



WILDLIFE



VILLAGERS DECRY RISE IN HYENAS' ATTACKS PAGE 3

HEALTH



MNH-MLOGANZILA LAB RECOGNISED PAGE 4

HIV/AIDS



CHILDREN ASSURED OF ARVS PAGE 6

AGRICULTURE



'GO FOR IMPROVED SORGHUM SEEDS' PAGE 7

Majaliwa says profiteering by big businesses inflating prices

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has blamed recent hikes in the prices of food and construction materials on big traders out to make quick profit, warning that the government is closely monitoring them.

He made a remark to that effect during the weekly 'Questions to the Prime Minister' session in the National Assembly here yesterday.

He was responding to a question from Msalala legislator Iddi Kassim, who raised concern over the ongoing rises in the prices of various goods

such as sugar, edible oil, flour and construction materials.

The PM said there was improper price hiking on some essential items that was caused by unscrupulous big businesspeople who have been devising and implementing strategies to that end for their own good.

"The government has made a lot of efforts to improve the business environment and ensure that investors and traders conduct their activities smoothly but, strangely, some of them have decided to play around with the people by hiking

TURN TO PAGE 2



President Samia Suluhu Hassan has a word with various officials on Wednesday shortly after arriving in Paris for a three-day Heads of State summit on marine resources in the Brest, France. Officially known as the first One Ocean Summit, it will seek to step up the international community's ambition on maritime issues and put into practice humankind's shared responsibility for the oceans. Photo: State House



NTBs removal bolsters trading across borders

By Guardian Reporter, Namanga

BILATERAL trade between Tanzania and Kenya hit a record \$905.5m in the January to November 2021 period, thanks to efforts by the two governments to eliminate non-tariff barriers (NTBs).

John Bosco Kalisa (pictured), chief executive officer for the East African Business Council (EABC) said yesterday that Kenya's imports from Tanzania stood at \$501m and exports reached \$403.9m, on the basis of EAC customs data.

At an EABC trade facilitation forum at the Namanga one-stop border post (OSBP) he applauded presidents Samia Suluhu Hassan and Uhuru Kenyatta for eliminating the nauseating barriers, at the forum

supported by the German development cooperation group GIZ, which operates the 'Supporting East African market-driven and people-centred integration' (SEAMPEIC) programme.

The Namanga OSBP Kenya o station manager said the number of trucks cleared daily at the border has increased threefold to 250 compared those crossing the border in May 2020.

However, leaders of the freight forwarders association urged the separation of the Import Declaration Form (IDF) from the Integrated Customs Management System (ICMS) for Kenya and set up a permanent cargo scanner at the border to facilitate rapid clearing of vehicles.

Daniel Wainaina, the chairman of the Kenya International Freight and Warehousing Association (KIFWA), said the clearing cost of cargo on the Kenyan side has increased by 70 percent due to multiple processes and departments. For 20metric tonnes of cargo, the clearing cost is approximately \$200 which results in lower competitiveness, he stated.

Gerald Masila, the East African Grain Council CEO, said the council spearheaded the development of

TURN TO PAGE 2

Govt lifts ban on four newspapers

By Guardian Reporter

FOUR Kiswahili newspapers, Tanzania Daima, Mawio, MwanaHalisi and Mseto, are now at liberty to hit the streets again following the government's decision to unban them.

Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Nape Nnauye announced the decision at a meeting with editors in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The newspapers were banned in 2017, associated with breaches of media laws and professional ethics, more specifically for what was termed "dissemination of false information" and "threatening national security".

The minister said the lifting of the ban was in implementation of an order by President Samia



We urge all authorities and stakeholders to remove all restrictions on media outlets and allow journalists to operate freely

Suluhu Hassan to his ministry to restore the licences of some media outlets.

"I'm told you revoked the licences of some media outlets, including some online television stations. You should lift the ban, but tell them to follow the law and laid down guidelines," the president said at State House in Dar es Salaam during the April 2021 swearing-in of ministerial permanent secretaries she had just appointed.

Nnauye said his ministry has received President Samia's order "as law and must be enforced," adding: "The President's order is a law and must be enforced. Today I will restore licences to four banned newspapers."

"It's good to start a new chapter. The ban has run its course. Let the work continue," Nnauye said yesterday, cheered on by the editors and journalists at the meeting.

Commenting on the development, Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF) chairman Deodatus Balile appealed to the government to so amend the country's media laws as to make them meet international criteria.

The Tanzania Chapter of the Media Institute of Tanzania (MISA-Tan) meanwhile expressed

TURN TO PAGE 2

EAC signs pact for swifter development at grassroots

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE East African Community (EAC) has entered into an agreement with the Tanzania Local Governments Association (TLGA) and the East African Local Governments Association (EALGA), the idea being to speed up the implementation of development projects at the grassroots level.

This is according to a statement made here yesterday by Innocent Bashungwa (pictured), Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments).

It was shortly before the signing of the pact with EALGA, an umbrella body comprising the six EAC member states, at a three-day meeting called to discuss various issues related to the provision of services to the EAC member states.



"I congratulate EAC and EALGA on this big milestone reached in signing such an important agreement that will bring a single direction in providing services to all people in the region," said the minister.

He added: "With regard to the delegation of the responsibilities for the EAC states, Tanzania has been leading, because many development projects under implementation are mooted by the people themselves."

Bashungwa also noted that it was ten years since the founding of EALGA, "and already there are many discernible achievements to be proud of in our six member states, among them the exchange of experiences and the delegation of responsibilities to the people".

He said alongside having the people themselves mooted projects, local councils have been legally empowered to collect internal revenues and budgeting the funds for various development projects in the said local councils.

Elaborating on the agreement, EAC Secretary General Dr Peter Mathuki said it chiefly sought to "put in place strategies to

TURN TO PAGE 2



9 770856 542009 >

Majaliwa says profiteering by big businesses inflating prices

FROM PAGE 1

prices without any valid reasons," the PM told the House.

He elaborated: "The government is responsible for ensuring fair competition in the market by controlling weak or oppressive dynamics and procedures as well as traders arbitrarily hiking the prices of commodities and services in the country. We have taken a lot of measures, including reducing taxes and levies to enable the traders to conduct their businesses well, but our efforts seem to be unproductive as some dishonest traders are all out to get more and hurt poor Tanzanians."

The PM then directed the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) to conduct research and make a close follow-up on producers and traders to ensure that prices are not hiked without observing laid down procedures.

"FCC should conduct intensive inspection of factories and traders to know the reasons behind the rapid increases in the prices of the commodities and services and then monitor them to ensure that the prices are stabilised," he said.

He said the government will not hesitate to take stern measures against producers, suppliers and traders found hiking the price without concrete reasons.

The PM meanwhile called on the public to promote environmental conservation as a way of easing the impact of climate change, including severe drought.

"Tanzanians are duty-bound to work together in conserving and promoting the environment by desisting from conducting destructive activities such as agriculture, livestock keeping and tree felling particularly along water sources," he said.

He was responding to a question by legislator Leah Komanya (Special Seats), who had wanted to know the government's strategy in fighting the

severe drought that she said has hit several parts of the country and is threatening the survival of both people and animals.

The PM acknowledged that some parts of the country have been experiencing severe drought, especially during the dry season, and the government was collaborating with various stakeholders "in sustainable efforts to address all these challenges".

"The drought-induced challenges facing various parts in the country were caused by several reasons, including climate change, deforestation and other human activities that destroy the environment."

He added: "In order to address these challenges, Tanzanians themselves must stop degrading the environment and instead help support the government's efforts by conserving the environment."

He gave the example of the ongoing environmental destruction in and around villages living near the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, threatening the world-famous park and the wildlife it is historically home to.

"Human activities will help in fighting challenges to the environment, including droughts, but only if those activities are properly regulated," he said.



Human activities will help in fighting challenges to the environment, including droughts, but only if those activities are properly regulated



Lebbius Tangeni Tobias (L), Namibia's High Commissioner to Tanzania who is also accredited to the East African Community (EAC), presents his credentials to EAC Secretary General Dr Peter Mathuki at the regional economic bloc's headquarters in Arusha on Tuesday. Photo: EAC

FROM PAGE 1

joy over the unbanning of the four publications, welcomed the decision of the government to lift a ban on four newspapers.

