture, Previous experience (if available) etc., to the place where you picked it from in a sealed envelope.
- After screening process, online interview is available to candidates who can not make it to Arusha. A Link to **Teams Meeting App** will be provided via email.
- The trainee who has passed the test upon completion will be given priority/preference to sign an employment contract with CHINA PETROLEUM PIPELINE ENGINEERING CO, LTD. And the trainee should sign the contract and commit to providing services for CHINA PETROLEUM PIPELINE ENGINEERING CO, LTD for at least two years starting from the contract signing date.

**Deadline:**

- The deadline for submission is **19<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 5 PM**. Any application form submitted after that time shall not be considered for evaluation to join the training program.

**Contacts:**

- For information Candidate will be contacted via email [nadjakabati@brpetro.com](mailto:nadjakabati@brpetro.com).

# Friendly business environment key for private sector to thrive - TNBC

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has pledged to continue creating conducive and enabling business environment to stimulate trade and investment.

Dr Jim Yonazi, Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy and Co-ordination) said this in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during executive committee meeting of Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC).

"We are improving the business environment to attract more investments and businesses. The government is committed to realizing fast growth rate and revenues," he said.

Dr Yonazi who represented the Chief Secretary, Ambassador Dr Moses Kusiluka who is the Committee Chairman said the government has reviewed tax laws, policies and business registration procedures to enable growth and prosperity of the private sector.

Dr Goodwill Wanga, TNBC executive

secretary, said through TNBC the meetings have been very instrumental in ensuring smooth implementation of different projects.

"Everyone is a witness to the government's efforts of investing in systems to harmonise its operations for betterment of services delivery to Tanzanians," he said, adding that TNBC meetings have been a useful platform for both public and private sectors.

Emmanuel Tutuba, Bank of Tanzania governor, said financial sector has been growing steadily and giving significant contributions to both public and private sectors.

"We as central bank want to see Tanzanians fully exploit opportunities such as loans with low interest that help to stabilize the economy," he said.

Simon Shayo, Tanzania Private Sector Foundation's Mining Cluster chairman said the private was happy with government reforms which address challenges facing business community,



Dodoma regional commissioner Rose Senyamule (L) presents to Dr Flora Mwakalobo, acting Medical Officer In-Charge of Dodoma city's Makole Hospital yesterday, medical equipment and supplies for the facility's maternal and child health wings. The 71.9bn/- support was facilitated through funding by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS). Right is the agency's executive director, Paolo Razzini. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

# Content of new History subject rich in patriotism, says minister

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE new History subject to be taught from primary to secondary level contains content meant to inculcate patriotism among pupils to make them responsible citizens in future, it has been said.

Omary Kipanga, Deputy Minister for Education, Science and

Technology said the subject will enable pupils to deeply understand the history, customs, traditions and fundamental morals of their country.

He made the remarks in the National Assembly on Friday when responding to a question by Najma Giga (Special Seats) who wanted to know when the government will incorporate citizenship and patriotism into education curricula.

The lawmaker was of the view that adding the subject in the curricula will enable the future generation to have a wider understanding of their rights and responsibilities as citizens.

"The government realises the importance of providing citizenship and patriotism education to the current and future generations; this is why it made improvements in the education curricula whereby content about

citizenship and patriotism has already been included in the new History subject," Kipanga said.

He said the government saw the need to make History a compulsory subject to enable pupils to understand their nation's history.

He elaborated that patriotism is an aspect that should be taught alongside the country's history for learners to understand and respect past national heroes.

# ACT pledges to revisit all 'unfair' contracts in Z'bar

By Guardian Reporters, Zanzibar

ACT-Wazalendo has promised to revisit all contracts that are 'unfair' to Zanzibaris if the opposition party is elected to form government in next year's General Election.

Ismali Jussa Ladhu, the party's vice chairman (Zanzibar), made the pledge at the weekend when speaking at Dunga area in a meeting that involved the party's delegates and leaders from Unguja South Region.

Ladhu expressed the party's obligation to resolve a number of issues pertaining to contracts the government has signed with various companies, some of which he termed as unfair to the people of Zanzibar.

"We are determined to work on them (contracts) once we assume power after 2025 General Election," he said, citing the bidding process overseen by Zanzibar Utilities Regulatory Authority (ZURA) which he said led to fuel shortages in Zanzibar.

"We cannot allow such injustices to persist. When we assume office in 2025, we are going to review and rectify all such contracts," he said, urging party members to remain bold in their commitment to the party's principles.

Othman Masoud Othman, ACT-Wazalendo national chairman also emphasised the importance of leadership that is dedicated to serving the people and the national interests. He said that leaders found to be involved in corruption will be brought to justice to send the message of good governance.

"As the saying goes, knowing your destination halves the journey. Therefore, we must unite in advocating for Zanzibar's in-

terests. Now is the time for the people of Zanzibar to rise. The path ahead may be dark, but our efforts must begin immediately," he said.

## TouchFoundation Tanzania

### PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In accordance with Non-Governmental Organizations (Amendment) Regulation, 2018, Touch Foundation Tanzania is pleased to publish its financial statements and funding status for the six month period ending March 31, 2024. All funding has been provided by Touch Foundation, Inc. (a US-based NGO) except where otherwise noted.

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income (numbers shown in '000 TZS)	
FY2024	
For the 6 Month Period Ended: 31 March 2024	
<b>Revenue</b>	
Contributions	2,167,203
Grand Challenges Canada	-
Other Revenues	(13,405)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>2,153,799</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Personnel	859,755
Grants	-
Construction	-
Equipment	41,034
Professional Services	152,836
Travel	256,498
Other Program Costs	843,675
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>2,153,799</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-</b>

Statement of Financial Position (numbers shown in '000 TZS)	
FY2024	
For the 6 Month Period Ended: 31 March 2024	
<b>Assets</b>	
Cash and Equivalents	209,159
Receivables	20,821
Prepaid Expenses and Insurance	-
Other Assets	152,620
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>382,600</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts and Grants Payable	24,782
Accrued Liabilities	71,475
Refundable Advances	286,343
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>382,600</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>382,600</b>

## PLAN INTERNATIONAL TANZANIA



### Invitation to Tender (ITT) Provision of Group Life Insurance Cover Tender Ref. No. PIT/CO/IPT/FY24-3

Founded in 1937, Plan International is a development and humanitarian organization that works together with children, young people, supporters, and partners in over 80 countries to strive for a just world, where we are all equal. To do this we tackle the root causes of the challenges and inequalities that children and young girls face. We're there for children from birth until adulthood and we enable children to prepare for and respond to crises and adversity. Plan International Tanzania operates in eight regions with footprints across 16 regions since 1991, currently supporting 25,000 vulnerable children and their families to access health care, quality education, safe sanitation and water, productive livelihoods, and protection of their wellbeing.

#### Objective

Plan International Tanzania seeks to provide Group Life insurance coverage to its staff through a reputable provider that offers quality services, better coverage, and competitiveness and ensures shared responsibility.

The proposed Group Life Insurance scheme will be for an initial period of one-year effective from 1st July 2024 - 30th June 2025 and renewable annually subject to satisfactory performance.

- Tendering will be conducted through the Locally Published Tender (LPTs)
- Plan International Tanzania invites sealed bids from eligible suppliers for provision of staff Group Life insurance cover. Interested eligible tenderers must confirm their intention to tender indicating all relevant contact information including an email address to: [tenders@plan-international.org](mailto:tenders@plan-international.org) Attn: Head of Procurement and Logistics.  
  
Tender documents in the English language will be sent to interested tenderers by email. Plan Tanzania will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing, postage or delivery of the tender documents.
- Tenderers are requested to submit Technical and Financial Proposals with each enclosed in a separate envelope and marked "Technical Proposal" and "Financial Proposal" respectively. The two envelopes shall then be enclosed in a single envelope.
- Tenderers are hereby requested to submit or send the tenders physically in a sealed envelope by hand to:

**Plan International Tanzania**  
Country Office  
Plot 96 Mikochei Light Industrial Area, New Bagamoyo Road - Next to TBC1&NECTA  
P O Box 3517, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

- The deadline for submission of the tenders is 5PM East Africa Time (EAT), on Monday, 10th June 2024. The outer cover should be clearly marked "Tender No. PIT/CO/IPT/FY24-3 for Provision of Group Life Insurance Cover. Not to be opened before 5PM East Africa Time (EAT), on Monday, 10th June 2024. Late bids will be rejected

**Country Director**  
Plan International Tanzania

MONDAY 27 MAY 2024

**Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

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## TBS drive on fake food may not quieten pleas for nutrition body

THE use of industrial standards by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) to evaluate the work of fitness of imported foods aside from cosmetics has raised queries.

Some legislators have in previously pointed out that cosmetics are largely within the TBS grasp of standards, while evaluating foods like imported infant formula suggests something different.

A regulator would say that standards are there for everyone to see and observe their requirements, but it is hard to derive from that position that specialised regulation of foods and nutritional control, not mixing it with industrial products, is entirely irrelevant.

The bureau's Lake Victoria zone have reported seizing such products in various parts of the regions bordering the lake, which implies that the products were already in internal circulation after being cleared at some port or other border point.

Few routine use commodities are transported by air and, at any rate, there are inspections at airports - or there are supposed to be safeguards.

In that case, the point is that the commodities were within the legal set-up of the East African customs union protocol or the common market, unless they were found to be without the legal instruments of validity.

Still, there can be errors even after goods are cleared as, for instance, expiry can't be tested except by having overstayed in a shop.

Inspecting commodities in shops rather than at entry points leaves much to be desired, as factories are supposed to obtain standard badges from the regulator while imports

are also supposed to meet standards. That is why there is a feeling that impromptu checks interfere with the whole objective of creating a positive environment for doing business, as inspections at points of sale either check expiry or question standards checked by other regulators in other countries.

There was once a spate of moves to ban cereals at border points between Tanzania and Kenya, thereafter covering Malawi and Zambia as well, this leading to disputes as the cargo was moved in bulk across borders.

Industrial products are not moved in bulk as they are not seasonal like grain so, to cross-check the standards explanation provided, it would be crucial to have a history of the importation of the product and when the problem arose.

At times it is discovered that the checks come up after a lobby raises an issue about the need to defend local industries, and a spot check can be conducted and the necessary queries raised, action taken and the goods destroyed.

It would take plenty of time for the matter to be sorted out, as importers act alone and they would simply drop the product when the climate is not very supportive.

It is also possible for some retailers to keep expired items on the shelves if they don't immediately show that on the outside.

However, anyone familiar with marketing or retailing would admit that it is an offence to sell expired products as that way one kicks out buyers from that shop at his own expense.

Put a little differently, it is easier for a regulator to say that a certain stock had expired than it is for a retailer or wholesaler to go on and sell such goods.

## Regulators will have to catch up with e-cigarette pandemic

TOP officials of the World Health Organisation have raised alarm that the tobacco industry is actively targeting teens with new tactics, with 37 million children worldwide between 13 and 15 years old using tobacco.

A new report says that many countries have seen the rate of e-cigarette use among that segment of children and youths exceed that of adults.

It cites the WHO European region, where 20 per cent of 15-year-olds surveyed reported using e-cigarettes in the past 30 days.

That comes to a pandemic of sorts as often secondary school goers of that age aren't in the smoking category just yet, save with e-smoking.

While this pandemic is just taking hold, already there was significant progress in reducing tobacco use, for instance by dire warnings on the outside of cigarette packets, while the UN agency says that the emergence of e-cigarettes upsets the situation.

There is similarly a blending of tobacco or other nicotine products that presents a grave threat to youth and tobacco control. It is something that has also been taken up by something worse than nicotine - that is, narcotics.

There was much local soul-searching in the past few months over the way in which cocaine is blended in the likes of biscuits and ice cream to trap children.

WHO experts say that history is repeating itself, as the tobacco industry tries to sell the same nicotine to children in different packaging.

It is reported that tobacco firms actively target schools, children and young people with new products that are essentially a candy-

flavoured trap.

Precisely the same thing is happening with cocaine, which implies that children and slightly older young people without a prior mental mechanism of skipping these products risk plenty in the current environment.

Just as with pests and weeds in other sectors, this is enhanced resilience of acute tobacco addiction as well as cocaine paths.

So it happens that the tobacco industry has for decades talked about harm reduction in their products, if perhaps this was also the case when it offered the e-cigarette formula while diminished use of narcotic products has been legalised in many countries.

Some legislators have in some instances appealed for acceptance of cannabis as an export crop, in like manner as khat, even as the mental or physical harm of those herbs is well documented.

It looks like 'internet society', where formulas and goods can be exchanged online to arrive wherever they have a market, is incapable of defending health and moral basics. And this is concomitant with the fact that many youths are effectively sidelined from work.

Marketers of nicotine and narcotics are increasingly targeting children with their dangerous, highly-addictive products.

The WHO report says that e-channels of attracting the youth, as well as diversified products, are the means to net younger users and keep them hooked.

It further notes that more than 70 per cent of young e-cigarette users would quit if the products were available only in tobacco flavour rather than enticing flavours like candy and fruit.



## Who is in charge of policing the blue economy?

By Special Correspondent

THE impacts of continued illegal, unreported, unregulated (IUU) fishing activities have contributed to food insecurity and a loss of revenue for many low-income and least-developed countries.

This is because the activities exacerbate existing human development crises and counteract efforts to improve livelihoods.

IUU fishing also represents a serious human rights issue: aside from the theft of fishery resources from the people dependent on them, there have been many documented cases of forced labour and human trafficking that coincide with the activities.

For instance, data by Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF) reveal that vessels from one Far East country were linked to 86 unique cases (relating to 177 suspected or confirmed offences) of IUU fishing or human rights abuses within the South West Indian Ocean (SWIO) region between 2017 and 2023.

It is shown that half of these cases involved vessels owned or controlled by state-owned enterprises or enterprises in which the Far East country's government has partial interest.

Of the 95 long liners currently believed to be authorised to target tuna in the SWIO, 47 per cent are linked to cases of IUU fishing and/or human rights abuses. For the 39 non-tuna fishing vessels currently believed to be authorised in the SWIO, the figure is 26 per cent.

Therefore, it has been the consensus of many experts that drastically reducing the ability for IUU fishing activities to persist is a key component of poverty reduction and efforts to achieve food security in the world's most vulnerable coastal regions.

EJF exists to protect the natural world and defend people's basic human right to a secure environment.

Data by Automatic Identification System (AIS) meanwhile indicate that potential annual economic values associated with IUU fishing in both Kenya and Tanzania stand at US\$10.963 and US\$31.321, respectively.

Some nations in the SWIO suffer potentially higher losses owing to IUU fishing, for instance with Tanzania reportedly representing roughly 45.8 per cent of total losses in resource potential (around US\$65.4 million).

The greater losses to Tanzania are likely due to the higher export value



of species from the area as well as a high level of suspected unreported catch.

In Kenya, there are only seven industrial long liners mainly targeting swordfishes within the country's economic export zone catching about 300 tonnes per annum despite the huge potential.

The tuna catch limit allocation for Kenya is less because the catch is less compared to that of island states such as Seychelles and Mauritius where largely depend small tuna fleet mainly dominated by artisanal fishing vessels that rarely submit substantive data on their catches.

The private sector is essential in supporting the development of a blue economy in Kenya. However, the government has a huge role to play in creating enabling policies and strategies.

South West Indian Ocean Tuna forum chairman Hadley Becha breaks down the shortcomings of the policing process in the two most affected East African nations, Kenya and Tanzania.

Becha is on the record as having said: "When it comes to matters of the policing of the blue economy, there are policy makers who are tasked with outing this matter in Parliament. Members of Parliament in relevant departmental committees have enough leeway to cause policy enforcement and call for stricter laws."

He further notes that between Kenya and Tanzania, there is a lit-

tle difference, elaborating: In Kenya we have the Senate and the National Assembly but in Tanzania it is one (Union) legislative body. One challenge with Tanzania is that the ruling party has high control of government and political individuals have their ways of running things - and this involves creating new policies to implement.

"In both countries, the technical team formed from different departments in charge of fisheries will provide the content for the policy while politicians are only approvers."

"The state departments for fisheries, aquaculture and the blue economy formulate and take it to the government so that it can go to Parliament for deliberation. Sometimes the departments can reach out to agencies to chip in with their technical information."

The office of the attorney general in Kenya is also supposed to look at the draft for verifications in line with the law before it is sent to parliament. Public participation plays a huge role, after getting the public input it is taken back to parliament for another reading. If they are satisfied, it is put into a motion so it can be approved.

"Because in Kenya we have two levels of parliament both senate and national assembly both have to approve these bills because they will affect county resources in terms of governance," says Becha.

As it stands, though, Kenya does not have a policy on the blue econ-

omy yet. A senior stakeholder in the industry said that every time he follows up, he has been told that the policy in the final stage of drafting.

The stakeholder is quoted as having remarked: "It is in the final stages. It will then become a public document. But at the moment you can't find it."

"There was a draft created in 2022 but, since then, there were gaps that needed to be addressed and so it can't go the way it is. If you ask you are repeatedly told that it is in its final stages."

"Every time I try to ask, they say that the whole procedure might take time. It is a government document so when they say something will take one month, it can take up to a year."

"There were complaints from various departments that the draft wasn't very inclusive of the other department but mostly biasing towards fisheries."

It is noteworthy that fisheries management in the region has traditionally been at national level, with little integration across the region. The sustainable management and utilisation of blue economy resources should incorporate the provisions of several regional and international fisheries frameworks.

These including those of the Law of the Sea Convention (LOSC), Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and Southwest Indian Fisheries Commission MTCs guidelines.

Among the others are those of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (the Port State Measures Agreement, and the International Plan of Action on deterring IUU fishing), as well as the UN Sustainable Development agenda 2030.

The Kenyan government hasn't operationalised the Oceans and fisheries policy, the National Plan of Action-IUU fishing as well the national blue economy strategy, etc., just like it is with reviewing the national tuna fisheries management and development strategy.

In recent years, there has been increasing activity from artisanal and small-scale fishers. This expansion has caused conflicts with the trawl sector exacerbated by the trawlers' high levels of bycatch discarding, where some of those species form part of artisanal fisheries' targeted catches.

In addition to high bycatch, the declining status of shrimps and prawns amongst other stocks is of great concern, as these species are low in the food chain and directly impact the health of other species, including those of commercial importance such as tuna.



By Correspondent-Emmanuel

## Onyango

GOVERNMENTS in the world Tanzania included have long been fighting against climate change in various ways to avert high rates of air-pollution in its atmospheric space.

However, the use of clean cooking energy is among the basic methods being encouraged and adopted by most of the governments, including Tanzania.

The importance of clean cooking energy agenda is to successfully advance the clean cooking methods which are already initiated with a view to contribute towards protecting the environment, climate, and people's health.

The practical agenda with clean cooking solutions has the potential to reduce smoke emissions in kitchens and the amount of biomass, thus lead to reduction in deaths from smoke-related illnesses.

Statistics from the World Health Organization (WHO) shows that lack of access to clean cooking methods has affected almost over 2 billion people worldwide and more than half of it is in Africa continent.

Health experts warns that unclean cooking over open fires by using charcoal, firewood, agricultural waste, and animal dung which is turned as fuel, is a dangerous method as users inhale harmful toxic fumes and smoke which have dire consequences on human health.

According to experts, exposure to indoor smoke from cooking and heating has been linked to a host of diseases including acute respiratory infections, chronic bronchitis, asthma, and tuberculosis as it produces toxic pollutants into the environment and endangers health status, hence causing some detrimental effects on human body health.

Dirty cooking energy methods has been the leading cause of respiratory diseases which are the second leading cause of premature deaths in Africa. It is disappointing to note that, women and children account for most of the lives lost, the vast majority of them are in sub-Saharan Africa



President Samia Suluhu Hassan, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy Doto Biteko, along with Minister of State in the Vice President's Office, (Union Affairs and Environment), Selemani Jafo, at the launch of the national strategy for clean cooking energy in Dar es Salaam recently.

## Clean cooking fuel is essential in averting respiratory diseases

region.

Statistics by the Ministry of Health shows that, about 17 percent of such related cases have been reported on annual basis mostly from rural areas.

A medical specialist who deals with lung infections at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) in Dar es Salaam, Dr Pauline Chale told The Guardian that about 10 million patients are affected with diseases related with lung on annual basis countrywide.

According to her, most patients are highly affected due to regular contacts with carbon emission resulted by use of biomass fuel which is dangerous to their health.

Giving out statistics, she told The Guardian that over 33,024 people die prematurely annually from illnesses that are attributable to indoor air pollution.

"Women and children are most affected groups as they spend many hours a day in the kitchen exposed to the high levels of air pollutions," she added.

Dr Chale noted that within three months, MNH being the biggest referral hospital in the country accommodated 480 patients with related diseases and yet it has fewer medical specialists.

Apart from respiratory diseases, defectives on human eyes are also attributed to continued use of biomass in local communities whereas to avert the situation women especially those in rural need to be educated on the importance of using clean energy for cooking.

National statistics shows that, biomass accounts for the larger usage close to 90 percent of the primary energy consumption in most house-

holds, whereby 63.5 percent of the households use firewood as the main source of cooking energy, and 26.2 percent use charcoal.

The remaining share comprises of 5.1 percent liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and 3 percent electricity, while the remaining 2.2 percent use alternative energy sources.

Statistics further shows that, there are few households using clean cooking energy solutions countrywide mainly due to financial constraints as the use of clean cooking energy is somehow expensive.

Users are categorized in three groups such as those using gas cylinders (5 percent), electricity (3 percent) while 2 percent are using other reliable clean energy sources.

Recently, the government through the Ministry of Energy launched a ten year National Strategy that over-

look the use of clean cooking energy (2024-2034) with a focus to make sure that about 80 percent of Tanzanians would be using clean cooking energy by the year 2034.

The 73 paged report which was unveiled by President Samia Suluhu Hassan highlighted different initiatives being undertaken in the transition to clean cooking solutions despite the fact that there are still barriers in adoption in both urban and rural areas.

The Head of State stressed her commitment to transforming Tanzanians from using firewood and charcoal to clean cooking energy, setting a target of converting 80 percent of the population by 2034.

The President was of the view that there is no alternative as it's high time for people to use clean cooking energy which gives out little volume

of poisonous smoke to the atmospheric air spaces in order to avert the associated health risks.

Under the strategy which aims to ensure safety, sustainability and effectiveness of the availability of cooking energy, Tanzanians are likely to save time and the environment.

In her recent remarks, Deputy Minister for Energy, Judith Kapinga said that in order to achieve the set goals, the government has put in place nine important strategies in its move towards attainment of clean cooking energy.

These includes among others the infrastructural reforms that would enable access gas with ease, to increase the technology and innovations, prevention of imports of electric apparatus that consumes large volumes of electricity power.

Others are effective collaboration with private stakeholders for disseminating education to the people in the country on the importance of clean cooking and avoid use of bio-fuels.

Cost reduction measure must also be put in place whereby the government has planned that Tanzanians should buy cooking apparatus such as stoves at cheapest price rates.

Another strategy is reduction of electricity through Rural Electric Authority (REA) to enable the majority rural population has an access to power, and the availability of gas must also be in place.

On May 14th this month, a high-level global Summit on Clean Cooking Energy was held in Paris-France and attracted participants from 55 countries who were represented by three Head of States and 23 ministers.

Tanzania delegation was led by President Samia who in her address told participants that, "Ensuring clean cooking access for all in Africa needs adequate, affordable, and sustainable financing for appropriate solutions and innovations".

The summit has delivered an emphatic commitment to an issue that has been ignored by too many people for too long. Reduction of emissions and restoration of forests is a concrete steps on how governments, institutions and the private sector can work together to solve the clean cooking challenge.

By Telesphor Magobe

TANZANIA is ranked third in Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) 2024. It is preceded by Mauritius and Kenya, both of which are ranked first and second respectively out of 19 surveyed sub-Saharan African economies, according to the World Economic Forum (WEF) Insight Report of May 2024.

In global ranking, Tanzania is ranked 81st out of 119 surveyed economies. Five economies, namely Cape Verde, Chad, Hong Kong SAR, Lesotho and Yemen are not covered in the TTDI 2024 global ranking.

Travel and tourism (T&T) development is a key contributor to the global, regional and national GDP and its growth is expected to reach pre-pandemic levels by the end of this year, thanks to a rebound in global demand coupled with rising global air route capacity and connectivity, improved international openness, and increased demand and investment in tourism-generating natural and cultural resources.

"T&T enabling conditions in developing economies continue to improve, but far more is needed to close the sector-enabling gap. Low to upper middle-income economies accounted for 52 out of the 71 economies that have improved their TTDI scores since 2019," the report suggests.

The surveyed economies in this year's ranking are assessed in five TTDI framework dimensions, namely 1) enabling environment, 2) T&T policy and enabling conditions, 3) infrastructure and services, 4) T&T resources and 5) T&T sustainability. The five dimensions are further subdivided into 17 pillars and 102 indicators. Overall scores are calculated from 1-7 (1 indicating worst and 7 indicating best performer).

In the enabling environment dimension Tanzania is ranked a good performer in safety and security, in the T&T policy and enabling conditions dimension is a good performer in the prioritisation of T&T, in openness to T&T and in price competitiveness.

In the T&T resources dimension Tanzania is ranked a good performer in natural resources, and in the T&T sustainability dimension is a good performer in environmental sustainability, T&T soci-



## Tanzania fares well in travel and tourism development index 2024

oeconomic impact and T&T demand sustainability. In this ranking,

Tanzania did not perform well in the infrastructure and services dimension, which assessed air transport infrastructure, ground and port infrastructure and tourist services and infrastructure.

In relation to the infrastructure and services dimension, the report says air transport infrastructure and tourist services and infrastructure "are still below 2019 levels, suggesting that, despite recent growth, supply factors such as air route capacity, T&T capital investment and productivity have not consistently kept up with high demand." Thus, it can be said that Tanzania's low performance in this dimension reflects a global trend and not specifically domestic problem.

The top 10 economies which have

improved in TTDI since 2019 include (with their scores in brackets) Uzbekistan (+7.8 percent, 94th to 78th), Côte d'Ivoire (+6.4 percent, 116th to 114th), Albania (+5.9 percent, 78th to 66th), Tanzania (+4.5 percent, 88th to 81st) and Indonesia (+4.5 percent, 36th to 22nd).

Others are Egypt (+4.3 percent, 66th to 61st), Nigeria (+4.2 percent, 113th to 112th) and El Salvador (+4.0 percent, 101st to 97th), Indonesia, Brazil (+3.3 percent, 34th to 26th) and Türkiye (+3.1 percent, 37th to 29th) joined China (+1.0 percent, 9th to 8th).

The report says sub-Saharan Africa has shown the most substantial enhancement in TTDI performance since 2019 (+2.1 per cent), with 16 out of the 19 regional economies covered by the index increasing their TTDI scores. Furthermore, it says the sector's potential to drive socioeconomic

prosperity makes it an essential tool for development.

"In 2024, the region had the highest score for T&T socioeconomic impact, with the T&T industry in Africa generating, on average, over 21 per cent more jobs for each direct position than the TTDI mean, and with an average of over 43 per cent of the sector workforce employed in segments that are considered relatively high wage."

This upward trend, according to the report, is likely to continue, thanks to unilateral and multilateral strides in policies expected to encourage cross-border travel and trade like the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the Free Movement of Persons Protocol and Single African Air Transport Market, and drive currently low levels of intraregional connectivity.

"Encouraging environmental sustainability to protect valuable tour-



**Governance based on science and traditional knowledge develops climate resilience. Restoration and regeneration principles, taking into account habitat carrying capacity, are crucial.**

ism-generating nature assets, developing tourist service infrastructure and greater promotion and protection of cultural resources also need to be prioritised in the years to come," the report says.

Accordingly, the WEF Global Future Council (GFC) on Sustainable Tourism recommends the prioritisation of nature conservation and the utilisation of a regenerative model involving stakeholders like destination managers, tour operators, local businesses and visitors. "Governance based on science and traditional environmental knowledge develops climate resilience. Conservation, restoration and regeneration principles, taking into account habitat carrying capacity, are crucial."

The WEF suggests that TTDI 2024 informs policies and investment decisions related to the development of T&T businesses and the sector as a whole and offers unique insights into the strengths and areas for improvement of each country to support their efforts to enhance the long-term growth of their T&T sector in a sustainable and resilient manner.

# Agro-ecological farming technology empowers rural women in El Salvador

By Edgardo Ayala

ON a 19-hectare (47 acres) property, a collective of men and women is striving to bring their dreams to reality through an ecological farm where they produce organic fruits and vegetables, harvest rainwater, and take advantage of solar energy. It's also a site where women can empower themselves and plant crops to generate independent income.

"We emphasize agro-ecology - producing healthy food, using the resources provided by nature. In that way, we raise awareness in the communities about the effects of climate change," explained Kasandra Portillo, president of the La Canasta Campesina cooperative.

The property, called Ecofinca, is the nerve center of the cooperative, an agricultural effort that began in 2009 as a group of women growing organic produce in their small home gardens. In 2014, they formally organized into the current cooperative which today comprises 47 people, 37 of them women.

The farm, acquired in 2020 with funds donated by the French Peoples' Relief, is located in the vicinity of Comasagua, in the department of La Libertad in central El Salvador.

A new house has recently been constructed in the farm's central area, with space for the office, a kitchen, and a cold storage room, among others. Solar panels have been mounted on the roof, and the house has a system for rainwater collection. The lampposts lining one of the paths to the farm are also fed by solar energy, each one topped by a small solar panel.

## It all began as women's home gardens

Kasandra Portillo explained that the current project has been launched with the support of French and Spanish assistance. This aid allowed the acquisition of materials and constructions tied to agro-ecological production, such as the greenhouses, the drip irrigation system, and the purchase of drums for rainwater collection.

There are now some men participating in this embryonic phase of the cooperative. However, prior to the formal organization of a cooperative and the purchase of the farm, it was an initiative entirely made up of women who were cultivating home gardens.

The men, who were accustomed to working as day laborers on the coffee plantations or harvesting corn and beans on their small plots, didn't see any future in a collective effort to harvest vegetables, even though there was a market for them. El Salvador doesn't produce enough of these products and has to import them from neighbouring countries



Fernanda Valladares packs fruit and vegetables into one of the baskets of farm products sold by the cooperative "La Canasta Campesina". The project promotes a model of ecological agriculture in a dozen villages located near Comasagua, a community in the department of La Libertad, in central El Salvador.

such as Guatemala.

Still, not only did the men refuse to participate in the initiative, but also, given the culture of machismo, didn't want to let their wives attend the training workshops. "The project's technical team had to explain to the husbands or partners what it was all about; otherwise, they wouldn't let the women participate," recalled Kasandra Portillo, who at 27 is expecting a baby in June.

Because of the men's reluctance, the project focuses its efforts on the women. The trainings center on topics such as leadership, teamwork, gender issues, and above all agro-ecology.

"The cooperative members tell us that they used to believe that planting wasn't women's work, because that's what they'd been taught. Now, with the trainings, they've changed their mentality. They can also stand up better for themselves, they're feeling more empowered," stated Erlinda Salazar, the cooperative's coordinator of community organization.

Salazar, who is also a producer with the association, began to work in the cooperative in 2022, helping put together the baskets. Little by little she became more involved, until the moment came when she began to plant and harvest in four plots of land a yard wide by 10 yards long on the eco-farm.



Part of the green bean harvest on the ecological farm belonging to the "Canasta Campesina" cooperative in central El Salvador.

"I planted chives, carrots, radishes, and cilantro, and that was my first experience as an agricultural producer," she recalled, standing in front of the strips of land where a new crop was already growing. Of those products, the chives were the star, since they yielded her a profit of US \$300.

For Erlinda Salazar, it's all been a continual process of learning.

"I learned to make compost and organic foliar fertilizers; I never knew that a foliar could be made with bamboo shoots, chopping them and plant them with molasses, or mango, using the pulp and peel," commented Salazar, 23.

Now, on the same four strips of land, she's planted onions, green beans, cilantro, leeks, and radishes, in addition to chives, and there are still another four beds waiting to be planted.

"In twenty days, I'll be harvesting green beans - they're already flowering," she asserted after kneeling down to examine the flowers on this leguminous plant.

## Farm produce by subscription

The cooperative gets its name from the circular basket woven of bamboo fibers, often used in El Salvador's rural area to carry products - on their

heads, in the case of women; or on their shoulders, for the men. It can also be tied to the waist to catch the coffee beans that the day laborers pick during the harvest season.

The Canasta Campesina association sells fruits and vegetables in baskets like those, through a system of trimestral subscriptions that's very novel to El Salvador. The system implies a greater sense of commitment between producers and clients. The purchasers have to pay in advance half the cost of the baskets they want to receive monthly for those three months - be it four, three, two or one. The rest is paid when they receive the last basket.

The baskets of produce are sold in three sizes: the small ones cost US \$20 each; the medium-sized ones \$25; and the large baskets \$30. The income received from the sale of these baskets goes directly to the producers.

Each basket includes 12-14 different products: seven types of vegetables, three seasonal fruits, aromatic herbs, and a supply of farm eggs - laid by cage-free hens, as the rural residents eat, not eggs from hens confined to cages in processing plants. The quantity of products varies with the price, with the large basket containing more of everything.

Among the principal products harvested and sold in the cooperative are tomatoes, peppers, cucum-

bers, onions, beets, lettuce, cabbage, carrots, green beans, and squash, in addition to seasonal fruit such as mangoes and bananas.