It commended minister Nnauye for having kept his word on the formation of a team comprising government officials and media practitioners to review the Media Services Act, 2016, with a view to amending the existing pieces of legislation on the media.

Govt lifts ban on four newspapers

"We urge all authorities and stakeholders to remove all restrictions on media outlets and allow journalists to operate freely," said MISA-Tanzania in a statement.

It added: "MISA-Tanzania appreciates overtures made by the government to improve access to information, freedom of expression and that of the

media. But more work needs to be done on that front."

The agency expressed readiness to work with the government "in broadening basic right and freedoms", including the proposed amendments of the Media Services Act.

Mawio was banned after publishing an article that linked former presidents

to controversial mining contracts and Tanzania Daima for was referred to as "continuous publication of false information".

MwanaHalisi, for its part, was banned for two years after running an article that compared the then president, Dr John Magufuli, with fiery opposition politician Tundu Lissu.

EAC signs pact for swifter development at grassroots

FROM PAGE 1

work together to enable people in the member states to be happy with EAC's existence".

He said the regional economic bloc of some 90 million people had made itself proud when its Council of Ministers recently granted the Democratic Republic of Congo's request to join it.

EALGA Secretary General Getrude Gwamela thanked EAC for endorsing

the agreement, noting that EAC member countries will now have the opportunity of putting into place unified plans in the provision of basic services to the people via their respective local governments.

He also praised the Government of Tanzania for having successfully tabled in the African Union' recent meeting in Addis Ababa a motion pleading that Kiswahili become one of the official languages for use African countries.

NTBs removal bolsters trading across borders

FROM PAGE 1

harmonised EAC standards on grains and cereals, common standards on sampling and testing, to boost cross-border trade of cereals.

The traders called for more staff to be deployed at the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA) of Kenya to facilitate approval of pre-applications of maize import from Tanzania and joint testing of aflatoxins to be undertaken preferably in Arusha to reduce the number of rejections at the border.

Paloma Fernanda, the Cereal Millers Association CEO, urged for a joint campaign on tackling aflatoxins from farm level and post-harvest losses.

Sarah Keiya and Alice Lemowo, chairpersons of Women Cross Border Traders, urged the Tanzanian government to allow the use of national identity cards as travel documents, set up a daycare center for children, sensitization and capacity building on customs procedures plus exports of beaded jewelry to overseas markets.

Peter Musiba of the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) said that TBS is tackling aflatoxins whereas it has established testing centers in several areas across the country such as Dodoma, Shinyanga and Singida regions to facilitate trade in cereals.

Dr Irene Musebe, an official of the Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development in Kenya, said that Kenya and Tanzania have

strong trade ties. The ministry is setting up a community market near the Namanga border post to support cross-border trade, he stated.

Women cross-border traders shall have a stall at the market, she stated, while Eugenia Mwesumo of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation said that the EAC Common Market is alive and well with improved trade facilitation, underscoring the role of border agencies in easing trade flows.

Challenges facing traders at the Namanga OSBP include lack of mutual recognition of product standards, system failures leading to delays in issuance of C4 documents, multiple roadblocks on both sides and cargo scanner failures leading to cargo trucks traffic jams, participants noted.

The forum recommended regular joint border management committee meetings, simplification and publication of customs procedures, a trade information desk for women cross-border traders, capacity building programs to tackle aflatoxins and transform aflatoxin-infected cereals into ethanol and industrial glue.

The forum was attended by around 70 delegates from the EAC affairs ministries, trade facilitation agencies, importers, exporters, transporters and freight forwarders, the Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry, women cross-border traders and GIZ.



Tanzania Education Authority director general Bahati Geuzye (R) and BRAC-Maendeleo Tanzania country director Susan Bipa pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday signing an MoU on partnership in improving the learning and teaching environment in the country. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Bodaboda, Bajaj riders reminded on payment of transport licence fees

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

THE land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) in Shinyanga Region has cautioned motorcycle (bodaboda) and tricycle (Bajaj) drivers to stop evading paying transport license fees and other charges, the practice that denies the government of its revenue.

LATRA senior official in the region, Bahati Musiba when speaking at a training seminar involved Bodaboda

and Bajaj drivers in Shinyanga Municipality.

Organised by the Property and Business Formalisation Programme (PBFP-MKURABITA), the one-day training was aimed at building the capacity for them on how to conduct their business by adhering to the country's laws and regulations.

Musiba said a big percentage of bodaboda and Bajaj drivers have not been paying transport license fees and other charges administered

by the Authority denying the government of its revenue for national development projects including road construction and maintenance.

Shinyanga District Traffic Officer (DTO) Dezidery Kaigwa, speaking at the seminar, called on the drivers to abide by traffic laws and stop at high speed, especially at zebra pedestrian crossings that are prone to accidents.

Harvey Kombe, an expert from PBFP headquarters said they have provided

the training to empower bodaboda and Bajaj drivers in Shinyanga Municipality, as well as other business people to officially conduct their activities for the national economic growth.

He said the training has also incorporated various financial institutions that would provide them opportunities for loans to enable them to increase the number of the bodaboda and Bajaj they own.

For their part, at different times, bodaboda and Bajaj drivers expressed their pleasure in regard to the training given and pledged to abide by traffic laws and regulations.

They also called on financial institutions to ease conditions for them to access loans.



Nipashe daily newspaper deputy managing editor Epton Luhwago briefs Fire and Rescue Force members on newspaper production. The delegation was on a familiarisation tour of The Guardian Ltd newsroom and other facilities in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Residents of Msalala decry rise in rogue hyena attacks

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

RESIDENTS of Ntobo Ward in Msalala Council, Kahama District, Shinyanga Region have asked the Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA) to capture and translocate hyenas away from human habitat following frequent children attacks and killings.

Two children were attacked and killed by the animals within three months, a situation which has caused panic among the residents.

Ntobo Ward Councillor, David Mlyandili made the revelation yesterday during a full council meeting held in Msalala, noting the hyenas have been mostly attacking children.

He said despite the wildlife's department efforts to capture and translocate the animals; two children have been attacked and killed between November last year and February 2022.

"Wildlife officers are struggling to control the animals from attacking Ntobo residents; we are appealing for more support from TAWA to save our children from being killed

prematurely," said Mlyandili.

Msalala Council Wildlife Officer, Salehe Juma said: "We requested help from the agency but we are yet to receive the officers. Authorities promised to bring wildlife experts who will take them away from our habitats."

He urged the residents especially children to stop walking at night because the hyenas walk in large numbers thus becoming difficult to control.

Msalala Council Director, Charles Fussi called upon parents to closely monitor their children's movements, especially during the night.

Msalala Police Chief, Thomas Kiondo urged officers to conduct patrols day and night and ensure the use of weapons whenever they cross the animals. "It is easier to deal with the wild animals when you have a weapon. May I urge you to apply for permits to use various weapons whenever the animals invade your habitat," he said, adding that human-wildlife conflicts have also been reported in other wards in the district.

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

MP wants Tanesco separated into three firms for efficiency

KINONDONI Member of Parliament, Abbas Tarimba has urged the government to split the Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) into three companies so as to help fight power blues which has been facing the country for years.

The MP proposed that the national power utility company should be divided by splitting it into two or three firms in order to increase the efficiency of producing, distributing and connecting electricity, citing that the ongoing power cuts were causing much harm to people's economic activities.

The lawmaker raised the concern yesterday in the Parliament during the impromptu questions posed to Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa.

"The TANESCO has been overwhelmed as it has been carrying out a huge work of producing, connecting

and supplying power, a move which affects its efficiency, so I propose that the company be divided into two or three were one would be engaged in the production of electricity, while the other company should undertake the power distribution or supply function," Tarimba said.

Responding, the Prime Minister acknowledged that TANESCO was doing all the work of producing, connecting and supplying but all this was due to the broader interest of the country.

He however assured the MPs and Tanzanians that the power supply

in the country will be strengthened in the near future as the government was conducting improvements in production areas as well as the implementation of other power production projects.