The customers who have registered for the cooperative's marketing system, pick up their baskets at specific points in San Salvador. There's also a home delivery service in the capital, at an additional cost, and the association has a couple of points where they sell the baskets directly, without a subscription.

"The products are fresh, 100 percent organic, healthy produce, which is hard to find in the city's markets and supermarkets," stated Fernanda Valladares, as she filled one of the baskets with vegetables and fruit. Currently, the cooperative markets around 320 baskets a month. During the covid-19 pandemic the figure was 600, as the demand for home delivery grew due to the quarantine.

The cooperative also produces organic jellies and tomato sauce to generate additional income. They're also working on a project to dry fruit and have plans to set up a small rural restaurant in a rustic cottage located on the ecofarm.

## A rural community effort

The cooperative's production model depends on the harvest from its small plots of land, some of them owned outright and others rented by the 47 members who live in the eleven communities or settlements around Comasagua. A total of some 250 families live in those villages. Those who don't have fields of their own can apply for and receive permission to plant crops on the eco-farm.

The production is organized through a cultivation plan, Erlinda Salazar explains. The plan is discussed and analyzed once a month, during the producers' assembly, in order to know beforehand and with certainty what the demand will be in the coming weeks, and what products will be ready in the communities or on the eco-farm.

"That's where we see how many baskets we're going to sell, and how much and what type of products we'll need to cover the demand," she stressed.

Salazar added that in addition to the agricultural production, the cooperative has a program called Conciencia Verde ["Green Consciousness"] to spread the word about the advantages of agro-ecology for the welfare of the families and the planet, especially among the children and teens who study in the surrounding school.

"It's easier to change the mentality of children than it is to change adults. We want them to learn that you don't have to use chemicals for a plant to bear fruit," Erlinda Salazar highlighted.

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

# Calls for realisation of founding African Union's aspirations 'colour' Africa Day

By Special Correspondent, Adis Ababa

THE African continent marked Africa Day on Saturday with a call to realize the founding continental aspirations of the African Union (AU).

Africa Day is observed annually on May 25 to celebrate the achievements of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the predecessor of the AU, from its creation on May 25, 1963.

The day is commemorated to acknowledge the role of the continental bloc in the fight against colonialism and the progress Africa has made, while reflecting on the common challenges the continent faces in a global environment, according to the AU.

Moussa Faki Mahamat, chairperson of the AU Commission, in his message on the occasion of this year's Africa Day celebration, said since the formation of the OAU, the African continent "has freed itself from the yoke of colonialism and the appalling system of apartheid. Its intellectual, scientific and cultural resources have been immensely developed, diversified and enriched."

Noting that the continent's economy has grown at rates envied by many parts of the world, the AU Commission chief said Africa's resilience during the global COVID-19 crisis impressed many.

"Africa's demographic explosion, its social constraints that are resistant to the demands of the new world, the continuing deterioration of our climatic conditions, the various forms of foreign interference in our internal affairs, the permeability of certain categories of its elites to foreign discourse, and the obvious shortcomings in



People from Rwanda dance during an Africa Day celebration event in Kampala, Uganda

terms of governance have not helped to transform the above-mentioned positive assets into factors of social justice, equality and inclusive prosperity," he said.

Faki said the Africa Day celebration is "an opportune moment for reflection to assess

how far we have come and to reflect on the road ahead."

"The OAU, born of the pain of our struggles, now finds itself at a real crossroads. We must reform resolutely and courageously to become what our founding fathers wanted us to be, which is a powerful lever

for unity, liberation, integration and the defense of African dignity in relation to ourselves and others," he said.

Noting that youth make up more than 60 percent of Africa's population, the 55-member continental organization called for the realization of legitimate

aspirations for inclusive and shared prosperity in a peaceful, integrated Africa, as outlined in the AU's 50-year continental development blueprint, Agenda 2063.

The Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the continental event marks the celebra-

tion of "our common legacy, unity and strength as Africans."

"It is a moment to contemplate our shared experiences and recommit ourselves to constructing a fairer, prosperous and united Africa," the ministry said in a statement issued Saturday.

## China Development Bank ups support to science, technology firms in the country

BEIJING

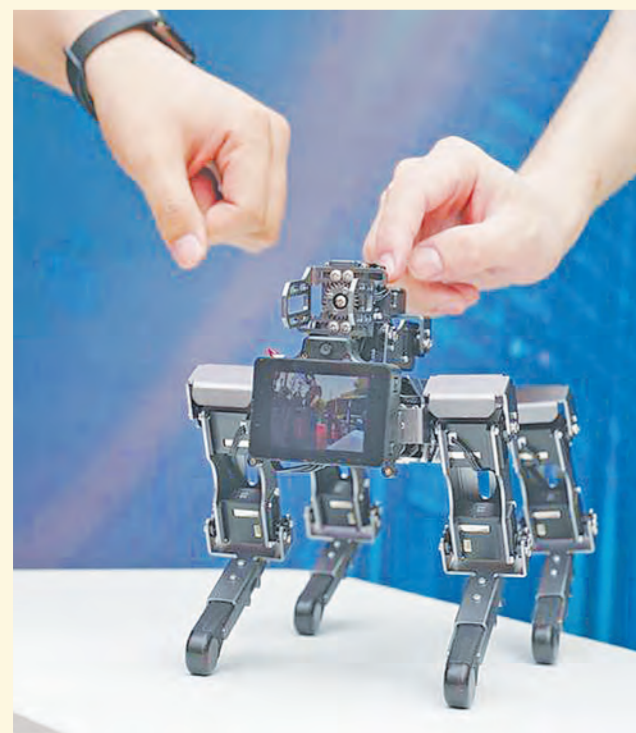
The China Development Bank (CDB), a major policy bank in the country, has stepped up its medium- and long-term financing support for science and technology enterprises.

From January to April this year, the CDB issued science and technology loans worth 40.6 billion yuan (about 5.7 billion U.S. dollars), among which 16.5 billion yuan went to supporting the development of integrated circuits, mechanical equipment and industrial automation, basic materials, new energy technology applications, biomedicine and other fields.

Since 2021, the CDB has set up special loans for scientific and technological innovation and basic research.

To date, it has issued more than 277 billion yuan to support the research and development of key technologies and basic frontier technologies, help promote the layout and construction of major scientific and technological infrastructure, and serve to enhance national strategic scientific and technological developments.

(Xinhua)



## Orphans married off in Nigeria following mass wedding outcry

By Simi Jolaoso, Lagos

At least 100 young women, including many orphans, have been married off in separate ceremonies in Nigeria, following widespread outrage in the country.

Friday's event was initially meant to be a mass wedding, but Women's Affairs Minister Uju Kennedy-Ohanenye filed a court order to stop it, fearing that some girls were underage.

She went back on that decision after reaching an agreement with the Speaker of the Niger State Assembly, Abdulmalik Sarkin-Daji, who sup-

ported the mass wedding, for the young women to have individual ceremonies.

"I did not intend to stop the marriage but to ensure the girls are of marriageable age and were not being forced into it," Kennedy-Ohanenye said in a statement.

The BBC understands that a requirement for the ceremonies to proceed was that all the women involved had to be of legal age, which is 18 in Nigeria.

Minister Kennedy-Ohanenye said she would award all the brides scholarships and a monthly stipend for the first

six months of their marriages.

One of the brides' parents, Mallama Amina Mariga said that the mass wedding was arranged to "celebrate the young women uniformly and give them a sense of togetherness".

Mariga, like many of the families, was given items towards her daughter's wedding and dowry payment, including a bed and sewing machine from politicians.

Most of the young women have lost relatives to attacks by armed bandits, who regularly target civilians across the north-western Niger state.



**I did not intend to stop the marriage but to ensure the girls are of marriageable age and were not being forced into it.**

## Ghana signs an MoU for restructuring \$5.4 billion debt totalling

ACCRA

GHANA has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with its bilateral creditors, including China and France, to restructure \$5.4 billion of debt. This agreement is a crucial step towards securing \$360 million from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) under Ghana's \$3 billion bailout program, expected next month.

The MoU provides a framework for restructuring loans from official creditors, following an agreement by the Paris Club in January.

Ghana defaulted on most of its \$30 billion external debt during the pandemic. Since then, inflation has dropped from 54.1% in December 2022 to 25% in April 2024, with GDP growth reaching 2.9% in 2023.

The IMF has declared Ghana's debt unsustainable, aiming to reduce the public debt-to-GDP ratio from 88.1% in 2022 to 55% by 2028. Terms with official creditors are crucial for bondholders, who seek equitable treatment under the G20 Common Framework for debt restructuring.

Ghana completed a domestic debt restructuring in October, saving 61 billion Ghanaian cedis (\$17.5 billion). The government continues to work towards meeting IMF requirements for its debt restructuring program.



# Youth empowerment: Bridging the gap between education and employment



By Adonis Byemelwa

**I**N recent years, the global issue of unemployment has reached alarming levels, prompting governments worldwide to take urgent action. Tanzania, like many other nations, is grappling with the pervasive challenge of joblessness, particularly among its youth population.

In the 2024/2025 fiscal year budget discussions for the Office of the President - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Members of Parliament underlined the crucial need for increased job opportunities, particularly in education and healthcare sectors.

With President Samia Suluhu Hassan approving the recruitment of 46,000 personnel across various fields, including 12,000 for education and over 10,000 for healthcare, there's a concerted effort to address the pressing employment concerns highlighted by MPs.

Contributions from legislators like Aida Khenani, Abdallah Chikota, Margaret Sitta, and Martha Mariki shed light on the specific shortages and challenges in their constituencies, further emphasizing the urgency of the situation.

Despite these efforts, Tanzania, like many nations globally, faces persistent unemployment issues, especially among its youth population, despite investments in education and job creation initiatives.

Renowned scholar Prof Sospeter Muhongo has emerged as a voice of reason in addressing this pressing issue. With a distinguished career in the field of geology, Prof Muhongo emphasizes the importance of aligning educational pursuits with market demand.

He advocates for young people to focus on acquiring skills in areas such as software development, data science, and artificial intelligence, citing the signifi-

**“The demographic dynamics further complicate the unemployment crisis, with developing countries facing a surplus of young job seekers amidst limited opportunities.”**

cant market demand for professionals in these fields globally.

According to Prof Muhongo, the global economy presents ample opportunities for those with the right skills. With countries like the United States, China, and India dominating the economic landscape, Tanzania must prioritize investments in sectors with high growth potential to bridge the employment gap.

Prof Muhongo highlighted: “The global economy is approximately \$105 trillion, with the United States having an economy of \$26.9 trillion (25.5 percent of the world economy), China \$19.4 trillion (18.4 percent), and India \$3.7 trillion (3.5 percent of the world economy).” The government has every reason not to ignore his ideas. We should invest in these mentioned opportunities, especially during this period of curriculum and specialization changes.

With these global economic figures, major producers must be young people with specific skills in the job market, but the question remains: do we have inclusive and comparative education that meets these criteria?

However, in poor countries, especially in Africa, the population is large, but jobs are scarce. Africa has the highest number of young people of any continent. According to the United Nations, 70 percent of the population south of the Sahara Desert in Africa is under 30.

Developed countries, with an aging population, face a different challenge. For example, 12 percent of China's total population is 65 years and older. The situation is different in countries like Nigeria, where only 3 percent are elderly.

When countries have a large youth population, it means that many of them want to work to build their lives. The

blessing of having many young people in Africa comes with the cost of a significant lack of employment for these young people.

Acknowledging the presence of the unemployment problem, Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan, during her visit to Mkoani District, South Pemba on January 7, 2022, stated: “Our government knows the problem of unemployment, and we will strive to create various opportunities for young people to get jobs.”

There are two ways to look at the magnitude of the unemployment problem: first, by looking at events that directly indicate the existence of the problem, and second, by examining statistics according to the government or organizations dealing with such research.

Former Minister of State, Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Angelina Kairuki, spoke to the media, revealing that out of 171,916 job applicants in the teaching and health sectors, 419 applicants falsely claimed to be disabled.

In these two sectors, 13,130 applicants were employed in teaching, and 5,319 in health. When totaled, the number of employed in both sectors was 18,449, leaving 153,512 unemployed for various reasons.

Despite the large number of teaching job applicants being left out, cries of a shortage of teachers in government schools will continue to be heard. This leads us to a mixed narrative on employment: the government lacks the funds to hire all teachers, yet government schools lack teachers.

In June 2014, over 1000 people showed up at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam for job interviews in the Immigration Department. According to the Ministry of Home Affairs website,

there were only 70 vacancies available for recruits.

According to the 2019 report by the Research and Poverty Reduction Institute of Tanzania (REPOA), approximately one million young people graduate each year from various educational institutions, while the number of jobs created by the government and private sector is 250,000, with an average of 5.5 years for each graduate to find employment.

Despite the government urging young people not to rush for government jobs and instead focus on self-employment, it's still hard to imagine an engineering or teaching graduate setting up shop at an M-Pesa booth or selling food at a restaurant and still calling it employment.

Employment must match the investment a person has made in a particular field. It's hard to believe that our youth spend more than four years in university learning to make phones in small booths at bus terminals in the streets of Communication and Kariakoo in Dar es Salaam!

In my visits to Sinza Mawasiliano, and Kariakoo neighbourhoods of Kongo Street, for about a month, I was assured that a good number of small-scale traders are graduates in various fields but have decided to engage in alternative activities to avoid remaining at home and being criticized as idlers.

Many countries around the world have faced this challenge, especially during this period of global economic downturn due to various reasons, including the conflicts witnessed in Eastern Europe between Russia and Ukraine. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO, 2022), approximately 73 million young people, equivalent to 23.3 percent of young people worldwide, are unemployed.

Despite these challenges, there are promising avenues for addressing unemployment. Professor Muhongo's emphasis on aligning education with market demand highlights the importance of preparing youth for the jobs of the future. Investing in sectors with high growth potential, such as technology and healthcare, can create opportunities for employment and economic growth.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan's commitment to creating opportunities for young people underscores the importance of government action in tackling unemployment. By implementing policies that support entrepreneurship, skills development, and job creation, governments can empower individuals to build sustainable livelihoods and contribute to national development.

However, addressing unemployment requires a coordinated effort from all stakeholders, including government, academia, and the private sector. Collaboration between these entities is essential for identifying barriers to employment and implementing effective solutions.

The demographic dynamics further complicate the unemployment crisis, with developing countries facing a surplus of young job seekers amidst limited opportunities.

While developed nations grapple with an aging population, countries like Tanzania contend with a large youth population eager to enter the workforce. President Samia Suluhu Hassan acknowledges the severity of the issue and pledges government efforts to create employment opportunities for the youth.

Despite government initiatives, challenges persist in matching job seekers with available positions. Reports reveal discrepancies in job applicant numbers and available vacancies, leading to a mixed narrative on employment in sectors such as teaching and healthcare.

The mismatch between skills acquired through education and market demand exacerbates the issue, leaving many graduates disillusioned and unemployed.

“Computer science expert Alome Gabagambi sheds light on the importance of aligning education with market demands, drawing from his experiences in India and the United Arab Emirates. He emphasizes the need for continuous learning and global knowledge exchange, urging Tanzanian youth to stay updated with industry trends.”

“As Gabagambi aptly puts it, ‘In today's dynamic job market, professionals must stay ahead of the curve. Embracing lifelong learning is key to staying relevant and competitive.’”

“Efforts to tackle unemployment must prioritize aligning educational curricula with industry needs, ensuring graduates possess the skills demanded by the market. By investing in skills development programs and fostering entrepreneurship, we pave the way for a brighter future where everyone can thrive.”

**RADIO One** **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 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM VALIYO MO YAMO 11:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:03 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM VALIYO MO YAMO 11:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:03 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM VALIYO MO YAMO 11:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:03 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM VALIYO MO YAMO 11:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:03 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM VALIYO MO YAMO 11:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:03 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM VALIYO MO YAMO 11:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:03 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM VALIYO MO YAMO 11:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:03 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO

## BUSINESS

## Equities market records 6.7bn/- weekly turnover

By Guardian Reporter

THE Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) recorded total turnover of 6.7bn/- last week, the largest valued weekly transaction to be recorded since the start of the current quarter.

The amount was also equivalent to nearly 20 percent of total turnover recorded since the start of the quarter, which amounted to 30.48bn/- during the end of last week.

According to the market report, the amount was influenced by block trade pre-arranged market board on NMB Bank, CRDB Bank and TOL Gases Limited (TOL) counters recorded on Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday and Friday.

On Monday, the market report shows, CRDB Bank recorded the transaction of 72,010 shares through block trade pre-arranged, out of a total of 152,703 share traded during the day, valued 73.6m/-, while NMB counter transacted 118,218 shares valued 602m/-.

On Tuesday, the report shows a total turnover of 646m/- was recorded from 1.05 million shares traded in 268 deals.

On the block trade pre-arranged market board, CRDB Bank counter traded a block of 427,100, out of a total of 692,911 shares traded, all valued 333.1m/-, while TOL Gases counter traded a block of 330,592 shares valued 231m/-.

The report shows that during the

day, NMB Bank counter recorded the transactions of 12,941 shares valued 67.29m/- through normal traded in 18 deals.

On Wednesday, a total turnover of 46m/- was recorded from 69,016 shares traded in 141 deals, led by CRDB counter which recorded the trading of 49,056 shares valued 24m/- in 75 deals in normal trade arrangement.

According to the market report, a total turnover of 304m/- was recorded on Thursday from, 147,799 shares traded in 136 deals, of which NMB Bank counter traded 40,000 shares through block trade pre-arranged market board and 9,342 shares through normal board.

CRDB counter was top mover during the day, recorded the trans-

action of 86,100 shares valued 43.3m/- traded in 58 deals.

The largest valued transaction was recorded on Friday whereby a total turnover of 5.03bn/- through the transaction of 1.05 million shares traded in 174 deals.

On the block trade pre-arranged board, NMB counter traded a block of 850,000 out of 957,985 shares valued 4.9bn/- in 19 deals.

The NMB share price for the transactions ranged between 5,200/- to 5,300/- per share, the historical highest.

Local investors are dominating the market, as they account for 79.46 percent of total value of shares sold and 91.79 percent of total value of shares bought since the start of the current quarter.

## AngloGold inks Tanzania farm-in deal with EcoGraf

PERTH

AngloGold Ashanti's subsidiary AngloGold Ashanti Holdings has entered into a binding \$9m (A\$13.5m), five-year farm-in agreement with EcoGraf for gold exploration at the Golden Eagle gold project in Tanzania.

The project, owned by EcoGraf's fully owned subsidiary Innogy, is situated in the prolific Lake Victoria Goldfields.

Under the agreement, AngloGold will make an initial payment of \$100,000 to Innogy upon the granting of prospecting licences by the Tanzanian Mining Commission.

AngloGold can earn a 70 percent interest in the Golden Eagle project by investing \$8.9m over five years, with EcoGraf retaining a 30 percent stake.

It also has an option to withdraw from the agreement after a minimum expenditure of \$900,000, which covers the first two years' commitment.

Once a 70 percent interest is earned, EcoGraf can choose to either maintain its 30 percent share or convert it into a gross revenue royalty if AngloGold advances the project to production.

Golden Eagle Project has undergone extensive due diligence by AngloGold since May of the previous year.

Located in the Singida and Manyara regions, the project is considered a high-quality gold asset with the potential to uncover multi-million-ounce gold deposits.

It lies in the same structural corridor as the former Golden Pride 2 gold mine and near the Winston

gold deposit, known for high-grade gold findings.

The region's geology is marked by Archean greenstone belts within a granitic complex, with gold predominantly found in veined shear zones.

Additionally, the project includes two pending prospecting licences covering 578km<sup>2</sup> and is part of AngloGold's renewed exploration efforts in Tanzania.

AngloGold has set up a dedicated exploration office in Dodoma, Tanzania.

EcoGraf, through Innogy, also holds the Northern, Southern and Western Frontier Projects, which show promise for nickel, lithium and Proterozoic gold mineralisation.

Its portfolio in Tanzania extends to additional gold, nickel and lithium exploration assets, currently attracting interest from various corporate groups.

EcoGraf managing director Andrew Spinks said: "The Golden Eagle farm-in agreement with AngloGold Ashanti, the fourth-largest gold miner in the world, demonstrates the strong technical quality of the Innogy assets and is a further vote of confidence in the mining industry of Tanzania.

"This agreement is a great result from our technical team, providing a pathway to realise value for our shareholders from EcoGraf's non-core mineral assets.

"It provides upside exposure to the rising gold price for our shareholders, while the company focuses on the development of its battery anode materials business for the lithium-ion battery market."

## Tea, tea culture from central China showcased in Britain

BATH, Britain

After a tea master elegantly rinsed the teapot and teacups with hot water, brewed the tea and poured it, a dozen of people from across Britain lifted their cups and tasted the tea with great appreciation. And the room was suffused with a refreshing aroma of tea.

The Chinese tea-serving ceremony and tasting took place during the "Tea for Harmony" cultural salon on Friday in the English city of Bath. The salon featured various tea and tea culture from Hubei Province, central China, including black brick tea, Yihong black tea and Enshi Yulu Tea.

"The ceremony, which is quite calm in itself, prepares you to enjoy and also builds up the expectancy," Neil Beer from Wales told Xinhua after experiencing all three kinds of tea. He was especially impressed by the black brick tea because it had "layers in terms of taste."

This marked the first time he was involved in a tea ceremony, which he thought could set a peaceful tempo and slow one's pace down in a world where everything is "rush, grab, drink, go."

"Culture and food are two won-

derful ways to bring people together in harmony and friendship, and it is wonderful to be here at such a prominent event to celebrate one of China's most fascinating cultural experiences, which is the tea ceremony," said Dianne Francombe, chief executive officer of the Bristol and West of England China Bureau.

Apart from tea ceremonies and tastings, other performances such as Chinese calligraphy and music played with traditional Chinese instruments were also showcased during the salon.

"Tea culture exchanges between China and Britain have a long history and are inseparable from the communication between China and the world over centuries," Zhang Wenqi, vice chairperson of the Hubei Provincial Tea Association, told Xinhua. He said events like the salon would help the world to know more about Chinese culture as well as the development of tea culture in China.

The "Tea for Harmony" cultural salon is a global event aimed at promoting Chinese tea culture. It is expected to be held in more than 40 places around the world in celebration of this year's International Tea Day, which fell on Tuesday

## Kili challenge to raise 2.5bn/- on anti HIV drives

By Francis Kajubi

THIS year's Kilimanjaro Challenge against HIV and AIDS aims at raising \$1million (2.5bn/-) to support the HIV response in Tanzania.

Dr. Michael Battle, the United States Ambassador to Tanzania made the remarks on Friday night in Dar es Salaam at a fundraising event.

He said the raised funds will play a pivotal role in working towards a sustainable national HIV response and ensuring a healthier future for all Tanzanians.

The Challenge, which is being organized by the Geita Gold Mining Limited and the Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS), further targets at cutting down new infections on an annual basis.

According to Battle, since its inception in 2003, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) has invested significantly in Tanzania, supporting numerous initiatives to control the epidemic and contributing over \$7 billion.

He said the government and the private sector have the responsibility to make this initiative to continue

He said by maintaining the gains made through PEPFAR, Tanzania will prevent the resurgence of HIV/AIDS as a rampant public health threat.

"Strategic planning for HIV funding is crucial to ensure the continuation of successful HIV/AIDS interventions. The role of the private sector, such as the contributions from Geita Gold Mining Limited, is indispensable in this effort," said Battle.

He asserted that the private sector's support for the AIDS Trust Fund is a critical component of Tanzania's efforts to leverage resources to maintain the momentum of the national HIV response.

Jumanne Isango, TACAIDS Director of Advocacy said the Commission is experiencing a strong political will and favorable enabling environment to cherish this initiative as it looks forward towards ending AIDS by 2030.

He said the government and the private sector have the responsibility to make this initiative to continue



Dr. Michael A. Battle Sr, the US ambassador to Tanzania

becoming the leading public private sector charity against HIV & AIDS in East Africa.

He said to date, through Kili Challenge have managed to donate to more than 22 local NGO's and several government institutions whereby millions of Tanzanians have benefited from the initiative.

"Awareness to stop stigmatization continues to be echoed in the communities through these donations," said Isango.

According to the Tan-

zania HIV Impact Survey (THIS) 2022/2023, Tanzania has 1,548,000 people living with HIV infections.

Among adults aged 15+, annual new HIV infections have declined by 16.7 percent, from 72,000 (THIS 2016/17) to 60,000 (THIS 2022/23). HIV incidence has doubled among young girls aged 15-24 years and HIV incidence declined among women aged 15+ years and among men of all ages.

HIV prevalence among adults (15+) is 4.5 percent,

higher among women (5.6 percent) than among men (3.0 percent).

Duan Archery, Managing Director of Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML), expressed delight that several corporates attended the fundraiser in Dar es Salaam. "Your contributions are invaluable and will help us achieve our goal of 'getting to zero'," he revealed.

The three zero targets mean no new infections, no discrimination, and no HIV/AIDS-related deaths.



Mwanga Hakika Bank's Head of Retail Banking Mwinymkuu Ngalima (C) speaks to the journalists during the launch of new credit programme to support small businesses. Others are Head of credit, Yonah Mngongolwa (L) and the Head of Corporate Banking Project Massawe (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

## Mwanga-Hakika Bank unveils MSMEs loan

By Guardian Correspondent

In its quest to support financial inclusion through innovative services, Mwanga Hakika Bank has unveiled the new loan service for the marginalized micro and small business owners.

With Mwanga Hakika bank, customers will conveniently acquire loans using simple collaterals that align with the nature of business.

Speaking during the

launch, Head of Retail Banking at Mwanga Hakika Mwinymkuu Ngalima said the bank is determined to support the growth of both Micro, Small and Medium (MSEMs) and large businesses through providing tailor-made solutions that align with their needs.

"We are delighted to bring this new service to the market, and we believe it is going to enhance our service delivery to small business owners. We are confident

that this market segment remains potential for economic growth hence they need to be provided with services that align with their needs and business nature," he said.

"Arguably, for a person to acquire a loan, you need to have collaterals like legal equity or machinery which has been a major challenge to small business owners who do not possess such properties denying access to formal financial services,"

he said.

The new service provides a rare opportunity to small scale entrepreneurs /micro enterprises like boda-boda, bajaji, tax drivers and food vendors 'Mamalishhe' to acquire loans with friendly requirements and affordable charges.

"We are inviting all entrepreneurs regardless of business nature to utilize this opportunity which provides wings to grow business by boosting your working capi-

tal," he marked.

In Tanzania, MSMEs constitute more than three million enterprises and contribute more than 27 percent of the country's GDP.

Besides, MSMEs are vital in achieving a wide range of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

With Fursa Loan, a customer can simply acquire loan through a nearest branch and submit application which is processed within shorter period.



Guests taste Enshi Yulu Tea during the "Tea for Harmony" cultural salon in Bath, Britain, May 24, 2024. (Photo by Stephen Chung/Xinhua)

# Harnessing untapped potential of gig economy

By Dimmy Kanyankole

In Tanzania, the gig economy is often perceived as a stop-gap measure for those unable to find traditional employment. However, this rapidly growing sector harbors immense, yet largely untapped, potential that could transform our economy and society. As the Country Manager at Bolt, a leading ride hailing company in Tanzania, I have seen firsthand the profound benefits that the gig economy can bring. It's time we shift our perspective and fully embrace this dynamic sector as a key driver of our nation's growth.

## Creating Opportunities in a Flexible Framework

The gig economy's flexibility is one of its most significant advantages. In a country where formal job opportunities are limited, the gig economy offers an alternative that fits the diverse needs of our population. Gig work, such as ride

hailing, allows individuals to set their own schedules, providing a crucial income source for those balancing multiple responsibilities like education or caregiving.

For many Tanzanians, especially youth and women who often face barriers to entering the traditional workforce, gig work provides an invaluable entry point into the job market. It enables them to gain work experience, build skills, and establish a track record of reliability and professionalism that can open doors to further opportunities.

## Driving economic growth and innovation

The gig economy is a significant engine for economic growth. It fosters entrepreneurship and innovation by allowing individuals to monetize their skills and assets in new ways. Ride hailing services, for instance, not only create jobs but also stimulate demand for related sectors such as vehicle maintenance, fuel, and technology, creating a



broader economic ripple effect.

Moreover, the gig economy attracts investment and encourages the development of supportive technologies and infrastructure. This influx of resources and innovation can spur further economic development, creating a virtuous cycle of growth that benefits the entire country.

## Promoting financial inclusion

Financial inclusion remains a critical challenge in Tanzania, where many people lack access to traditional banking services. The gig economy can play a pivotal role in addressing this issue. Digital platforms used by ride hailing companies facilitate electronic payments, helping gig

workers build a financial footprint. This can lead to greater access to financial services, such as loans and savings accounts, which are essential for economic stability and growth.

Furthermore, the steady income provided by gig work allows individuals to plan and save for the future, fostering a culture of financial responsibility and

investment. This financial empowerment can have long-lasting positive effects on individuals and their communities.

## Addressing social challenges

The gig economy also offers solutions to some of Tanzania's most pressing social challenges. Youth unemployment, for exam-

ple, is a significant issue that can lead to social unrest and economic stagnation. By providing accessible job opportunities, the gig economy can help mitigate this problem, offering young people a viable path to employment and self-sufficiency.

Additionally, the gig economy can provide critical support for marginalized groups. For women, people with disabilities, and others who may face discrimination in the traditional job market, gig work offers a level playing field where skills and reliability are the primary criteria for success. This inclusivity is not just good for individuals; it enriches our entire society by fostering diversity and equality.

## Empowering communities

Beyond individual benefits, the gig economy can empower entire communities. As more people engage in gig work, the increased economic activity can lead to improved local services

and infrastructure. For example, ride hailing services enhance mobility, making it easier for people to access education, healthcare, and other essential services. This improved connectivity can lead to better overall community well-being and development.

In conclusion, as highlighted, the gig economy is a powerful tool for driving Tanzania's economic and social progress. By offering flexible work opportunities, fostering economic growth, promoting financial inclusion, and addressing critical social challenges, the gig economy can play a transformative role in our nation's development. It is imperative for policymakers, business leaders, and society to recognize and support the full potential of the gig economy. By doing so, we can harness its benefits to build a more prosperous, inclusive, and resilient Tanzania.

**Dimmy Kanyankole** is an economic analyst based in Dar es Salaam



The Urambo district commissioner Elibariki Bajuta (2nd-L) poses in a group photo with villagers benefitting from the newly donated water kiosk. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## New water kiosk to benefit 6,000 residents of Urambo

By Guardian Correspondent, Urambo

More than 6000 residents of Kitega Uchumi Ward in the outskirts of Urambo district down town, will no longer face water woes, after a water kiosk donated to them by a tobacco buying company.

Happy faces, ululation and untold jubilation welcomed the brief hand over function, which was officiated by the District Commissioner Elibariki Bajuta.

"I believe that, from now onwards you will no longer be trekking long distances in the wee early hours of day, in search of safe and drinking water as you are now completely sorted once and for all," said Bajuta, a former Assistant Com-

missioner for Conservations.

The kiosk comprising the bore hole and its relevant building costing a total of 34m/-. will serve more than 671 households, which were water barren for many years.

He warned village leaders not to sell water from the kiosk, saying the freely donated generosity should be freely accessible to all villagers without any form of discrimination.

David Mayunga, Director for Production of a tobacco firm, the financier of the project, said the donation was in line with the company's corporate social responsibility programme, which covers health, education and environment.

"Before undertaking this project, we did a bit of hydrological research here and discovered

that the need for water surpassed more other needs for these people here," he said.

He said the company's assistance package included drilling of a water bore hole with a 150-meter depth, construction of a water tank tower as well as laying down a distribution network into some streets of the community," he said.

On his part, Manager of Urambo district water and environment, Petro Kisasi said water availability and connectivity in the district currently stood at 24.5 per cent, with the major sources being seven water wells located in different places in the district.

He said small water wells were also available, greatly contributing to the water supply network.

"In total, these seven wells have the combined capacity to produce at 388 cubic meters per day, while the total water requirement is around 3600 cubic meters per day," he said.

Chairman of Kitega Uchumi village, Fredrick Alloyce said initially the ward depended on water from shallow wells, whose water is not safe and they are always seasonal, running out of water in dry seasons, hence they used to walk long distances in search for water.

Meanwhile, Urambo DC has directed all tobacco buyers in the district to pay farmers their dues in not less than two weeks after buying their tobacco as well as avoiding the use of child labour in their tobacco farms.



**In total, these seven wells have the combined capacity to produce at 388 cubic meters per day, while the total water requirement is around 3600 cubic meters per day**

## Govt to inject 100bn/- into bank to spur agri-finance

By Francis Kajubi

IN a bid to enhance agricultural financing, the government is expected to inject over 100bn/- as working capital boost to the state-owned agricultural bank during the 2024/25 financial year, to enable it to offer more credits to farmers, livestock keepers and fishermen.

Treasury Registrar Nehemia Mchechu revealed the plan last Friday in Dar es Salaam when he was addressing the bank's annual general meeting (AGM) for the year 2023 held in Dar es Salaam. Mchechu said the Agricul-

tural Development Bank is a strategic financial institution for funding common Tanzanians in the agricultural value chain, as its current working capital stands at a tune of 315bn/-.

He however, commended the bank for its good work of empowering the agriculture, livestock and the fisheries by issuing soft loans.

"The bank has maintained its strong performance in terms of profitability as it generated 14bn/- profit after tax in 2023 that has enabled it to issue an 850mn/- in dividend to the bank," said Mchechu.