"We have instructed TANESCO to conduct research on how to address equipment and plant challenges facing the company as well as come up with recommendations which would help address the gaps and stabilize power supply in the country."

He further said that the government is planning to ensure that by December,

this year; all villages will be connected to power.

Last week, Minister for Energy January Makamba told the House that the government was preparing a special financing plan so as to connect power to all the remaining 37,610 hamlets within four years.

Makamba acknowledged that so far only 42 percent of the 64,760 hamlets in the country have been connected to power. According to him, a total of 7.4trn/- budget is needed so as to ensure that all the remaining hamlets are connected to power.

The minister further explained that the severe power rationing will drastically go down due to three major reasons which include the increase of the water level in dams due to the ongoing rains across the country and renovations done in various power supply centres in the country.

"Since we are now increasing the capacity of gas power plants, this problem is going to end," Makamba assured, adding that even hydropower plants would effectively produce electricity since the dams now have good water levels," he explained.

BUSINESS PREMISES FOR LONG TERM LEASE [15-20 YEARS] OR SALE

THE PREMISES ARE MORE THAN 5,800 SQUARE METERS WHICH IS LOCATED ALONG SIDE MANDELA HIGH WAY JUST NEAR NATIONAL STADIUM DAR ES SALAAM.

[The highest offer secures]

CONTACT: 0762215470 MR. MATHIAS 0682 243 694 MR VALENCE



STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE 6 MONTHS PERIOD OF 01ST JULY – 31ST DECEMBER 2021

Publishing of this Statement of Receipts and Expenditure is made in accordance with regulation 13(a) of the Non-Government Organization Act (Amendments), Regulation 2018 which requires Non-Governmental Organizations receiving funds exceeding Tshs. 20 Million to publish bi-annual the funds received and its expenditure.

RECEIPTS	ACTUAL
Opening fund balance	56,940,075
RECEIPTS FROM DONORS	
Disbursement from Donors	294,328,844
RECEIPTS FROM OTHERS	
Others	2,590,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS	353,858,919
EXPENDITURE	
Reliable, Concrete and up to date information on Land and Natural resources	17,433,340
Increased Access to reliable, concrete and up to date information on land and natural resources matters	35,960,374
Enhanced Knowledge base and Citizens participation in policy and decision making process on land and natural resources	132,175,090
Strengthening partnership with likeminded local and International on land rights, women's land rights, environment and climate change resilience	2,074,000
Secured and protected citizen/communities rights through Village LUP	18,238,209
Securing programme equipment and services	34,814,829
Other programme costs	5,000,000
Improved HAKIARDHI Institutional Governance	51,278,000
Ensured availability of resources and improve Financial Management system	14,832,502
Improved quality of HAKIARDHI interventions	21,926,081
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	333,732,425
FUND BALANCE	20,126,495

FUND BALANCE: Funds committed for program implementation for the year 2022



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT
TANZANIA SHIPPING AGENCIES CORPORATION
TASAC



PUBLIC NOTICE

INVITATION TO A STAKEHOLDERS' MEETING TO COLLECT VIEWS ON APPLICATIONS TO REVIEW INLAND CONTAINER DEPOTS TARIFF ORDER NO. SMTRA/3/2009

The Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) has received applications from operators of Inland Clearance Depots (ICDs) to review Tariff Order No. SMTRA/3/2009 for Inland Clearance Depots. The Applications have been submitted to the Corporation in accordance with the Tanzania Shipping Agencies (Tariff) Regulations, 2020. The Applicants argue that, the Applications seek to recover costs connected with transferring containers from Dar es Salaam Port terminals to ICDs.

The Corporation has arranged a stakeholders' meeting in Dar es Salaam to collect views on the Applications as required by Section 29 of the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act, CAP 415. The Meeting is scheduled to start at 10.00 am on Thursday, 17th February 2022, at the National College of Tourism (NCT).

By this notice, all interested stakeholders are invited to participate in the Meeting. Copies of duly submitted Applications can be viewed at TASAC Head Office on working days from 10.00 am to 3.30 pm. Stakeholders who wish to express their views on the Applications during the Meeting are requested to register with the Corporation electronically through tariff@tasac.go.tz.

Views on the Applications can as well be submitted in written form through tariff@tasac.go.tz or be posted to the Director General, TASAC, P. O. Box 989, Dar es Salaam. In any case, views on the Applications must be received not later than 25th February, 2022.

Issued by
Director General,
TASAC

11th February, 2022

PPF Tower Building 7th and 8th Floor, Plot No. 20/21, Garden Avenue/Ohio Street,
P. O. Box 989, Dar es Salaam - Tanzania, Tel: +255 222 127 314,
Email: dg@tasac.go.tz, info@tasac.go.tz, Website: www.tasac.go.tz

MNH-Mloganzila labs get global recognition

By Correspondent James Kandoya

MUHIMBILI National Hospital-Mloganzila laboratory has been worldwide recognized after receiving International Standard Organization (ISO) accreditation certificate from the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Services (SADCAS).

MNH Director General Professor Lawrence Museru said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the decision came after SADCAS certified the quality of 17 test scopes assessed and accredited.

Prof Museru said the criteria used were the guidelines, laboratories capacity, efficiency, medical supplies and laboratory infrastructure for 17 test scopes.

He said currently, the MNH-Mloganzila laboratory, performs 400 tests per day while the full capacity can be over 1000 tests per day.

DG Museru said further that the 17 test scopes were tested, assessed, certified and found to meet international standards as per the ISO 15189:2012.

Prof Museru said results of different testing scopes from the Mloganzila laboratory are now recognized internationally and can be used by authorities or any institution in the world.

Mloganzila laboratory will be a center for training and research of microbiology due to its quality services, the official said.

"Our laboratory can receive samples and test scopes from any country across the globe and offer test scopes on time," he said.

"I would like to thank the government for the continuous efforts to ensure our laboratory meets its goal of offering services across the globe," he added.

DG Museru explained that the Ministry for Health had already set strategies to improve laboratory services in the country to meet international standards.

According to him, the improvement

in laboratories targeted to improve 25 laboratories across the country adding that MNH-Mloganzila laboratory was among them implementing the strategy.

He said out of those, MNH-Mloganzila has become the first out of 25 laboratories having a wide scope of 17 test scopes assessed and accredited compared to the others.

"Our laboratory performs its action plan of ensuring services are improved to increase accredited testing scopes for the financial year 2022/23," he said.

MNH-Mloganzila Laboratory Quality Officer Lanja Kahemela said the whole accreditation process involved 17 testing scopes assessed and certified.

He named some of the tests performed by the laboratory as clinical chemistry, microbiology, hematology, serology and parasitology, microbiology, hepatitis and blood bank.

"Our laboratory performs tests using the latest technology to cope with global advance changes in technology," he said.



Our laboratory performs its action plan of ensuring services are improved to increase accredited testing scopes for the financial year 2022/23



Seed inspectors from the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) conduct characterisation for grapevine lines at the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute at Makutupora in Dodoma Region (TARI-Makutupora). Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Government wants agencies to rehabilitate all damaged roads

By Getrude Mbagu, Dodoma

THE government has directed the Tanzania Roads Agency (TANROADS) and Urban and Rural Roads Agency (TARURA) to immediately commence an inspection exercise to identify all damaged roads so as to rehabilitate them.

This came after the Speaker of the National Assembly, Dr Tulia Ackson demanded the government to instruct the responsible institutions and officials to address the ongoing complaints on damaged road infrastructures.

Dr Tulia also wanted the responsible ministries to stand in the House and issue a statement on strategies and plans that were put in place to construct and rehabilitate roads in the country.

Her reaction came following concerns raised by several Members of Parliament (MPs) on Wednesday during the questions and answers session on the devastating situation of roads in their constituency.

"The government should tell us on what is going on as we have been receiving complaints from citizens

on the poor status of roads especially during the rainy season, so issue directives to the supervisors including TANROADS and TARURA so as to ensure that the roads are constructed so as to facilitate smooth transportation of people and goods for the country's development," Dr Tulia said.

In response to this, the deputy minister for Works and Transport Godfrey Kasekenya stood up and directed TANROADS to wake up and ensure that all the road projects are completed on time.

Lawmakers were concerned over

delayed construction of roads in the areas, something which leads to poor transportation.

David Siliinde, Deputy Minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government also directed all regional managers of TARURA in the country to come out of their offices proceed to the field and inspect the situation of roads for the government to take required steps.

"All TARURA managers in all councils should commence inspection of roads immediately and report to the ministry on the areas which need rehabilitation," he said.

The deputy minister also assured the Speaker that her directives will be implemented and a report will be brought in the House.

DAR ES SALAAM MARITIME INSTITUTE (DMI)



ADMISSION INTO MASTER PROGRAMMES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023

The Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI), invites applications for admission into the following Master Degree Programmes for March window intake from suitably qualifying candidate for the 2022/2023 Academic Year.

The Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) evening sessions. March intake window is now open and qualified applicants can start applying to join. Sessions will commence on 04th April, 2022. Deadline for application is 20th March, 2022

1. Master Degree in International Trade and Maritime Law

Programme Structure:

Master's Degree in International Trade and Maritime Law is a two-year full time course comprises of 17 modules comprising 14 compulsory modules and 3 elective modules. The student will accomplish study by submitting a dissertation in Semester four.

Entry Requirements:

Applicants will be required to have a Bachelor of Law, Bachelor in Banking/Commerce, Finance, Shipping and Logistics, Transport and Supply Chain and Marine Engineering and Technology with minimum GPA 2.7; OR A holder of Advanced Diploma in Maritime Transport/Marine Engineering GPA 3.0

2. Master Degree In Marine Engineering Management

Programme Structure:

Master in Marine Engineering Management is a 24 months full time course. The programme comprises a total of 15 modules and 4 elective modules. Students will be required to attend 15 modules (including dissertation) and 1 elective module. A module is covered within one semester of 15 teaching weeks and 2 weeks for institute semester examination to make 17 weeks. The programme will be covered within four semesters.

Entry Requirements:

Applicants will be required to have any bachelor of A Bachelor of Marine Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Automobile Engineering, Naval Architecture and Ship Building, Offshore Engineering, Petroleum Engineering or Electrical Engineering with minimum GPA of 2.7 OR A holder of Advanced Diploma in Marine Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Automobile Engineering or Electronics Engineering with Minimum GPA of 3.0

MODE OF APPLICATION:

- Applicants are required to complete their applications Online by visiting Admission System www.osim.dmi.ac.tz
- Applicants to all of the above postgraduate programmes must be accompanied by a non-refundable application fee of TZS. 50,000/= (for local applicants) or USD 50 for foreign applicants.
- All applications must be accompanied by certified copies of relevant academic and non-academic certificates including birth certificate or National Identity

For more enquiries, please contact:

The Principal,
Dar-es-Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI),
19 Sokoine Drive, Opposite to City Hall,
P.O. Box. 6727,
DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA.
Telephone: +255 22 2133645, +255 22 2112478
Fax: +255 22 2112600
Website: www.dmi.ac.tz
Email: info@dmi.ac.tz

For more information please call: +255 688 941 921 or +255 757 670

Minister: Govt mulling plan for 'street children' removal

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

THE government says it will come up with a special plan that will enable the removal of street children and prevent those at homes to remain with their parents or guardians.

It also says it is preparing a plan to eradicate gender based violence and child abuse in the country.

Speaking here this week at the Launching the special centre for the upkeep of street children at Mirongo Market in Nyamagana District, Mwanza Region, Dr Dorothy Gwajima, Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups said that the system will assist in eradicating the issue of street children.

Dr Gwajima said there are many

reasons that contribute to the existence of street children including being subjected to violence by parents and families' abject poverty.

She added that via the proposed system, the government will make sure all children live at home instead of roaming in the streets.

The Minister cited other reasons contributing to the existence of street children including relatives swindling of assets of widowers that make mothers fail to rear the children.

In regard to gender based violence and child abuse, she said the government will empower families with children in the streets to become financially sound.

She said many families fail to up-bring their children due to financial

challenges that spur children to flee homes to towns.

She added that her ministry safeguards all community groups including children, women, people with disabilities and elders to make sure they live well secure lives.

Yasin Ally, Managing Director of the institution that defends women and children's rights said they have started fighting gender based violence by assisting women market traders.

He said market areas are among places with gender based violence and that they have started by providing education and creating a friendly environment for conducting their trade as well as providing capital to some of them.

He added that his organisation has assisted in constructing a building at Mirongo market to be used for mothers' breastfeeding of their babies.



A Kinyali Primary School student receives fruit tree seedlings from Fortunata Tarimo (in light blue T-shirt), a project officer with Inades Formation Tanzania, on behalf of the school's Donkey Welfare Students Club of Migoli ward in Iringa District yesterday. This is under a campaign meant to address the challenges of climate change being implemented in villages across the ward. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya



Stephen Adili (2nd-L), CRDB Bank Plc's head of consumer banking, presents to this year's Bongo Star Search winner Yohana Braison Mwayinga (R) 10m/- at a ceremony held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Witnessing the event are BenchMark managing director and BSS organiser Ritta Paulsen (2nd-R) and CRDB Azikiwe branch (Dar es Salaam) manager Hamis Saleh. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Force in new public education drive on basic firefighting skills

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE Fire and Rescue Force has embarked on a campaign to educate the public on basic fire fighting skills including the safe and effective use of different types of fire extinguishers through digital platforms.

The force resolved to use digital platforms as the easiest and fastest way to reach a good number of people.

The force's spokesperson, Puyo Nzalayaimisi said yesterday during her tour at IPP Media offices in Dar es Salaam.

Nzalayaimisi said that technological changes have pushed many people to start using their smartphones to get

news through various social networks, hence the need for the force to use the platforms to provide education on preventive measures especially during fire outbreaks.

"The world has changed as good people are now depending on social networks to get information. We have seen this and we are starting our digital platforms to raise awareness on fire outbreaks as well as preventive measures.

She added: "Most Tanzanians still lack even the elementary knowledge of what to do during or when caught in a fire, so sensitising and educating them is vital as it can save lives."

Nzalayaimisi noted that it is the force's responsibility to ensure that

everyone is reached with the right information and education on fire prevention and fire fighting.

She said that a survey they conducted showed that digital platforms are the easiest to reach the public, adding, using them for educational purposes would be beneficial.

The official appreciated the role played by other Media such as radios, televisions and newspapers in informing and educating the public on preventive measures during fire outbreaks.

The force would continue doing the most it could in making members of the public know how to prevent and overcome fire outbreaks, said Nzalayaimisi.

TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LTD (TIPER)



INVITATION TO BID FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF LIFELINE SYSTEM AT TIPER GANTRY

11 February 2022

- Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd (TIPER) is a bulk fuel storage facility with its share divided equally between the Government of Tanzania and Oryx Energies SA. The Company office is located at Kigamboni Industrial Area, Depot site-plot 1, Dar es Salaam-Tanzania.
- TIPER hereby invites via National Competitive Bidding (NCB) technically qualified and reputable suppliers to bid for **SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF LIFELINE SYSTEM AT TIPER GANTRY**.
- Supplier /Service provider firms eligible to bid must provide evidence of supplying and installing similar lifeline to other reputable organizations.
- All hardcopies of bids must be properly filled in and enclosed in plain envelopes marked Tender No: **TP/02/2022/NCB/GS/001 FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF LIFELINE SYSTEM AT TIPER GANTRY**. A bid shall contain technical and commercial proposals. Technical and commercial proposals each to be enclosed in a single envelopes and inside bid document marked "Technical Proposal" and "Financial Proposal" respectively (Each proposal with one original and one copy respectively). All bid documents must be addressed and delivered to the **Tender Committee Secretary, Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd. P.O. Box 2608, Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**.
- Interested and eligible bidders may request electronic copy of tender document through the following email: tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz or may obtain a hard copy of tender document at TIPER PROCUREMENT OFFICE on **Mondays to Fridays at 10:00AM to 16:00PM**.
- Bidders are highly encouraged to attend pre-bid meeting and site visit on Wednesday, **16th February, 2022** between 09:30 hours and 11:00 hours where services will be provided and examined to obtain all information that may be necessary for preparing the proposal.
- Deadline for submission will be **24th February, 2022 at 16.00 hours**.
- Bids opening will be conducted in the presence of tender committee only, formed by the company. There shall be NO public opening of bids.
- Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids will not be considered for evaluation irrespective of circumstances.
- TIPER reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any bid.