He insisted that all government entities should ensure that they issue an annual return on equity of more than five percent. Mchechu said the government eyes an annual tax revenue collection of over 1trn/- from government companies' non tax revenues.

The bank has extended a dividend valued at 850mn/- to the treasury up from 600mn/- disbursed in 2022, an increase of 41.7 percent.

Ishmael Kasekwa, the bank's Board of Directors Chairperson hinted on the board's role of ensuring that the bank performs better

in terms of operations and profit generations.

"I would like to assure the government, which is the only shareholder, that the board will continue to manage the bank so that it continues to perform well and achieve the mission of its establishment," said Kasekwa.

On his part, Frank Nyabundege, the bank's Managing Director said that as the result of the increment in soft loans disbursement for the year ending December 2023, the bank's profit after tax grew by 27 percent to 14bn/- from 11bn/- recorded in December 2022.

According to him, in 2023 the amount of soft loans disbursement stood at 331bn/- up from 264bn/- in 2022, a growth of 25 percent.

"The growth rate in soft loans disbursement was largely contributed by increased working capital and good trends in loan repayments. The value of the bank's assets has grown by 36 percent compared to the previous year," said Nyabundege.

He explained that in the year ending December 2023, the value of the bank's total assets grew to 607bn/- from 448bn/- in December 2022.

## Govt, partners to equip youths with ICT skills

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

THE private sector has partnered with the government in developing new comprehensive curriculum that will help young generation to learn digital skills and in a fun and enjoyable way at early age in the Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) sector.

Suna Salum, Tanzania Data Lab (dlab)'s data scientist and digital skills facilitator said the initiative will help youths to become best innovators, computer programmers, creators and designers in ICT industry.

It is also ensuring that women and girls are not left behind in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects.

She made the statement on Thursday last week when sharing her inspiring journey, highlighting the impact of tailored digital skills training on her life and career at the Innovation Week that was organized by UN Women in collaboration with Tanzania Data Lab (dlab) with funding from Belgium government.

She said the government and private sector should work together to help primary and secondary schools to have computer Labs that will help school pupils to learn digital skills to produce ICT skilled graduates, spur innovation and helping Tanzania to have enough highly qualified experts in ICT industry.

"We need their intervention because if you visit in public schools across the country you will see majority of schools have no computer Labs for pupils to practice what they have learnt, the computer Labs are in international schools," she said

In a bid to empower young girls with the critical skills they need to thrive in an increasing digitized world, Salum says, so far she has been able

to train more than 500 young girls aged 14-19 on Website development course/skills in Dar es Salaam, Mbeya, Arusha and Dodoma Region and on June this year, she will be in Mwanza Region to train others.

Also she has been able to facilitate training on ICT for young women who study other studies, not ICT at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) and through the knowledge and skills gained from her, they have been able to sell their products using online platforms, perform their duties through website and other social media.

Lilian Mwamanga, UN Women programme specialist and women economic empowerment lauded Tanzania Data Lab (dlab) for the excellent collaboration they have enjoyed for many years and organizing Innovation Week under the theme 'Innovation for Digital Transformation'

The main goal of the event was to celebrate and showcase the successes, challenges, and opportunities faced by girls and young women in the realm of digital skills and innovation.

With their support, beneficiaries of 'Binti Dijitali Programme Coding Camp' that was conducted in 2023 at the University of Dar es Salaam were able to share their inspiring journeys, highlighting the impact of tailored digital skills training on their lives and careers through panel discussions and interactive sessions.

The programme is being implemented by UN Women in collaboration with the ministry of education, science and technology, ministry of community development, gender, women and special groups through the regional African Girls Can Code Initiative (AGCCI).

She said, although studies indicate that as 90 percent of jobs around the world will be related to STEM, women remain the minority.



# Cryptocurrency enthusiasts to benefit from new training



LAGOS

**C**RYPTO-CURRENCY and block chain technology enthusiasts across Africa are expected to benefit from a bootcamp programme by the global digital assets players.

Bitcoin, the largest cryptocurrency by market capitalization, was introduced in a white paper in 2008 by an individual or group with the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto.

In early 2009, the genesis block on the Bitcoin network was mined, marking the launch of the first-ever digital currency that operates on a peer-to-peer (P2P) decentralized network.

Nakamoto's invention of BTC marked the introduction and first application of blockchain or distributed ledger technology which has quickly grown to attain mainstream adoption.

However, BTC traded on no platform and had negligible adoption and zero value in its early years until 2010, when Laszlo Hanyecz created history by implementing the actual use case of BTC as a payment method.

On May 22, 2010, Hanyecz, a computer programmer, paid 10,000 BTC for two St John's pizzas valued at \$41, hence the tag Bitcoin Pizza Day.

This transaction marked the first well-known usage of BTC to purchase a physical item despite many claiming the programmer wasted the assets, citing BTC's rise to an all-time high of over \$73,000.

Since then, the Bitcoin community has celebrated Bitcoin Pizza Day on May 22 each year to commemorate the first documented commercial transaction using BTC. The annual event serves as a re-

minder of the crypto asset's humble beginnings and how far it has grown in value and adoption.

Tether collaborates with CBC's Bitcoin Pizza Day Education Initiative.

Beyond the festivity surrounding this significant event in the cryptocurrency community's calendar, CBC has always seen Bitcoin Pizza Day as an avenue to educate people about the largest crypto asset by market capitalization and the innovations in its ecosystem.

This gave birth to the fast-rising industry event -Bitcoin Pizza Day Hangout- pioneered by CBC, a Nigeria-based blockchain community founded by Obinna Iwuno.

CBC single-handedly hosted the first Bitcoin Pizza Day Hangout in 2022 in 18 cities, reaching 3,000+ people.

Following the success of the groundbreaking event, several companies and projects collaborated with CBC to host the hangout in 31 cities worldwide in 2023, reaching an audience of 4,000+ crypto enthusiasts.

Focused on empowering and networking the world through cryptocurrency and blockchain education, CBC got support from the leading stablecoin issuer, Tether, to enable the education of more than 5,000 people on Bitcoin Pizza Day Hangout 2024.

The exciting event, hosted in 10+ cities across Africa, features seminars from industry experts, enlightening panel sessions, exhibitions, workshops, and free pizzas.

In explaining the drive behind the education initiative, CBC founder Obinna Iwuno said: "Bitcoin Pizza Day is the most significant event after Satoshi Nakamoto invented BTC and implemented blockchain technology. Being the

first implementation of blockchain technology, the launch of Bitcoin has revolutionized the finance sector, giving access to the unbanked and excluded financially and facilitating cross-border transactions easily, faster, and even cheaper."

He added that "the emergence of Bitcoin has unlocked limitless possibilities, enabling anyone to introduce incredible innovations beyond cryptocurrency".

# TCCIA asked to invite traders not diplomats to Mbeya Expo event

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) had been urged to increase the scope of the Mbeya City Expo participation by inviting business community from Malawi, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) during the next season, instead of diplomats.

The call was made by the Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera who represented the Minister of Industry and Trade Dr. Ashatu Kijaji, opening of the Mbeya City Expo 2024 Trade Fair.

The RC explained that another advantage of inviting traders from those countries is to create a system that will enable Tanzanian businessmen to showcase their products and expand the scope of the export markets.

Homera asked the business stakeholders to take advantage of the opportunities available in Mbeya Region, including water transport infrastructure on the

side of Lake Nyasa, air transport at the Songwe International Airport.

He said that night trips are currently taking place, a four-lane road that has started to be built parallel to the TAZARA railway in order to facilitate the transportation of goods from the port of Dar es Salaam to the southern highlands and the neighboring countries of Malawi and Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The President of TCCIA, Vicent Minja said there have been major changes in the investment sector and the economy, as according to the Tanzania Investment Center TIC has recorded more than 1,188 new projects during the last three years, an increase of 63.19 percent compared to the previous three years.

The Assistant Director of Business Development from the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Crestencia Mwimbwa, called on stakeholders participating in the Mbeya City Expo 2024 exhibition to explore businesses available at the exhibition.



**MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM**



ITV	9:30	12:55	18:00	SATURDAY 1 June
<b>MONDAY 27 May</b>	Soap: Laws of love	Habari za saa	Hapa na Pale	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	Habari za saa	Dakika 45 rpt	18:15 Mapishi	6:00 HABARI
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	Watoto wetu	Habari za saa	18:30 Jagina	6:40 Kumekucha
6:00 HABARI	10:25 Jagina	Chetu ni chetu rpt	19:00 Usafiri wako	7:00 Habari
6:40 Kumekucha	10:55 Habari za saa	14:40 Kipindi maalum: NHIF rpt	19:30 Soap: Laws of love	8:00 Al Jazeera
7:30 HABARI	11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	14:55 Habari za saa	20:00 Habari	9:00 Watoto wetu
8:00 Kumekucha michezo	11:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru	21:05 Malumbano ya hoja	10:05 Shika Bamba 5
8:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	16:30 Watoto Wetu	23:00 Jiji letu	10:35 Mjue Zaidi rpt
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	12:30 Afya ya jamii	17:00 Music: The Base	23:30 Music: The Base	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
9:30 Soap: Laws of love rpt	12:55 Habari za saa	18:00 Hapa na Pale	00:30 Al Jazeera	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo
9:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Kipindi maalum: NHIF rpt	18:15 Kipindi maalum: Vuna Deile		12:50 Art and Lifestyle
10:00 Watoto wetu	13:20 Usafiri Wako rpt	18:30 Jarida la wanawake	<b>FRIDAY 31 May</b>	13:20 Shamba lulu
10:55 Habari za saa	13:50 Shikabamba	19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	13:50 Soap rpt: Laws of love
11:00 ITV Top Ten rpt	13:55 Habari za saa	19:30 Soap: Laws of love	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	15:45 Igizo: Mizengwe
11:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Shikabamba	20:00 Habari	6:00 HABARI	16:10 Igizo: Haikufuma
12:00 Al Jazeera	14:25 Igizo rpt: Haikufuma	21:05 Aibu Yako	6:40 Kumekucha	17:00 Shamsham za Pwani
12:30 Jungu Kuu	14:55 Habari za saa	21:05 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	7:30 HABARI	18:00 Hapa na Pale
12:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	21:35 Ripoti maalum	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	18:10 ITV Top 10 rpt
13:00 Mjue Zaidi	16:30 Watoto wetu	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	8:55 Habari za saa	19:00 Jungu kuu
13:40 Art and Lifestyle	17:00 Music: The Base	23:00 Jiji letu	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	19:30 Shika Bamba
13:55 Habari za saa	18:00 Hapa na Pale	23:30 Music: The Base	9:55 Habari za saa	20:00 Habari
14:00 Art and Lifestyle	18:15 Mapishi	00:30 Al Jazeera	10:00 Watoto wetu	21:05 Igizo: Haikufuma
14:20 Soap rpt: Haikufuma	18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama		10:30 Usafiri wako	21:35 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo
14:55 Habari za saa	19:30 Soap: Laws of love	<b>THURSDAY 30 May</b>	10:55 Habari za saa	21:45 Art and Lifestyle
15:00 Meza huru	20:00 Habari	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	11:00 Kipindi maalum: Watumi-shi housing	22:15 ITV Top 10
16:30 Watoto Wetu	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	11:20 Jagina	23:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo
17:00 Music: The Base	21:35 Kipindi maalum:	6:00 HABARI	11:55 Habari za saa	23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt
18:00 Hapa na Pale	21:50 Chetu ni chetu	6:40 Kumekucha	12:00 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera
18:15 Kipindi maalum: Vuna Deile	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	7:30 HABARI	12:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: Tanesco	<b>SUNDAY 2 June</b>
18:30 DW: Afrimaxx	23:00 Jiji letu	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	12:55 Habari za saa	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
19:00 Afya ya Jamii	23:30 Music: The Base	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt	6:00 HABARI
19:30 Soap: Laws of love	00:30 Al Jazeera	9:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love	13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama	6:40 Kumekucha
20:00 Habari		9:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama	7:00 Habari
21:05 Dakika 45	<b>WEDNESDAY 29 May</b>	10:00 Watoto wetu	14:30 DW: Afrimaxx rpt	8:00 Al Jazeera
22:00 Kipindi maalum: NHIF	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt	14:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Watoto Wetu
22:15 Bundesliga na DW	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	10:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru	10:00 Soap rpt: Laws of love
22:30 Soap: Uzalo	6:00 HABARI	11:00 Mjue zaidi	16:30 Watoto Wetu	11:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt.
23:00 Jiji letu	6:40 Kumekucha	11:40 Kipindi maalum:	17:00 The Base (DJ Show)	12:45 Mjue zaidi
23:30 Music: The Base	7:30 HABARI	11:55 Habari za saa	17:30 Kislam	13:30 Usafiri wako
00:30 Al Jazeera	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	12:00 Al Jazeera	18:00 Hapa na Pale	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
02:00 DWTV	8:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa	18:15 Kipindi maalum: Vuna Deile	15:30 Mwangaza
	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	13:00 Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT	18:30 Our earth	16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt
<b>TUESDAY 28 May</b>	9:30 Soap: Laws of love	13:30 Art and Lifestyle	19:00 Shamba lulu	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo
5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	10:00 Watoto wetu	13:55 Habari za saa	19:30 Soap: Laws of love	18:00 Hapa na Pale
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt	14:00 Shamsham za pwani rpt	20:00 Habari	18:15 Mapishi
6:00 HABARI	10:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	21:05 Kipima Joto	18:30 Matukio ya wiki
6:40 Kumekucha	11:00 Mjue zaidi	15:00 Meza huru	23:00 Jiji letu	19:30 Igizo: Haikufuma
7:30 HABARI	11:40 Kipindi maalum:	16:30 Watoto wetu	00:30 Al Jazeera	20:00 Habari
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	12:00 Al Jazeera	17:00 The Base		21:05 Igizo: Mizengwe
8:55 Habari za saa	12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt			21:20 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo
9:00 Kumekucha kishindo				21:45 Art and Lifestyle

# Govt to establish a special economic zone in Buzwagi

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

The government has said that it intends to establish the new Buzwagi Special Economic Zone (SEZ) project to provide more opportunities for industrialists, businessmen, regional and international offices.

The project will facilitate services provision in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region and neighboring regions as well as to serve the neighbouring countries like Burundi, Rwanda and other places considering that Kahama is a commercial gateway.

THE Shinyanga Regional Commissioner, Dr Anamringi Macha has therefore urged investors to invest more in the mining value chain in the region to generate more job opportunities for locals, hence boosting government's revenue collection.

RC Macha said the government has planned to ensure

that this project that is going to be established in Buzwagi SEZ benefits all citizens and brings productivity to serve the entire community in all aspects.

He also urged the mining company and Kahama Municipal executive director to ensure that they cooperate more closely in the implementation of this work considering that it involves land.

The RC also visited the various areas allocated for Buzwagi SEZ and the factory East Africa Conveyors Suppliers Limited (EACS) which has been built in that area.

The Buzwagi open-pit gold mine was officially closed in July 2022 after a 15-year mine life. Since then, Barrick has been working on Buzwagi's environmental rehabilitation plan.

He said that there are more investments in the mining value chain that are yet to be explored.

"So, it is time for investors in the mining sector to do the best and reap more in the area," the RC said.

## WORLD

# Four years after George Floyd killing, police reform slow to follow



George Floyd

WASHINGTON

STEVANTE Clark felt a glimmer of hope when racial justice protests swept the globe in 2020 after the police killing of George Floyd.

His own brother, Stephon Clark, was killed by Sacramento police in March 2018 after they fired 20 shots at the young Black man in the backyard of his grandparents' home. Police said they feared he had a gun. But he was found to have been holding only a cellphone.

The 22-year-old's death sparked protests and calls for reform. It also led to a new more stringent use-of-force law in California. Yet, no comprehensive change emerged on a national level.

So, Clark thought Floyd's killing and those of several other Black Americans by police in 2020 would finally deliver the substantive criminal justice reform that he and others have sought for years.

But while Floyd's death became a rally cry for racial equity and justice, four years later the journey toward comprehensive policing reform has been fraught with challenges. Momentum has waned and legislative efforts have stalled, leaving communities, advocates, and families who have lost loved ones frustrated by what they see as a shift away from police accountability.

"You can't honor the life and legacy of George Floyd without passing comprehensive policy and legislative change to prevent George Floyds from happening," Clark told Reuters. "I don't think the Biden administration has been aggressive enough when it comes to this crisis -- and this is not just a Black fight -- this is for everybody. People have become desensitized by police murder."

Despite the initial surge of calls for change, federal attempts at wide-ranging reform have been mostly unsuccessful.

On Friday, President Joe Biden said, "I will continue to urge Congress to send the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, which ensures law enforcement accountability, to my desk."

A spokesperson for Republican Donald Trump's campaign told Reuters that Trump would take a headline approach to immigration and violent crime, adding if he is reelected "he will restore law and order."

## George Floyd Act stalled

The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act - which was initially introduced in 2021 to stop aggressive law enforcement tactics, misconduct and racial bias - has faced repeated roadblocks in Congress and has yet to move forward.

Efforts to reach a bipartisan police reform deal failed in 2021, with Biden blaming Republicans for the failure. Among the issues lawmakers discussed were changes to "qualified immunity" laws that protects police officers from some excessive force lawsuits. Democratic Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee reintroduced the bill Thursday.

Experts say while criminal justice reform efforts in part fueled the 2020 election cycle, policing is unlikely to be a top issue in the 2024 presidential election.

"Other issues have come to the fore, especially with conflict in Israel and Palestine, with conflict in Ukraine, and the economy," said Jorge Camacho, policy director of the Justice Collaboratory at Yale Law School.

But it still might be one reason Biden has weaker support among Black voters, Camacho said, adding that Black communities want to see action on policing.

Recent polling data by a non-profit polling firm, African American Research Collaborative, shows that Black communities are now focusing more on economic issues, like the cost of living crisis and

jobs.

After Congress failed to pass the George Floyd legislation, Biden signed an executive order in May 2022 that in part created a new national police misconduct database, required federal law enforcement agencies to investigate the use of deadly force or deaths in custody and restricted federal agencies from using chokeholds and "no knock" entries.

Still a day before the anniversary of Floyd's death, veteran civil rights advocate Rev Al Sharpton, called on Congress to pass the bill.

"The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act fulfills a promise we made four years ago to his and every family of a Black man or woman killed by law enforcement," he said, adding it would fulfill what "we have spent decades marching, protesting, and advocating for."

## 'Not enough'

One of the largest changes that the Biden administration has done in terms of police reform, said Rashawn Ray, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, was to rescind a Trump-era policy that curtailed the use of consent decrees to address police violence.

Nina Patel, Senior Policy Council at the American Civil Liberties Union, said "there have been accomplishments on policing accountability, but they have been far less influential than what we would have liked."

She added that policies in states like Louisiana, Arizona and Georgia are making it harder to film

police, even though bystander footage often brings cases of brutality to light.

"Our position is that reform is not enough," said Cicley Gay, Board Chairwoman of Black Lives Matter, adding that incremental reform is insufficient. "We hear firsthand from many families about not only what they experienced, but the lack of progress and in making policy change."

The Movement for Black Lives, a national network of more than 150 leaders and organizations, is now pushing The People's Response Act which was introduced by Congresswoman Cori Bush last year.

The bill focuses on state and local funding for "inclusive, holistic, and health-centered approach" to public safety and would create alternatives to police intervention through the Department of Health and Human Services.

The bill is likely to receive significant resistance from Republicans and centrist Democrats, experts say. However, advocates said they will continue to press forward.

The "uprisings around the world were sparked by such a tragic incident that was part of a pattern of instances of police killings, police violence, that our communities have been calling attention to and trying to fight against for such a long time," said Amara Enyia, Director for Policy and Research at the Movement for Black Lives.

"The arc of our work is not just for us, this is part of a bigger work of justice to which there isn't an end date."

## Israel calls ICJ's ruling to halt operations in Rafah 'false, outrageous and morally repugnant'

TEL AVIV

FOLLOWING the International Court of Justice (ICJ) order for Israel to halt its operations in the southern Gaza city of Rafah, Israel called the order "outrageous, morally repugnant and disgusting", adding that the accusations it is committing genocide in Gaza "are false", reported Al Jazeera.

The UN's emergency aid chief said Israel's war on Gaza has been "a tragedy beyond words", and it must "end this nightmare".

Israel's National Security Council and Foreign Ministry issued a joint statement, responding to the ICJ's ruling on Rafah, and said that the charges of genocide brought by South Africa against Israel at the ICJ in The Hague were "false, outrageous and morally repugnant."



Smoke rises following Israeli strikes in the southern Gaza Strip city of Rafah, on May 18, 2024. The Palestinian death toll from the ongoing Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip has risen to 35,386, health authorities in the Palestinian enclave said in a press statement on Saturday

However, it added that Israel "has not and will not" carry out operations that risk the destruction of the civilian population in the southern Gaza city. The Times of Israel reported.

It further emphasised that Israel embarked upon a defensive and just war to eliminate Hamas and to secure the release of Israeli hostages.

"Following the horrific attack

against the citizens of Israel on October 7th, 2023, Israel embarked upon a defensive and just war to eliminate Hamas and to secure the release of our hostages. Israel is acting based

on its right to defend its territory and its citizens, consistent with its moral values and in compliance with international law, including international humanitarian law," the statement read. Moreover, it stressed that Israel has not and will not conduct military actions in the Rafah area which may inflict on the Palestinian civilian population in Gaza, The Times of Israel reported.

The United Nations' top court, on Friday, ordered Israel to halt its operations in the southern Gaza city of Rafah and withdraw from the enclave, CNN reported.

The ICJ situated in The Hague, Netherlands gave the order on Friday, in the case brought by South Africa accusing Israel of genocide, citing "immense risk" to the Palestinian population.

ANI

## India's monumental election logistics: A global showcase of democratic process

SYDNEY

THE world's largest democratic election is currently underway in India, with a staggering 968.8 million registered voters.

This massive electoral process, nearly three times the population of the United States, is being conducted in seven phases, culminating on June 1. Vote counting will commence on the morning of June 4, with results expected by late evening.

Sanjay Pulipaka, Chairperson of the Politeia Research Foundation, highlighted the extraordinary logistics involved, in an article for the Lowy Institute, an independent think tank based in Sydney, Australia.

He emphasised that managing an election with a voter base exceeding twice the population of the European Union requires immense logistical expertise.

Registering nearly a billion voters in a linguistically diverse and educationally varied country has been achieved through sustained efforts by the Election Commission of India (ECI).

A dedicated portal, utilizing the Aadhaar unique identity card, facilitated voter registration.

Moreover, special outreach efforts targeted marginalized groups, including tribal communities and persons with disabilities.

Notably, there has been a significant rise in the enrollment of women voters.

The voter rolls for all 543 parliamentary constituencies are available online, ensuring transparent stakeholder verification.

To facilitate voting, over a million polling stations (1,048,202 to be exact) have been established.

Political parties also facing a colossal task. A national party contesting all constituencies would need to mobilize at least three million workers—three per polling station—who must be well-versed in election regulations.

This mobilization includes designing communication material in more than two dozen languages.

Sanjay Pulipaka, in his article, wrote that a notable innovation in Indian elections is the use of electronic voting machines (EVMs).

Fully implemented since the 2004 general election, EVMs have dramatically reduced incidents of "booth capturing," where miscreants previously forced votes for their preferred candidates.

These battery-operated machines, capable of recording up to four votes per minute, are complemented by video surveillance and webcasting to enhance transparency.

Concerns about digital tampering of EVMs led the ECI to organize a hackathon, challenging sceptics to prove vulnerabilities, however, none were found.

To further ensure trust, the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) system was introduced, allowing voters to see a printout of their vote.

ANI

## Xi to attend opening ceremony of 10th ministerial meeting of China-Arab States Cooperation Forum

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping will attend the opening ceremony of the 10th ministerial meeting of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum and deliver a keynote speech, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying announced yesterday.

As agreed by China and the Arab side, the meeting will be held on May 30 in Beijing. Wang Yi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Chinese foreign minister, will co-chair the meeting with Mohamed Salem Ould Merzouk, Mauritania's minister of foreign affairs, cooperation and Mauritians abroad.

Foreign ministers or representatives of the Arab states and secretary general of the League of Arab States will attend the meeting.

Xinhua



President Xi Jinping and guests enter the Great Hall of the People in Beijing for the opening ceremony of the eighth ministerial meeting of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum on July 10, 2018. File photo

## Long-term goals can never be achieved with short-sighted practices

ON top of existing tariffs under Section 301, the U.S. recently decided to raise additional tariffs on its imports of Chinese products including electric vehicles (EVs), as part of its ongoing abuse of the Section 301 tariff review procedure driven by domestic political concerns.

The U.S. has unilaterally politicized economic and trade issues and used them as a tool, wielding the stick of tariffs to suppress China's industrial development and normal economic and technological activities. This not only seriously violates the principles of market economy and international trade rules but also poses a grave threat to the healthy development of the global economy.

The imposition of additional tariffs by the U.S. is a typical act of unilateralism and protectionism.

The U.S. claimed that Chinese products had threatened its "national security" and accused China of engaging in "unfair trade practices," but all these are baseless excuses. The main purpose of the U.S. imposing additional tariffs on Chinese products is to exploit political gains under the guise of protecting relevant industries.

As pointed out by Clark Packard, a research fellow at the Cato Institute, new tariffs on imported EVs and other products from China are driven mostly by domestic political calculations in the run-up to the 2024 presi-

dential election. It's truly a race to the protectionist bottom.

The high tariff barriers set by the U.S. impede free trade and undermine fair competition. Such approach does not protect U.S. industries but rather makes them increasingly uncompetitive in a comfortable environment.

Stephen Roach, a senior fellow at Yale University, pointed out that the allegations in the U.S.-initiated Section 301 investigation against China lack evidence, and its attempt to curb China's industrial development through tariffs is short-sighted and cannot achieve the long-term goal of revitalizing U.S. industries.

The imposition of additional tar-

iffs by the U.S. is a typical act of hegemony and bullying.

The previous U.S. administration's imposition of tariffs on Chinese products under Section 301 has severely disrupted normal economic and trade exchanges between the two countries and was ruled by the World Trade Organization (WTO) as a violation of WTO regulations.

Instead of correcting its actions, the U.S. has once again imposed tariffs, which demonstrates that certain people in the country are suffering from a chronic case of "China anxiety." Trying to maintain the U.S. hegemony, they perceive China's development as a threat and resort to all means to suppress China, in an ir-

rational manner.

The development of China's new energy industry is the result of technological innovation by Chinese companies and their active participation in market competition. It benefits from China's complete industrial categories, industrial system, and huge domestic market. It is in line with the needs of global economic development and benefits not just China but also the U.S. and the whole world.

The U.S. resorting to all means to unscrupulously suppress China's new energy sectors does not prove its strength but rather exposes its lack of confidence. It cannot solve the problems within the U.S. but fur-

ther disrupts the normal operation of international industrial and supply chains. It cannot prevent China's development and revitalization but instead encourages over 1.4 billion Chinese people to work even harder.

The Section 301 tariffs imposed on China for the past six years have heightened economic burdens for businesses in both countries and U.S. consumers, disrupted international trade order, and impacted global economic stability and security.

Moody's has estimated that 92 percent of the costs of the tariff hikes will fall on U.S. consumers, while average U.S. household expenditure increases by \$1,300 annually.

People's Daily



## Delhi's voters will once again support PM Modi and Viksit Bharat, says EAM S Jaishankar

NEW DELHI

AS the polling day got underway in New Delhi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar was one of the first at his designated polling booth to cast his vote. The Minister expressed his confidence that the Voters of Delhi would once again support the Modi government and Viksit Bharat.

EAM Jaishankar, while showing his inked finger after casting his vote for the sixth phase, highlighted that he was the first male voter in the booth.

"We have just cast our vote and I was the first male voter in this booth. We want people to come out and cast their votes as this is a decisive moment for the country," he said.

"I believe that the voters in Delhi will once again support Viksit Bharat and the Modi government," he stressed.

Earlier on Friday, in an interview to ANI Jaishankar said that the BJP would be making huge strides in the southern states while doubling its hold on the northern states.

Trashing Opposition parties' claim that BJP will be 'Dakshin mein saaf aur uttar mein half' (rout in the south, and half in the north), Jaishankar said that the Modi government will return to power with an even bigger majority.

"I think from our point of view...for us, it (BJP) would be dakshin mein double (twice in the south), and for the Opposition, I would say uttar mein even more trouble," he stated.

On being asked about BJP's '400 paar' slogan, Jaishankar acknowledged that this is an 'ambitious target' but said that the number has not been floated just like that, and there is a huge calculation behind it. He added that BJP leaders were advised to visit constituencies the party hadn't won in 2019, and look into what changes need to be made and what needs to be done for winning those seats.

"This is the BJP you are talking about. There is a kind of process, an exercise out of which an outcome is produced...we had done this exercise, which were the seats

we did not win in the 2019 election, what should we do to try and win those seats? Among them, what looks more likely? What are the changes we need to make?" the EAM further stated.

Meanwhile, voting for the sixth phase of the ongoing Lok Sabha elections began early in the morning today across 58 parliamentary constituencies spread over six states and two Union Territories (UTs) amid tight security and arrangements.

The voting started at 7 am and will continue until 6 pm, with those in line by the closing time still allowed to vote.

The sixth phase of Lok Sabha polls includes eight seats in Bihar, all 10 seats in Haryana, one seat in Jammu and Kashmir, four in Jharkhand, all seven seats in Delhi, six in Odisha, 14 in Uttar Pradesh, and eight in West Bengal. A total of 889 candidates are in the fray.

Some of the key seats in this phase include New Delhi, North-East Delhi, North-West Delhi and Chandni Chowk in the national capital and Sultanpur and Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh. Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag-Rajouri, West Bengal's Tamuk, Medinipur, Haryana's Karnal, Kurukshetra, Gurgaon, Rohtak and Odisha's Bhubaneswar, Puri and Sambalpur are some of the other key seats. Stakes are high for the BJP as well as for the Congress, Aam Aadmi Party and other constituents of the INDIA bloc in this phase of the election. **ANI**



## Those invited to allegedly peace summit should be aware of Stoltenberg urge – Russian MFA

MOSCOW

THOSE invited to the allegedly peace conference in Switzerland should be aware of NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg's urge to lift restrictions on Ukraine's strikes on Russia, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said.

The diplomat noted the statements made by Stoltenberg "who urged NATO countries to lift restrictions on strikes by the Kiev regime on targets across Russia." "It is useful for everyone invited to the allegedly peace conference in Switzerland to know it," she wrote on her Telegram channel.

Switzerland plans to hold a conference on Ukraine in the Burgenstock resort on June 15-16. The Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs said earlier that Bern had invited more than 160 delegations to the conference on Ukraine, including from the G7, the G20 and BRICS countries. According to Swiss officials, Russia has not been invited.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has said that Moscow would not ask to participate in the conference if it was not wanted there. According to Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, holding the conference in Switzerland is a "road leading nowhere," with Moscow not seeing the West's desire to do business in a fair manner. At the same time, Russia has repeatedly stressed that Moscow has never refused to settle the conflict with Kiev through peace talks.

Stoltenberg said earlier in an interview with The Economist that Ukraine should have the possibility of strikes on military targets located on the internationally-acknowledged Russian territory.



## Presidents of US, Egypt discuss efforts to secure release of hostages and address humanitarian crisis in Gaza

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden held a telephonic conversation with his Egyptian counterpart Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and spoke on their continued efforts to secure the release of hostages and address the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Biden appreciated El-Sisi's commitment to allowing the flow of United Nations assistance from Egypt through the Kerem Shalom Crossing.

During the talks, Biden expressed full commitment to support efforts to reopen the Rafah crossing with arrangements acceptable to Egypt and Israel and agreed to send a senior team to Cairo next week for further discussions, according to the statement released by the White House.

In a post on X, Biden stated, "Today, I spoke with President Al-Sisi of Egypt on our continued efforts to secure the release of hostages and address the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

I appreciate his commitment to allow UN assistance to flow from Egypt

through the Kerem Shalom crossing." Joe Biden expressed gratitude to El-Sisi for his efforts to ensure the continuous flow of assistance from Egypt to Gaza.

The two leaders also held talks on new initiatives to secure the release of hostages together with an immediate and sustained ceasefire in Gaza.

The two sides agreed to remain in regular contact both directly and through their senior national security teams.

The statement released by the White House stated, "President Biden also expressed his full commitment to support efforts to reopen the Rafah crossing with arrangements acceptable to both Egypt and Israel and agreed to send a senior team to Cairo next week for further discussions.

The President Biden thanked President Al-Sisi once again for his efforts from the beginning of the crisis to ensure the continuous flow of assistance from Egypt into Gaza." **ANI**

## Africa Day celebration calls for realisation of AU's founding aspirations

ADDIS ABABA

THE African continent marked Africa Day on Saturday with a call to realize the founding continental aspirations of the African Union (AU).

Africa Day is observed annually on May 25 to celebrate the achievements of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the predecessor of the African Union (AU), from its creation on May 25, 1963.

The day is commemorated to acknowledge the role of the continental bloc in the fight against colonialism and the progress Africa has made, while reflecting on the common challenges the continent faces in a global environment, according to the AU.

Moussa Faki Mahamat, chairperson of the AU Commission, in his message on the occasion of this year's Africa Day celebration, said since the formation of the OAU, the African continent "has freed itself from the yoke of colonialism and the appalling system of apartheid. Its intellectual, scientific and cultural resources have been immensely developed, diversified and enriched."