Secretary Tender Committee
Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd
P.O Box 2608, Kigamboni Depot site-1
Dar es Salaam-Tanzania

Mollel wants Dodoma city to place emphasis on hygiene, conservation

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Deputy Minister for Health, Dr Godwin Mollel, has challenged Dodoma city authority to put more emphasis on environmental hygiene and conservation, saying environment related diseases cost the nation a lot of money.

He said the city fathers have earned respect for implementing by-laws that require residents to adopt specific roofing colors according to their wards, noting that such efforts should be directed to environmental matters.

Dr Mollel argued that city residents' response to the new changes is a sign that if well encouraged on environment sanitation and conservation they are likely to do a lot. "If you manage to convince people to stick to roofing colour allocated to different wards, why not do the same on environment?"

the deputy minister wondered.

He was speaking after touring the Mavunde market in the Changombe area in the city where he inspected the hygiene standard of the market, being part of the week-long event to mark the launch of the 2021 National Environmental Policy.

The deputy minister observed that it is high time every resident takes seriously the issue of tree planting and environmental conservation.

After the tour, the deputy minister expressed satisfaction with the hygiene standard, calling on to maintain the trend in all markets within the city. During the visit he witnessed traders in the market being trained on how to differentiate wastes produced at the market.

Speaking at the event, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of State, Vice President's Office, Union

and Environment, Dr Mary Maganga said the visit to the market was part of the environmental activities set for the week.

She said the aim of the visit was to help remind the traders at the market on the best practices in waste disposal, specifically on how to differentiate hard waste from others, disposable from non-disposables.

On the new policy, she said "The new policy has in totality focused on new increasing environmental challenges due to economic, social and environmental developments in the world".

Speaking on behalf of the City Executive Director, Joseph Mafuru, City Health Officer, Abdallah Mahia said the week-long campaign ahead of the launch of the national policy is just a continuation of the existing efforts to make the city clean.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFQ Title: Procurement of Group Life Insurance Services

RFQ Number: 2022-PACT/02/01

Date of Solicitation: 11th February 2022

Closing Date and Time: 25th February 2022, 11:00 am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Questions and Clarifications: Due by 24th February 2022

Estimated Delivery/ Performance Date: 30th September 2022.

Introduction to Pact:

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

Overall Objective:

The overall objective of this assignment is to procure an insurers provider who will be providing group life assurance to all Pact Tanzania Staff.

A. Requirement/ Scope of Work

The specific scope of work includes but should not be limited to the following:

- To work with assigned Pact Tanzania Officers on all communications related to enrolment
- To issue all additional computation workings and invoices on time so that the respective payments can be made timely.
- To ensure all payments of claims are made timely

Timeframe

This insurance cover is expected to be from 1st April 2022 to 30th September 2023.

Expected Deliverables

The interested service provider should be able to provide the following insurance services for 170 + staff with the following benefits.

- All Death Benefits, including natural death (at the rate of 2 annual salaries per staff)
- Disability Benefits (at the rate of 2 annual salaries per staff)
 - Permanent and Total Disability (include payment schedule for claim)
 - Accidental Permanent Partial Disability (include payment schedule for claim)
- Funeral Benefit

Interested vendors should request the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through email with the subject line "**TOR for Procurement of Group Life Insurance Services**" to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org before **24th February 2022**.

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org with the subject line "**Request for Clarification: Procurement of Group Life Insurance Services**" before **24th February 2022**.

B. Eligibility

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

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

C. Submission Instructions

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

- Draft inception report detailing your understanding of the ToR, the methodology and how you plan to execute the insurance assignment, tentative work plan, and timeframe. Include the proposed budget in TZS.
- Current company profile.
- Copies of registration, certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TIN certificates, Tax clearance certificate, and any industry-relevant permit or certificate.
- Evidence of similar assignments and at least three (3) names and addresses of clients served (preferably those in the international NGO sector).
- Current two consecutive audited financial statement.
- Submit a proposal detailing your understanding of the ToR, methodology for monitoring the education subsidies exercise, how you plan to execute the insurance assignment, tentative work plan, and timeframe. Include the proposed budget in TZS.
- Quote, valid for at least 90 days
- On-boarding time must be specified.
- Payment terms 100% after on-boarding

Vendors who wish to answer this RFP should send their proposals in sealed envelopes to Pact Tanzania Head Office by **25th February 2022, 11:00 am**. All sealed envelopes need to be marked as: "**Procurement of Group Life Insurance Services**."

Office Address :

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

Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.

Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted

As mentioned above, all quotations and delivery dates shall be valid for at least 90 days following the submission.

PACT will open all bids on **25th February 2022 at 11.30 am** in the presence of Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

Govt endorses ARV regimen for children

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

OVER 8,000 children under eight years of age in five regions who are HIV positive placed under antiretroviral (ARV) treatment are assured of better health following the government's endorsement of special drugs for their treatment.

Dr Theopista Jacob, a consultant on children and youth from the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation (EGPAF-Tanzania) noted this in an interview at midweek on how children's HIV treatment is being improved.

Dr Jacob cited a number of children were receiving ARV treatment for five years through the USAID uplift health project in Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Dodoma, Manyara, Singida and Tabora regions, with 446 centres in the various regions.

Following the improvement of HIV treatment in children, EGPAF through their new comprehensive client centered health program HIV and Tuberculosis (C3HP) expects to continue serving children, she stated.

Until recently there were no friendly

drugs for children under eight years old but the government has endorsed to start providing friendlier drugs to children, in which case this endorsement will be of great help, the specialist noted.

The drug has been a great saviour even for adults who originally failed to use it, as the drug endorsed for children will be 10mg, administered to children weighing three kilograms and above.

In the project, parents will be closely followed up to make sure fetuses are prevented from being born HIV positive, she stated, using the occasion to call on the community to take note that the main preoccupation of a child is playing and games facilitate children in the way they grow, elaborating that in the project, the foundation shall work together with local councils to identify children with HIV and to closely follow them up.

Dr Charles Shija, the coordinator of the HIV/Aids Control in Manyara Region, said in an interview that the drugs have been in use since 2018 and are available at all centres countrywide.



Home Affairs deputy minister Jumanne Sagini (L) has a quick word with Nkenge constituency legislator Florent Kyombo (R) in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

MPs: Kilombero Valley should be national park

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE National Assembly has highlighted several issues on land, forests and tourism, calling on the government to come up with robust plans and strategies to improve those sectors.

Among other things, they urged the government to upgrade the Kilombero Valley into a national park to help strengthen security and prevent human activities affecting the valley.

Ally Makoa, the chairman of the parliamentary committee on Land, Natural Resources and Tourism, said in a presentation that the valley was facing a number of challenges which of late have been endangering the valley ecosystem.

He highlighted activities around a human invasion with people establishing settlements, improper land use as well as fishing, agriculture and livestock keeping, causing huge destruction in the valley and thus affecting its biodiversity.

"This is why the committee is advising the government to upgrade this valley so as to strengthen security and restore biodiversity," he said.

The increase in human activities in the Kilombero valley has negative impacts in the country's strategic projects such as the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and the Julius Nyerere hydropower project (JNHPP) which depends on water and power for success, he said.

The valley has seen an overall decline in wildlife abundance and diversity due to human activities and climate change, playing a crucial role in providing essential goods and services like food provision, timber and tourism, plus delivering water for hydropower.

"This is why the committee is emphasizing more efforts that would support restoring and preserving

the rich biodiversity of the valley through supporting communities in stopping practices that contribute to its degradation are important in securing and preserving the health of the valley," he said.

Concerning the Ngorongoro National Park, the committee advised the government to find solutions to help conserve the park and fight the ongoing destruction of nature and the environment in the park.

"We know that the government has been using the multiple land use system which allows some human activity near or within the park. But due to population growth, an increase of human activities gives the government a huge burden of taking caring for and controlling activities of park residents, so coming up with a good plan to address this is a matter of paramount importance," he declared.

The committee also advises the government to fast-track the establishment of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) so as to supervise the fast growing sector, he said.

In order to address challenges facing the land sector, the government should set up the regulator, helping to control the overcharging of house rents by private developers (agents), affecting public welfare.

The committee also urged the government to increase investment by rehabilitating infrastructures in national parks as well as capacitating public agencies such as the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and the Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) to enable them to work more efficiently.

"The committee also advises the government to set enough budgets to facilitate implementation of the national programme of better land use, addressing ongoing conflicts among pastoralists and farmers, he added.

Govt paid 332.7bn/- to Tandahimba farmers in liquidated Covenant Bank insurance security

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has paid 332.7bn/- to farmers in Tandahimba District, Mtwara Region as insurance on the security of the former Covenant Bank for Women (T) Limited that had been liquidated by the government.

Deputy Finance and Planning Minister Hamad Hassan Chande told Parliament here as he was responding to a question posed by Tandahimba Member of Parliament,

Katani Ahmed Katani who wanted to know when will the government pay cashew nuts farmers for the business conducted in the 2017/18 season with the Covenant Bank that was liquidated before being paid their money.

"By December 2021 a total of 332,715,894/- had already been paid to 1,346 farmers in Tandahimba District that had insurance security with Covenant Bank, being 98 percent of 337,992,095/- set aside for payment of

compensation at Tandahimba Centre," said the Deputy Minister.

Chande said that beginning March 2018, the Deposit Insurance Board (DIB) started paying compensation not more than 1.5m/- for its customers entitled to such payment, including cashew nuts farmers and called for customers who have not been paid the compensation to should collect their money as the exercise was still going on.

He said the Bank of Tanzania (BoT)

withdrew Covenant Bank for Women (T) Limited's license on January 4 2018 according to the 2006 Banking and Financial Institutions Act and appointed Deposit Insurance Board (DIB) as the Bank's liquidators.

He said DIB continues with the liquidation exercise of former Covenant Bank by collecting assets and debts and paying its former customers security not more than 1.5m/- according to laws governing laws and regulations on liquidation.



Higher Education Students' Loans Board chairman Prof Khamis Dihenga (C) displays a trophy to members of the board after HESLB emerged third winner in the category of public institutions using International Public Sector Accounting Standards guidelines at a meeting held in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. The award was issued recently by the National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA). He is with HESLB managing director Abdul-Razaq Badru (R) and deputy vice chairperson Salama Makame. Photo: Correspondent Ismail Bakari of HESLB

EAC boss praises EU for lifting financial sanctions on Burundi

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) Secretary General Dr Peter Mathuki has hailed the European Union (EU) for lifting financial sanctions that was imposed on the Republic of Burundi almost six years ago.

Dr Mathuki said that the move by the EU would not only spur development in Burundi but also rejuvenate the integration process in East Africa.

"This is a positive development for both Burundi and the EAC as it means that the EAC Partner States will now move together in the implementation

of EU-funded programmes. It also promotes harmony and synergy among the Partner States, something that is indispensable for the integration process in East Africa," said Dr Mathuki.

He noted that the EU has consistently supported programmes and projects within the Community at both the regional and national levels, adding that the bloc was a trailblazer in regional integration.

"Among the areas that EAC is currently getting support from the EU are; capacity building, digital transformation and innovation,

trade integration, governance, peace and security, migration and forced displacement, and environmental conservation and climate change," said the SG.

The EU on Tuesday lifted restrictions on financial support that it had imposed on Burundi amid a deteriorating political situation occasioned by a disputed presidential election in 2015.

The EU said that its decision to lift the restrictions was a result of the peaceful political process in Burundi that started with the successful general election held in May 2015.

The EU reaffirmed its readiness to support ongoing efforts by the Burundian government to stabilize the country, strengthen democracy, promote human rights and good governance, and uphold the rule of law.

By Correspondent Rose Mwalongo

THE Coalition of Women Human Rights Defenders in collaboration with the Data Driven Advocacy plans to conduct a national dialogue to discuss brutal killings in the country.

The one-day dialogue to be conducted virtually intends among other things to find out possible causes that trigger such incidences in the community.

Coalition's coordinator, Hilda Dadu made the revelations in Dar es Salaam yesterday, saying: "The national dialogue to be conducted today will specifically engage multiple stakeholders to assess the status of ongoing interventions to prevent incidents of the killings; we also intend to raise awareness on early signs of brutal killings before

Coalition teams up with NGO to do national dialogue on brutal killings

they occur."

According to the coordinator, the dialogue intends to recommend rigorous measures to combat such incidents as well as to call active duty bearers to sustain peace within the community.

The meeting brings together clerics, health experts, lawyers; community-based organizations, members of the press as well as development partners.

The Coalition of Women's Human Rights Defenders is a not for a profit organization that envisages a society where all women and girls are free from all sorts of human

rights abuses.

Among key presenters in the virtual dialogue will be a representative from the office of the Chief Mufti as well as the Tanzania Episcopate Centre.

The dialogue comes amid a situation of uncertainty in the country where in recent days media houses have been reporting extreme cases of gender-based violence coupled with increased brutal killings of innocent people, many of whom are women.

The trend is alarming and if left unchecked it could become a social norm that will threaten and destroy the peace that the country has enjoyed over the years.



Donatus Richard (in tie), NMB Bank Plc's Dar es Salaam zone manager, pictured in the city yesterday symbolically presenting to Temeke district commissioner Jokate Mwegelo (in blue blouse) 222 corrugated iron roofing sheets and 454 pieces of timber. It was a donation by the bank in support of the roofing of classrooms at Keko Magurumbasi and Buza primary schools in the district. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Improved sorghum sought in export markets, farmers told

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

SMALLHOLDER farmers in Dodoma Region have been advised to tap into economic opportunities available through producing and marketing white sorghum, especially the mecia variety.

Sadoti Makwaruzi, the chief agricultural officer, made the call yesterday at a meeting that brought together smallholder farmers and extension officers from Chamwino District.

White sorghum has a large market globally so farmers must cultivate in large scale to take advantage of the market, he said, noting that the crop is regularly ordered by the World Food Program (WFP) for use in Europe, South Africa or South Sudan for recent local exports.

Government surveys indicate that there is a wide market for white sorghum, thus deciding to embark on a fresh bid to motivate and support the farmers to engage into large acreage of the crop, the ministerial official

affirmed. WFP desperately needs white sorghum for foreign markets where it has invested about \$25m, and for the financial year 2022 the organization needs 28,900 tonnes of the grain, he stated, asserting that seed supply will be assured.

The government, after seeing this opportunity, has entered into an agreement with 20 companies to produce white sorghum seeds, said, while an official of the Cereals and Other Produced Board (CPB),

Mwanaidi Msangi, said the board is also purchasing white sorghum and adds value for export needs as well as to cater for domestic consumption.

"In 2021 the board bought 1,000 tonnes and this year it expects to buy 3,000 tonnes from farmers in Dodoma region," she stated.

Janeth Nyamayahasi, a farmer in the district, said apart from supporting the farmers, the ministry must ensure a conducive environment for farmers to access international markets.

"We are often being frustrated by the quality of the products we're supposed to produce in order to meet market demand, sometimes it is below standard, so if the government decides to give us this opportunity it must guide us on the quality of the products we are supposed to produce," she explained.

LHRC rolls out proactive units to help gender violence victims

By Getrude Mbagu, Dodoma

THE Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) in collaboration with the government is implementing a proactive project in Dar es Salaam Region to provide support to victims of gender-based violence (GBV) and related abuse.

LHRC executive director Anna Henga sketched out this project on Wednesday at a meeting with the Tanzania Women Parliamentary Group (TWPG), officials of the gender desk of the police force, social welfare officers, medical personnel and other stakeholders.