Noting that the continent's economy has grown at rates envied by many parts of the world, the AU Commission chief said Africa's resilience during the global COVID-19 crisis impressed many.

"Africa's demographic explosion, its social constraints that are resistant to the demands of the new world, the continuing deterioration of our climatic conditions, the various forms of foreign interference in our internal affairs, the permeability of certain categories of its elites to foreign discourse, and the obvious shortcomings in terms of governance have not helped to transform the above-



People from Rwanda dance during an Africa Day celebration event in Kampala, Uganda, May 25, 2024. (Photo by Nicholas Kajoba/Xinhua)

mentioned positive assets into factors of social justice, equality and inclusive prosperity," he said.

Faki said the Africa Day celebration is "an opportune moment for reflection to assess how far we have come and to reflect on the road ahead."

"The OAU, born of the pain of our struggles, now finds itself at a real crossroads. We must reform resolutely and courageously to become what our founding fathers wanted us to be, which is a powerful lever for unity, liberation, integration and the defense of African dignity in relation to ourselves and others," he said.

Noting that youth make up more than 60

percent of Africa's population, the 55-member continental organization called for the realization of legitimate aspirations for inclusive and shared prosperity in a peaceful, integrated Africa, as outlined in the AU's 50-year continental development blueprint, Agenda 2063.

The Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the continental event marks the celebration of "our common legacy, unity and strength as Africans." "It is a moment to contemplate our shared experiences and recommit ourselves to constructing a fairer, prosperous and united Africa," the ministry said in a statement issued Saturday.

Xinhua

## China, Russia set prime example of new form of international, good-neighborly relations between two major countries

THIS year marks the 75th anniversary of the China-Russia diplomatic relations. It is an important milestone year in the history of China-Russia relations.

On May 16, Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, who was on a state visit to China, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

The most important conclusion drawn from the 75-year history of China-Russia relations is that two neighboring major countries must always promote the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, respect each other on an equal footing, trust each other, accommodate each other's concerns, and truly provide mutual assistance for the development and revitalization of both sides, Xi noted.

This is not only the correct way for China and Russia to get along, but also the direction that major-country relations should strive for in the 21st century, Xi said.

His important remarks have charted the course for the future development of China-Russia relations.

Head-of-state diplomacy is leading the all-round development of the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for the new era.

The two presidents have held over 40 meetings, maintaining close communication and offering strategic guidance on promoting healthy and stable development of bilateral relations between China and Russia.

This time, Xi and Putin had a candid and fruitful discussion. They had a comprehensive review of the successful experience in developing the China-Russia relationship, and had an in-depth exchange of views on the relationship as well as major international and regional issues of mutual interest, charting the course forward for their cooperation across the board.

The two heads of state signed and issued the Joint Statement of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation on Deepening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Coordination for the New Era in the Context of the 75th Anniversary of China-Russia Diplomatic Relations.

They also witnessed the signing of a number of important intergovernmental and interagency cooperation documents, injecting new, strong impetus into the sound development of China-Russia relations.

China and Russia will uphold the principles of non-alliance, non-confrontation and not targeting any third party, continue to deepen two-way political trust, respect each other's choice of development path, and real-



ize development and revitalization with each other's firm support.

In the past three quarters of a century, the China-Russia relationship has grown stronger amidst wind and rain. China and Russia together have found a new path for major and neighboring countries to treat each other with respect and pursue amity and mutually beneficial cooperation. The China-Russia relationship has become a prime example of a new form of international relations as well as good-neighborly relations between two major countries.

The notable progress in China-Russia relations is attributable to the two countries' commitment to five principles.

First, China and Russia are committed to mutual respect as the fundamental principle of relations, and always render support for each other's core interests.

Second, China and Russia are committed to win-win cooperation as the driving force of relations, and work to foster a new paradigm of mutual benefit.

Third, China and Russia are committed to lasting friendship as the foundation of relations, and carry forward the torch of Sino-Russian friendship.

Fourth, China and Russia are committed to strategic coordination as an underpinning of relations, and steer global governance in the right direction.

Fifth, China and Russia are committed to fairness and justice as the purpose of relations, and dedicated to the political settlement of hotspots.

With the concerted efforts of the two sides, China-Russia relations have been moving forward steadily, with enhanced comprehensive strategic coordination and further cooperation on economy and trade, investment, energy, people-to-people exchanges, at the subnational level and in other fields. This has made positive contributions to maintaining global strategic stability and promoting greater democracy in international relations.

The two sides will take the 75th anniversary of the diplomatic ties as a new starting point, further synergize development strategies, and continue to enrich the bilateral cooperation, to bring greater benefits to the two countries and peoples, and contribute more positive energy to world prosperity and stability.

The two countries need to make further structural improvements to their cooperation, and consolidate the good momentum in trade and other traditional areas of cooperation.

Last year, China-Russia two-way trade exceeded \$240 billion, close to 27 times that of a decade ago. This is a good indication of the all-round cooperation of mutual benefit that continues to deepen between the two countries.

The two countries need to look for areas where their interests converge, tap into their comparative strengths, deepen the integration of interests, and enable each other's success.

They should make further structural improvements to their cooperation, consolidate the good momentum in trade and other traditional areas of cooperation, support the formation of platforms and networks for basic research, continue to unlock cooperation potential in frontier areas, step up cooperation on ports, transportation and logistics, and help keep the global industrial and supply chains stable.

The two sides should create more high-lights for people-to-people exchanges, jointly host successful China-Russia Years of Culture, strengthen cooperation at subnational levels, and continuously tighten the bonds between the two peoples.

By focusing on implementing the Roadmap for China-Russia Cooperation on People-to-People and Cultural Exchanges Before 2030, the two countries are expanding people-to-people and cultural ties.

The two presidents have set 2024 and

2025 as China-Russia Years of Culture, proposed a series of cultural activities that are down to earth, close to people's hearts and popular among them, and encouraged closer interactions between various sectors and at subnational levels, so as to enhance mutual understanding and affinity between the two peoples.

Both sides are willing to continue to strengthen cooperation within the frameworks including the UN, BRICS and Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) as well as communication on major international and regional issues, so as to establish a fair and equitable global governance system.

Both China and Russia are permanent members of the UN Security Council and major emerging markets. It is the shared strategic choice of both countries to deepen strategic coordination, expand mutually beneficial cooperation and follow the general historical trend of multipolarity in the world and economic globalization.

With Russia chairing BRICS this year and China taking over the chairmanship of the SCO later this year, the two sides will support each other's chairmanship, build a high-quality partnership that is more comprehensive, close, practical and inclusive, and build the unity and strength of the Global South.

People's Daily



Mac D Bonanza coordinator Deogratius Rweyunga (C) speaks to journalists in Dar es Salaam on Saturday on the bonanza slated for June 8 which will involve a match between Mac D FC and IPP Media FC at ADC Kunduchi grounds. Looking on the right is EB 25 Entertainment Village Marketing and Communications Manager, Mossi Kombo, and Montage Limited Director, Nestor Mapunda. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

## Ouma praises players as Coastal Union secure CAF Confederation Cup spot

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

COASTAL Union Football Club secured a vital point in their Premier League match against JKT Tanzania at the Mkwakwani Stadium on Saturday, to ensure their participation in the CAF Confederation Cup next season.

The goalless draw marked the fourth consecutive match without a loss for Coastal Union, whose last defeat came on April 27 against Young Africans with a narrow 1-0 margin.

The crucial draw guarantees Coastal Union a fourth-place finish in the league, securing their spot in the CAF Confederation Cup.

The Tanga-based team now has 42 points from 29 matches, six points ahead of their closest rivals, KMC, who sit in fifth place with 36 points from an equal number of matches.

Even if KMC win their final match, they will only reach 39 points, cementing Coastal Union's position in the top four.

Following this achievement, Coastal Union's coach David

Ouma expressed his satisfaction with the team's performance and their secured position.

Ouma, who signed a two-year contract to replace Mwinyi Zahera after a poor start to the season, was tasked with leading the team to a top-four finish.

With this goal achieved, Ouma emphasized that he has met the club's expectations and feels no lingering obligations.

"I was given the objective of finishing in the top four when I arrived, and I am proud to have achieved this with the team. This success is a testament to the hard work of the players, my fellow coaches, and the entire club's leadership. Now, we must focus on preparing early for the new season to make the most of this opportunity," said Ouma.

The Kenyan coach highlighted the challenging nature of the NBC Premier League, noting that every team is highly motivated and competitive. He praised the players for adapting well to his methods, which have propelled Coastal Union from the lower reaches of the table to a coveted fourth-place finish.

"The NBC Premier League is very challenging, with every team highly motivated and competitive," Ouma said. "I'm proud of our players for adapting well to our methods, which has allowed us to rise from the lower reaches of the table to secure a coveted fourth-place finish."

Coastal Union's impressive performance this season is expected to attract additional sponsorship deals. Their jersey sponsor has promised to increase their sponsorship and support the team's preparations for the new season in Egypt, contingent on finishing fourth and securing the CAF ticket.

This potential boost in resources could significantly enhance the team's readiness for international competition.

Reflecting on the journey, Ouma stated: "Reaching the top four in such a competitive league was not easy. Every match presented a challenge, but the players' dedication and the effective strategies we employed made this achievement possible."

Coastal Union have a rich history in Tanzanian football, hav-

ing won the Premier League in the 1988/1989 season when it was known as the First Division League.

They also participated in the 1989 Winners' Cup, which was the last time the team competed in a CAF championship. This return to continental competition after more than three decades marks a significant milestone for the club.

With one match remaining in the season, Coastal Union are set to face KMC tomorrow. Their previous encounter in February ended in a 0-0 draw.

KMC, coming off a 1-0 loss to Simba, will be looking to end their season on a high note, but Coastal Union's secure position and recent form suggest they will be a formidable opponent.

As Coastal Union prepare for their final match and look ahead to the next season, the sense of accomplishment and anticipation within the club is palpable.

The team, supporters, and sponsors are all eager to see Coastal Union represent Tanga and Tanzania on the continental stage in the CAF Confederation Cup.

## Azam bolster squad with third Colombian signing

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM have confirmed their third signing after announcing the capture of Colombian midfielder Ever Meza from Leones.

He has signed a four-year deal from Leones who play in the Colombian topflight. The club took to their social media channels to announce their latest South American acquisition on Saturday night.

"Azam FC is happy to introduce Ever Meza, as our new midfielder, signing from Colombian club, Leones.

"Meza, a Colombian citizen born on July 21, 2000, was on loan at Alianza FC, also from Colombia. He has signed a four-year contract that will keep him at Azam Complex until 2028."

Meza, 23, joins the Ivorian duo of attacking midfielder Franck Tiesse and defender Yoro Mamadou Diaby as Azam continue to strengthen their squad for next season.

The right-footed defensive midfielder, who can also feature in the right full-back, was loaned out to Alianza FC at the start of this year. At Alianza, he managed to play 20 games including six in Copa Sudamericana.

Copa Sudamericana is an annual international club football competition organized by CONMEBOL, the governing body of football in South America.

It is the second-most prestigious club competition in South American football.

It is the equivalent to Africa's CAF Confederation Cup which Azam participated this season and got eliminated in the preliminary round by Ethiopia's Bahir Dar.

The other clubs he turned out for include Envigado, Llaneros FC and Cúcuta Dep. Azam will be his first club outside South America.

Meza joins attacking midfielder Franklin Navarro and centre-back Yeison Fuentes as the Colombians at Azam.

Azam are guaranteed of continental football next season. They are second in the table, level on points with Simba ahead of tomorrow's final league game of the season.

Thanks to a superior goal difference, they hold an advantage over third-placed Simba in the race for the final CAF Champions League spot.

With a superior goal difference of +40 to Simba's +32, Azam go into the last day of the season with their fate in their own hands.

They need to win their last match against Geita Gold to earn the right to join champions Young Africans as Mainland Tanzania's representatives in the CAF Champions League next season.



Colombian midfielder Ever Meza (C) after signing a four-year deal with Azam FC from Leones of Colombia. Looking on are the officials of Azam FC. Photo: Courtesy of Azam FC.

## Special marathon raises funds for underprivileged girls, environment

By Guardian Correspondent

A SPECIAL marathon has been organised to raise funds for underprivileged girls and promotes environmental sustainability.

The 'Run for Binti Race' is also aimed at addressing water and sanitation issues in schools, offering menstrual products to impoverished female students across the country, and planting trees in cities experiencing critical environmental concerns.

The marathon, which was held in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, brought together people from all backgrounds, including athletes, social runners, community leaders, and corporate sponsors, for the 5km, 10km, and 21km runs. Hundreds of participants were able to contribute to the cause by registering for the marathon, including corporate sponsors.

Speaking on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy, Dr. Doto Biteko, the Minister of Constitution and Law, Ambassador Dr. Pindi Chana said: "I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the stakeholders of this race and as stated this race is aimed at building and promoting the welfare of the community in education, in health and in taking care of the environment through facilitating the construction of good and modern toilets and the construction of water wells in schools.

"The race is also aimed at providing education on environmental care, planting trees and the correct use of clean energy in schools, providing education against issues of sexual violence as well as providing education on safe menstruation and reproductive health with female children getting safe menstrual equipment (reusable pads)

) and protect them from diseases but enable them to attend school without missing and failing to do well in their studies."

She continued to say: "These goals are important in developing social welfare and it is obvious that the lack of female towels for girls is a big challenge, the Government continues to face and end this challenge."

"We are thrilled to support the 'Run for Binti Race' and its initiatives that significantly contribute to the well-being of underprivileged girls in Tanzania and at the same time support the green initiative of tree planting in cities that are in critical need," said Omari Mtiga, head of personal and private banking of Stanbic Bank Tanzania.

"Through our work with the Legal Society Foundation (LSF), we hope this initiative will go a long way in empowering women and alleviating environmental problems in our cities," he said.

He explained that the organisers of the race committed 30m/- towards the race to be used to provide menstrual products to underprivileged female students in identified towns with urgent needs; and fund tree planting projects in towns with urgent environmental needs, with the goal of combating deforestation, mitigating climate change, and improving the overall health and sustainability of local ecosystems.

The funding will also be utilized to construct much-needed toilets in select schools to improve student sanitation and hygiene.

The half marathon contested by participants from different parts of the country was able to find winners in the female 21km led by the first winner, Glory Sylvester (Dsm), the second was Arafa Msala (Dsm) and the third one was Monica Lugendo (Dsm).



Tanzania U-15 boys' team players celebrate with their trophy after winning the African Schools Football Championship final match against Guinea at the New Amaan Complex in Zanzibar on Friday. Tanzania won 1-0. Photo: Agencies

## PSG win French Cup final on Mbappe's farewell appearance

PARIS

PARIS Saint-Germain coach Luis Enrique said he had been lucky to work with Kylian Mbappe after the superstar forward played his last game for the club in Saturday's 2-1 French Cup final win over Lyon.

Mbappe made his farewell appearance for PSG before an expected move to Real Madrid but he was unable to add to his club-record tally of 256 goals with Ousmane Dembele and Fabian Ruiz scoring on the night.

Dembele and Ruiz netted in the first half and PSG then withstood a Lyon comeback attempt after the break following a Jake O'Brien goal which reduced the deficit.

The most successful side in the history of the French Cup, PSG have now won the trophy 15 times, including seven times in the last decade and four since Mbappe signed from Monaco as a teenager in 2017.

The victory allowed PSG to complete a domestic league and cup double in Luis Enrique's first season as coach, although the campaign remains overshadowed by their exit from the Champions League in the semi-finals against Borussia Dortmund.

"We played the final very well. We played with great intensity and were great on the ball," said Luis Enrique.

"I think we have had a very good season. We would have liked to stay around for another week and not go on holiday yet but that is life," he said, referring to next weekend's Champions League final.

"Nobody said football was fair, but it doesn't matter. Next season we will come back stronger and will look to sign even hungrier players, who have even more desire to win."

Of the departing Mbappe he added: "I think I have been lucky to coach Kylian but it has been a difficult season for him because after seven years and all he has achieved it is always hard to say goodbye."

"But he was always prepared to help the team and tonight was the cherry on the cake even if he didn't score."

The game was somewhat overshadowed by incidents earlier in the day, with rival fans clashing at a motorway toll around 50 kilometres south of the northern city of Lille.

The clashes involved about 100 Lyon supporters and about 200 PSG fans, with two coaches ending up on fire, according to a police source.

A source in the regional police authorities said 20 supporters were slightly injured, with French President Emmanuel Macron, who attended the final, condemning the violence.

Mbappe was making his 308th and final appearance for his hometown club, for whom he signed in August 2017 from Monaco in a 180 million-euro deal. Victory means he leaves PSG with four French Cup winners' medals to go with six Ligue 1 titles and two victories in the now-defunct League Cup.