She raised concern on the increase of cases of violence, saying that the situation needs efforts of the government and stakeholders to turn it around, noting that the proactive project involves the building of one-stop centres where victims of violence will access all essential services.

The project is currently being implemented in Dar es Salaam with intention to extend it to other areas to promote human rights and fight gender-based violence, she elaborated.

"We are working with gender desks, social welfare officers, local government gender committees and other stakeholders to ensure that the project produces positive outcomes," she told the group, emphasizing that the project also works on educating stakeholders and the public on impacts of GBV.

TWPG chairperson, Shally Raymond commended LHRC for its efforts, underlining that the MPs were ready to increase cooperation so as to jointly help eradicate GBV countrywide, as of late it has been causing many negative impacts to women and society generally.

Aisa Mkini, coordinator of the hand to hand project at the Manyara Regional Hospital, said the centres have confidential rooms to serve the victims as health care staff have been trained on how to deliver quality, respectful, and comprehensive services.

"This allows the victims to access medical, psychosocial, legal and social reintegration services at a single place and time," she explained, noting that there are 14 one-stop centres countrywide supporting victims of GBV.

Christopher Newton of the gender desk at the Kinondoni special police region said the force is there to protect people and their properties, thus one of its major aims is to ensure that citizens live peacefully and happily without disturbance.

The gender desks are working to ensure that cases of violence are solved on time, and that includes bringing witnesses to court, the officer noted.

Dr Aminata Projestus of the Mwananyamala regional referral hospital said the hospital provides immediate care, screening, physical examination, sample taking and evidence collection, while treating victims brought to the hospital.

"We have been providing support at our centre in the hospital and it has supported numerous GBV victims who mostly come here in a devastated state. But with the efforts of our team, they get treated and healed of their pains," she explained.

The National Action Plan to end GBV recognizes that addressing violence against women and children is a central development goal, key to achieving other development outcomes and investing in violence prevention initiatives. Reports show that 44 percent of women in the country have faced violent acts, a high level of incidents that adversely affects their development.

This allows the victims to access medical, psychosocial, legal and social reintegration services at a single place and time

DAR ES SALAAM MARITIME INSTITUTE (DMI)



1st BLUE ECONOMY AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONFERENCE (BEDPC2022)

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute is pleased to announce the call for Papers for the 1st Blue Economy and National Development Plan Conference. The aim of the conference is to provide a platform for capacity building and networking among researchers worldwide in fostering Blue Economy and National Development Plan 2021-2026. The Conference will be held at Golden Tulip Hotel in Dar es Salaam from 21st to 22nd June 2022 under the following theme and sub-themes.

THEME: UNCOVERING MARITIME OPPORTUNITIES IN TANZANIA FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sub-themes:

1. Maritime Education and Training	2. Maritime Law and Policy
3. The impact of Science and Technology	4. Marine Scientific Research and Development
5. Maritime Transport, Ports and Logistics	6. Maritime Project Financing and Investment
7. Manufacturing Industry and International Trade	8. Social and Economic Development
9. Maritime Administration	10. Offshore Energy Engineering
11. Blue Economy Opportunities	12. Women in the Maritime Sector
13. Maritime Safety, Security and Environmental Protection	14. Marine Insurance
15. Shipping and Finance	

Important dates:

Submission of Abstract: 12th February to 12th March, 2022
 Notification of Abstract Acceptance: 19th March, 2022
 Submission of Full Paper: 25th March to 25th April, 2022
 Notification of Reviewers' Comments: 30th April, 2022
 Submission of Revised Papers: 10th May, 2022
 Registration and Fee Payment: 27th May, 2022
 Conference: 21st to 22nd June, 2022

Conference Registration Fee:

Concession fee for students: TZS 50,000/=
 Other Participants: TZS 100,000/=
 Bank Name: National Bank of Commerce
 Account Name: Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute
 Account Number: 011139000173
 Control Number: 994410040109
 Currency Code: TZS
 Swift Code/BIC: NLCBTZTXFIN
 Registration fee will cover coffee/tea, lunch, conference package and certificate.

How to Submit Abstract and Papers

Make your submission through: conference@dmia.ac.tz
 The abstract should not be more than 300 words with names of author(s), affiliations, email, phone number, and type of presentation e.g. paper, poster, or case study.
 The full paper should not exceed 6000 words with introduction-Methodology – Results –and Discussion.

For more information, contact:

SN	Name	Phone Number	E-mail
1.	Ms Hiacinter B. Rwechungura	0713257459 (Hotline)	hiacinter.rwechungura@dmia.ac.tz
2.	Eng. Paul Nsulangi	0686195449	Paul.nsulangi@dmia.ac.tz
3.	Dr. Lucas P. Mwisila	0655307887/0735006069	lucas.mwisila@dmia.ac.tz

UNHCR FIELD OFFICE KIBONDO

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL VACANCY NOTICE

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Field Office, Kibondo invites qualified internal/external candidates to apply for the following position:

Job Opening ID: 33638
 Position Title: Associate Admin Officer
 Category: Fixed Term Appointment
 Grade: NOB
 Duty Station: Kibondo, Tanzania
 Duration: 1 year
 Start Date: Immediately
 Issue Date: 11 February 2022
 Closing Date: 24 February 2022

Organizational Setting and Work Relationships
 UNHCR Field Office Kibondo is geographically located in Kibondo District, Kilimanjaro region, found in North-Western Tanzania. The office was opened in October 2015 following the Burundi crisis in April 2015 resulting in the displacement of Burundian refugees to neighbouring countries in Rwanda, DR Congo, and Uganda including Tanzania.

In Tanzania, at the time of the initial influx, Burundian refugees were originally hosted in Nyarugusu camp inhabited by 60,000 Congolese refugees and later, Nduta and Mtendeli camps which used to be former refugee camps, opened in October 2015 and January 2016 respectively. Some relocation from Nyarugusu started with an effort to decongest the Burundian site and transfer the Burundian refugees to Nduta camp. This happened continuously in 2015 and Nduta camp finally reached its maximum capacity. In April 2016, the relocation to Nduta was ceased and the remaining Burundian refugees coming from Nyarugusu were diverted to Mtendeli camp. In September 2016, both Mtendeli and Nduta camps reached their full capacity of 50,000 refugees. However due to continued influx of refugees and delay in finalizing the decision of new camp site by Tanzanian government for the new arrivals, Nduta camp was reopened in September 2016 in order to accommodate additional refugees.

With the need to maintain only one camp between Mtendeli in Kikonko district and Nduta in Kibondo District, and to make better use of the available resources as per an agreement between UNHCR and the government of Tanzania, camp consolidation was initiated. This process was completed on 05 Dec 2021, with a population of 21,687 refugees relocating to Nduta camp. Therefore, by January 2022, only Nduta camp is hosting refugees in Kibondo district, with Mtendeli camp closed to be handed over to Government of Tanzania. Overall, Nduta refugee camp that falls under UNHCR Field Office Kibondo, now hosts approximately 76,000 Burundian refugees.

Position Profile

The Associate Admin Officer shall be based in the Field Office, Kibondo, with occasional visits to Nduta refugee camp. The incumbent directly reports to the Head of Field Office (HOFO), Kibondo. The incumbent directly supervises Admin, Human Resources, Finance, Transport, ICT and Telecoms general services staff teams in the Field Office and will technically report to the Senior Administrative officer in Dar es Salaam who is the Head of Functional Unit. The incumbent is also responsible for supporting the Field Office in the implementation of general administrative and resource management tasks. S/he will work quite independently on regular assignments with an oversight from the supervisor, who will provide general guidance and work plans for identifying work priorities and appropriate approaches; work is controlled for meeting expected results.

S/he will establish and maintain efficient administrative control mechanisms to ensure compliance with UN administrative, financial and human resources rules and procedures. Contacts on administrative/budgetary related issues are mainly with Sections/Units/Offices within the organization both at HQ and in the Field and with local suppliers/services to ensure provision of services and resolution of difficult problems. Frequent external contacts with counterparts in other organizations or at working level in national Governments on issues of importance to Organization's programmes. He/she acts as adviser or representative of the Organization with authority to discuss problems and seek common ground on which to recommend solutions based on predetermined guidelines provided by higher authority.