Mbappe finished his last season in Paris with 44 goals in all competitions, eight on PSG's run to the Cup final.

AFP

## 'I'm not working tomorrow': Party starts for Alonso

BERLIN

BAYER Leverkusen coach Xabi Alonso said he was ready for a big night after his club sealed the double on Saturday, telling reporters: "I'm not working tomorrow."

Asked if he would celebrate with the players in the German capital, before the club returns to Leverkusen for a parade on Sunday, Alonso replied "of course".

"We need to enjoy it. We need to release the tension from the whole season. I'm not working tomorrow."

Leverkusen won the Bundesliga unbeaten -- the club's first league title -- and lifted the German Cup on Saturday after Granit Xhaka scored the only goal in a 1-0 win against Kaiserslautern.

Alonso's first full season managing at the top level finished with a Bundesliga and German Cup double, a Europa League final and a stunning record of just one loss in 53 games.

Leverkusen's only loss came in Wednesday's Europa League final against Serie A side Atalanta, but Alonso's charges rebounded in dogged fashion.

"I need a bit more time to grasp it. It was a dream season. To be able to celebrate here is incredible -- we need to enjoy it," Alonso told Germany's ARD network.

The coach, who rejected reported interest from Liverpool, Bayern Munich and Real Madrid to stay at Leverkusen this season, was serenaded with chants of "Xabi Alonso" by delirious fans whose club had only won two trophies before this season.

"Of course I'm happy but I'm especially proud of the players. The double is totally deserved," said the Spaniard.

The victory tested Alonso as he rarely has been this season, with Leverkusen reduced to 10 men late in the first half after centre-back Odilon Kossonou's second yellow. **AFP**

# Early own-goal gives Ahly 12th CAF Champions League title



A capacity crowd at the Cairo International Stadium saw hosts Al Ahly win a fourth Champions League title in five years [Getty Images]

CAIRO

**A**N early own-goal by Roger Aholou gave Al Ahly of Egypt a tense 1-0 win over Esperance of Tunisia in Cairo on Saturday, and a record-extending 12th CAF Champions League title.

Ahly triumphed 1-0 on aggregate after a goalless first leg of the final to win back-to-back titles in the elite African club competi-

tion for a fourth time.

They also became only the third team to win the Champions League with an unbeaten record having won nine and drawn five of 14 qualifying, group and knockout matches.

Victory for Ahly completed a double for Cairo clubs as arch rivals Zamalek won the second-tier CAF Confederation Cup last weekend.

Ahly coach Marcel Koller

made one enforced change from the first leg with Karim Fouad replacing Ali Maaloul, who went off injured after only seven minutes in Tunisia last weekend.

Goalkeeper Mostafa Shobeir, who had not conceded in eight matches ahead of the second leg after replacing injured captain Mohamed el Shenawy during the group stage, retained his place. Esperance coach

Miguel Cardoso, seeking the first trophy of his managerial career that included spells in his native Portugal, France, Spain and Greece, chose an unchanged side.

Goalkeeper Amanallah Memmiche, who had kept 12 clean sheets in 13 previous Champions League matches this season, had to pick the ball out of the net after just four minutes in Cairo.

**- Lucky Esperance -**

Ahly captain and centre-back Ramy Rabia headed a corner goalwards and the ball deflected off Esperance midfielder Aholou and into the corner of the net.

Roared on by a predominantly red-clad sell-out crowd in the 75,000-capacity Cairo International Stadium, Ahly threatened to overwhelm Esperance with relentless attacks.

Wessam Abou Ali fired narrowly wide, South African Percy Tau hit the side netting with a fierce drive and Memmiche parried a goal-bound shot away to foil Hussein el Shahat.

A poor free-kick at the other end by Yan Sasse -- one of two Brazilians in the Esperance line-up -- summed up a first half which ended with the Tunis outfit lucky to be just one goal behind.

Ahly were less dominant as the second half unfolded and had a narrow escape just past the hour when a Sasse drive beat Shobeir only to finish off target.

The anxiety of Ahly, as they clung to a one-goal advantage on the night and on aggregate, became clear with 20 minutes left when Shobeir was warned by the Congolese referee for wasting time.

Koller introduced attackers Mohamed 'Afsha' Magdy and Mahmoud Kahraba 12 minutes from time as Ahly sought the second goal that would almost certainly kill off the Esperance challenge.

Magdy came close to scoring two minutes from time when his free-kick from just outside the area rebounded off the crossbar with Memmiche beaten.

## Erik ten Hag: I will win trophies elsewhere if Man United sack me

By James Ducker

**A** DEFIANT Erik ten Hag has told Manchester United he will "go somewhere else to win trophies" if the club decide to sack him after lifting the FA Cup.

United -- who came in as 8-1 outsiders at Wembley -- produced their best performance of the season to beat Manchester City 2-1 thanks to goals from teenagers Alejandro Garnacho and Kobbie Mainoo and deny the Premier League champions a historic double.

Despite securing the second trophy of his reign -- after last season's Carabao Cup -- to end a torrid, injury-plagued campaign on a high, Ten Hag remains at real risk of being sacked by Sir Jim Ratcliffe and his Ineos team.

But the Dutchman, who won three Eredivisie titles and two Dutch Cups with Ajax, warned United that he would only go on to be successful at another club if they opt to swing the axe.

"Two trophies in two years is not bad, three finals in two years is not bad," the United manager said. "We have to keep going. I'm not satisfied with it, we have to do better and if they don't want me any more then I go somewhere else to win trophies because that is what I did my whole career."

"When I started here I said I am here to win and also I want to build a team and both [of those things]

I am doing but if they don't want me any more I go somewhere else and, as I've done in my whole managerial career, win games and win trophies."

Ten Hag, who is due to go away on holiday on Sunday, added: "I don't think about this [being sacked]. I am in a project and we are exactly where we want to be, we are on our way to constructing a team for the future. I will go with ups and down. When I took over we were in a mess at United."

"The team is developing, the team is winning and at the end of the day it is about winning trophies and the team also plays to an identity. But you need the players to be available and need a strong squad in top football, especially when you play in England and Europe."

"There is still a lot of work to do but ... we have value in the squad, high potentials progressing very good, the team is progressing and we are winning trophies."

**\*Ratcliffe leaves Ten Hag out of celebration statement**

Ratcliffe had refused to answer when asked by a television reporter before he left Wembley if Ten Hag -- who oversaw United's lowest league placing for 34 years with an eighth place finish in the Premier League -- would remain as manager.

The Ineos owner, who has complete control of football operations at Old



Trafford as part of his minority investment in the club, did not reference Ten Hag in a statement hailing the win.

Ratcliffe and Ten Hag shook hands after the Dutchman had been presented with his winners' medal although the billionaire had enjoyed a much warmer embrace before then with City manager Pep Guardiola, whom he bent over to hug before whispering something in the Catalan's ear.

"It is a glorious feeling to win the FA Cup final at Wembley," Ratcliffe said. "Manchester United clearly were not the favourites to win today but

they played with total commitment and skill and overcame one of the great teams in football. We are all very proud of the players and the staff who work tirelessly to support them."

United's hierarchy are due to conduct a thorough review of the season next week. Asked if he was staying at the club, Ten Hag said: "I don't know. I don't have doubt [about myself] but, of course, it's not up to me."

"This season, it's a mess, that's true, but the reasons are there and, in the end, we won the next trophy. There is high potential but it needs time."

"I want to play the best football, I want to play dynamic, attacking football. But you have to win games and win trophies. That's the mentality we brought in."

**\*Fernandes: We all deserve this**

United have held talks with representatives of a number of managers over the past week, including Kieran McKenna and Thomas Tuchel. Asked about that and whether he felt undermined, Ten Hag said: "I don't know if they have done this. I can't answer this question. Maybe you have sources. I don't have them."

When quizzed on how he could say United were "exactly where they want to be" after finishing eighth in the league, Ten Hag fired back: "When you make this [comment], I'm sorry to say this, you don't have any knowledge about football and managing a football team."

When you don't have players available, then you can't perform. Simple as that. If that is the opinion, no problem. Then I go anywhere else and keep winning trophies. When the players are not there I can't train them, I can't coach them and they can't develop. We will not get the results we want."

Bruno Fernandes, the United captain, refused to be drawn on whether Ten Hag deserved to stay on as manager. "That's not for me to decide, I'm just a football player."

Asked what Ten Hag got right against City, Fernandes added: "Everything. He prepares every game well. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't. You could see this was about being compact and pressing between the lines."

"It is crucial for everyone. We know the manager is under so much scrutiny, he deserves this, also everyone in the backroom staff and the players, we all deserve this."

**THE TELEGRAPH**

**Gwiji** by David Chikoko



# SPORT

**Erik ten Hag: I will win trophies elsewhere if Man United sack me**



PAGE 19

## Coach Dabo calls for victory against Geita Gold to secure CAF CL spot

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

AZAM's head coach Youssouph Dabo has emphasized the importance of their upcoming Premier League match against Geita Gold, treating it as a final.

With Azam's recent triumph seeming to secure their spot in the CAF Champions League next season, Dabo is keenly aware of the challenges posed by Geita Gold, particularly given the tough conditions they are likely to face.

Dabo's comments came after Azam's commanding 5-1 victory over Kagera Sugar at the Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The win was highlighted by a stellar performance from attacking midfielder Feisal Salum, known as 'Fei Toto', who scored twice, bringing his season tally to 18 goals, and matching Stephane Aziz Ki of Yanga.

The hosts displayed an impressive performance with goals from Gambian midfielder Gibril Sillah in the 50th minute, Junior Zunon in the 65th minute and Iddy Suleiman 'Nado' in the 90th minute.

This crucial victory solidified Azam's second-place position in the NBC Premier League standings with 66 points, on par with Simba, who are in third place with 66 points.

The separation between the two clubs comes down to goal difference, where Azam hold an edge.

Azam will next face Geita Gold at Nyankumbu Stadium in Geita, marking their final match of the season.

In their last encounter, Azam narrowly defeated Geita Gold 2-1, with goals from Gibril Sillah in the 44th minute and Iddy Nado in the 84th minute.

Geita Gold's lone goal was scored by Tariq Seif in the 40th minute.

Over their last five meetings, Azam have been dominant, winning three matches and drawing two, with Geita Gold yet to secure a victory in these encounters.

Dabo expressed his thoughts ahead of their upcoming Premier League encounter against their opponents, stating: "Our objective is to maintain our position because the match against Geita will be like a final for us. We need to prepare thoroughly because it won't be easy; Geita Gold will be fighting hard as they are at risk of relegation," Dabo stated.

"We need to impose our style of play and ensure we win to finish where we are," he added.

Geita Gold are currently in a precarious position, sitting in the 15th place with 25 points. A loss against Azam would confirm their relegation, making this a must-win match for them.

Just above them are Tabora United with 27 points, adding to the pressure on Geita Gold FC to secure a victory while hoping The Bees falter against Namungo to have a chance at the play-offs for staying in the Premier League.

Azam's season has been remarkable, not only securing a second-place finish but also reaching the final of the Federation Cup, showcasing their resilience and strength. Their ambition extends to making a mark in the CAF Champions League, a competition they have only participated in once before, back in 2014, after winning the 2013-2014 Premier League season.

Since their founding in 2004 and joining the Premier League in 2008, Azam have steadily grown into a formidable force in Tanzanian football.

Looking ahead to their crucial match against Geita Gold, Dabo is preparing his squad to face an intense challenge. He acknowledges that the Gold Miners, fighting to avoid relegation, will be highly motivated and difficult to beat. Nonetheless, Dabo is confident in his team's ability to secure the necessary victory and end the season on a high note.

"We are not underestimating Geita Gold FC. They will be fighting for their survival, which makes them dangerous. However, we are prepared and focused on ending our season with a win. Our goal is to ensure we retain our position and continue to build on the success we have achieved this season," Dabo remarked.

As the season draws to a close, Azam's focus remains on delivering a strong performance against Geita Gold.

With the prospect of CAF Champions League participation on the horizon, Dabo and his team are determined to finish their league campaign with determination and excellence, cementing their place as one of Tanzania's top football clubs.

# Simba, Azam race for second spot goes to the wire, Mtibwa relegation confirmed

On Saturday afternoon, Azam thrashed Kagera Sugar 5-1 in their last home game at Chamazi Complex in a game where Feisal Salum (pictured) scored a brace to go level with Young Africans' Stephane Aziz Ki in the Golden Boot race.

The result helped Azam maintain their second spot with 66 points leaving the race for second place with Simba still open.

Third-placed Simba secured a 1-0 victory over KMC at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha.

With a superior goal difference of +40 to Simba's +32, Azam go into the last day of the season with their fate in their own hands.

If Azam win their last match

against Geita Gold they will earn the right to join Young Africans as Mainland Tanzania's representatives in the CAF Champions League next season.

In Tanga, Coastal Union played to a goal-less draw against JKT Tanzania at Mkwakwani Stadium to secure the fourth spot.

The Tanga-based side will play in the CAF Confederation Cup next season.

Another significant development of the penultimate round of fixtures was confirmation of Mtibwa Sugar's relegation to the Championship after their 3-2 defeat to Mashujaa.

Geita Gold and Tabora United are the two clubs fighting it out to avoid joining Mtibwa Sugar in the Championship after both lost their penultimate round games. Singida Fountain Gate

handed Geita Gold a 2-1 defeat while Champions Young Africans beat Tabora United 3-0 to heighten their relegation fears.

Geita Gold are currently on 25 points after 29 games and Tabora United are on 27 points from the same number of games. Geita Gold will go into the last match of the season eyeing to beat Azam and hope that Tabora United lose to Namungo to secure a second chance in the relegation play-offs.

Elsewhere, Kagera Sugar's heavy defeat to Azam saw them drop to the relegation playoffs spot.

They will now need to beat Singida Fountain Gate in Mwanza to avoid the relegation playoffs.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE race for a place in next season's CAF Champions League will be decided on the last day of the NBC Premier League season tomorrow.



Young Africans Sports Club's players and fans during the Premier League trophy parade at Msimbazi Street in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Young Africans were crowned the 2023/24 NBC Premier League champions on Saturday. Photo: Courtesy of YASC

## Simba coach Mgunda keeps CAF Champions League dream alive despite tough competition

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

IN a thrilling showdown last Saturday, Simba clinched a crucial victory against KMC Football Club, securing three vital points in the NBC Premier League clash.

The match, held at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha, Simba took an early lead in the third minute thanks to a brilliant play by Saidi Ntibazonkiza as he outwitted KMC's goalkeeper, Denis Richard, to put his team on the scoreboard.

Despite the early goal, the intensity remained high throughout the match. Both teams displayed attacking prowess, but neither could find a breakthrough after Ntibazonkiza's opener.

The second half saw a similar pattern with the midfield dom-

inating the flow of the game.

Simba's interim head coach Juma Mgunda made substitutions in an attempt to break the deadlock, bringing on Edwin Balua, Luis Migussone, and Saleh Karabaka for Willy Onana, Ladaki Chasambi, and Ntibazonkiza respectively.

However, the final score remained 1-0 in Simba's favor.

After the match, Mgunda expressed his satisfaction with the team's performance, stating: "This match is done now. We played well, although our objective today was not to win by a one-goal margin, but what's important is securing the three points."

"The league is getting

tough. Our opponents Azam won their match with a high margin. But in football, anything can happen, so we are prepared for the next match."

Despite the victory, Simba remain in the third position with 66 points after playing 29 matches. Their rivals, Azam, also secured a win, maintaining their second position with 66 points after defeating Kagera Sugar 5-1 at the Azam Complex Chamazi.

Looking ahead to the final league match, Simba face JKT Tanzania, with hopes of securing a second-place finish for a coveted spot in the CAF Champions League next season.

However, Azam's defeat

against Geita Gold is essential for Simba to clinch the runners-up position.

Despite Simba fans' disappointment at the team's current standing, Mgunda remains optimistic. He affirmed: "In any game, the most important thing is to fight until the last minute. I believe we can finish second."

With both Simba and Azam tied at 66 points, the goal difference becomes critical. Simba trail by eight goals, presenting a daunting challenge. Nonetheless, Mgunda remains determined to rally the team to strive for excellence in the upcoming match against JKT Tanzania.

Simba's journey in the league has been marked by commendable performances, winning 20 out of 29 matches, with six draws and three losses.

They have scored 57 goals and conceded 25. Similarly, Azam boast a comparable record, with 20 wins, six draws, and three losses, scoring 61 goals and conceding 21.

In the decisive match against JKT Tanzania, Simba must secure a victory while hoping for a stumble from Azam against Geita Gold to clinch the coveted second place.

Failure to do so will see them joining Coastal Union in the CAF Confederation Cup next season.

As the season nears its climax, all eyes are on Simba as they aim to overcome the odds and secure their ticket to the prestigious CAF Champions League, fueled by the unwavering determination of their interim head coach and the fervent support of their loyal fans.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