Duties

- Contribute to the provision of resources (human, material and services) necessary to support the day-to-day activities of the staff in the office.
- Monitor the day-to-day personnel and administrative operations of the office.
- Provide advice on personnel and administrative policies and procedures.
- Assist with the implementation of processes and procedures to improve and strengthen internal controls in line with UNHCR rules and regulations.
- Participate in the recruitment and appointment process and assist with administrative formalities concerning local General Service staff.
- Coordinate training and capacity-building activities to staff in administrative related areas.
- Assist with the preparation of staffing and administrative budget requirements for the office.
- Assist in the competitive procurement process for selecting, awarding, and issuing local contracts, in line with UNHCR regulations, rules and procedures.

- Facilitate the mission travel of staff, including following up on travel authorizations, bookings, tickets.
- Monitor the quality and timeliness of goods and services delivered to the office.
- Manage contracts and relations with suppliers.
- In coordination with Human Resources and Field Security, undertake periodic reviews to ensure that the Office premises are set up and staff accommodation are managed in line with the organizational policies and any related issues are brought to the attention of DHR.
- Perform other related duties as required.

Minimum Qualifications

Education & Professional Work Experience
 3 years relevant experience with Undergraduate degree; or 2 years relevant experience with Graduate degree; or 1-year relevant experience with Doctorate degree

Field(s) of Education

Public or Business Administration; Economics; or other relevant field.

Relevant Job Experience

Essential
 Work experience in at least one of the following fields: Human Resources, Administration, Budget, Finance, and Procurement. Excellent computer skills, in particular in MS Office applications.

Desirable

Working experience of at least one year in an intergovernmental organization (United Nations or similar). Good knowledge of UNHCR's administrative rules and procedures. Working experience with PeopleSoft/Oracle Financial and/or HR modules.

Functional Skills

MG-Resource Management, FI-General Financial Management & MG-Office Management

Language Requirements

Proficiency in English and Kiswahili languages.

All UNHCR workforce members must individually and collectively, contribute towards a working environment where each person feels safe, and empowered to perform their duties. This includes by demonstrating no tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse, harassment including sexual harassment, sexism, gender inequality, discrimination and abuse of power.

As individuals and as managers, all must be proactive in preventing and responding to inappropriate conduct, support ongoing dialogue on these matters and speaking up and seeking guidance and support from relevant UNHCR resources when these issues arise.

This is a Standard Job Description for all UNHCR jobs with this job title and grade level. The Operational Context may contain additional essential and/or desirable qualifications relating to the specific operation and/or position. Any such requirements are incorporated by reference in this Job Description and will be considered for the screening, shortlisting and selection of candidates.

How to apply

INTERNAL UNHCR Candidates to apply	MSRP: Main Menu- Self-service-Career-Country(Tanzania)- Associate Admin Officer
EXTERNAL Candidates to apply	www.unhcr.org/careers.html (Vacancies- Country (Tanzania)- Associate Admin Officer)

For External Candidates: All vacancies are posted to UNHCR's careers webpage (<https://www.unhcr.org/other-opportunities.html>). On that page, you can select "vacancies", which will redirect you to the application site where you may search for positions. Filter by country and select "Tanzania". On the bottom of the Job Opening page, you will see an "Apply" button, and if you have never submitted an application via UNHCR Careers webpage, you will be requested to register as a New User. Applications will not be accepted by email. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Please note that UNHCR does not charge a fee at any stage of its recruitment process (application, interview, meeting, travelling, processing, training or any other fees).

Qualified female and candidates with disabilities are encouraged to apply

Shortlisted Candidates will be required to sit for a written test and be functionally cleared in order to proceed to the interview stage.

In case of difficulties with application process, please contact email: tanb2@unhcr.org

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

We're we still way behind on public transport safety, why?

THE recurrence of tragic incidents leads many people into believing that travelling by whatever means of transport is increasingly translating into risking life and limb.

And this very understandably so, considering that the main factors behind such incidents have been scientifically studied and identified for as long as one can remember.

Things are much similar with respect to the major ways of forestalling them or reducing their prevalence considerably, as well as mitigating the harm they cause.

It is cause for great concern, particularly seeing that there is no shortage of experience in witnessing and handling these incidents but it often as if we are always "beginners" as we deal with them whenever and wherever they occur.

There have been appallingly so many such tragic incidents that some people have decided that it is no longer correct or realistic to refer to them as accidents, arguing instead that quite a few of them are "accidents" only in name but are in fact all but due to gross irresponsibility or recklessness.

Observers cite many ready examples of what this points to, one of the most recent being the tragedy in which at least 12 people were confirmed dead in a boat accident that occurred in the Tanzanian zone of the Indian Ocean a few years ago.

The innocent lives were lost when the ill-fated boat, heading to Pemba Island from Tanga on the Mainland, overturned and sank with some 40 passengers on board.

Sources said that were it not for the fishermen who were going about their business nearby, the 28 or so who survived would not have lived to tell the tale.

Police were later to report that the dead included five children from one family. To their family and loved ones, it was obviously untold pain - and to the nation, loss of invaluable human resources.

The Zanzibar Maritime Transport Authority was quoted as having said that the Zanzibar-registered vessel was meant to carry only cargo - and strictly no passengers.

Furthermore, the boat reportedly had a capacity to carry only 15.68 tonnes of cargo, but ZMTA said it carried passengers - and these without completely without safety gear as required by the law.

As if this was not criminal and risky enough, according to the Isles' regulatory body, the particular vessel had a consignment of foodstuffs, beer, chicken feed and various other items

on board

But the ill-fated 'MV Burudan was not the first marine vessel to suffer such tragedy within Tanzania's water bodies.

It will be recalled that at least 19 people drowned sometime in 2011 after two overloaded boats capsized and were swept away in the high seas off the Indian Ocean coast near Jambe Island - the same site where the MV Burudan incident was reported to have occurred.

But perhaps what the world in general and Tanzania in particular will remember the most about marine disasters in the country is the May 1996 sinking of MV Bukoba in Lake Victoria, just metres off Mwanza city, in which at least 894 people were buried alive.

There are however numerous other tragic incidents in which people die but which do not grab headlines merely because they are regarded as inconsequential. Yet, the fact is that not even a single life or limb should be lost in avoidable "accidents".

Much like in the case of MV Burudan, lives were lost in the MV Bukoba tragedy primarily owing to brazen disregard for safety regulations.

For instance, the manifest for MV Bukoba's final voyage from Bukoba to Mwanza talked of 443 passengers in the first and second class cabins, while the cheapest (third class) accommodation was without a manifest.

Our country is rich in water bodies, most supporting invaluable social and economic activities, and therefore we need to place due premium on marine transport safety.

No marine vessel carrying passengers should be in business without observing basic safety requirements such as having life jackets, life belts, lifeboats, distress signals and firefighting gear.

Having appropriate equipment is important, while ensuring that they undergo regular checks and are in usable state is as crucial.

Also, all those expected or supposed to use the equipment must actually be able to operate them, with the vessels themselves being regularly repaired.

Also of paramount importance is the quality of the captains and other crew members and support staff. If we are indeed to protect the lives of our people, then we should NEVER have fishermen or wannabe seamen ferrying passengers.

What we have said with regard to the operations of marine vessels applies equally to all other forms of public transport. This is because the prevalence of tragic incidents involving, say, public buses is much higher and of much greater impact.

Efforts to ensure pastoralists and farmers live peacefully necessary

VARIOUS parts of our country have witnessed decades of sporadic squabbles and even full-blown bloody conflicts associated with land ownership and use and pitting farmers against pastoralists.

One district saw easily one of the worst such encounters in December 2000, this having left 38 farmers dead. The situation improved for some years but brawls resumed eight years later, leaving eight people dead and several houses burnt to ashes.

In January 2014, ten people were killed in another district - in a different region - when suspected pastoralists invaded villages in a forest reserve. Several homes belonging to farmers were set ablaze.

In all these cases, farmers normally point accusing fingers at local government officials

for allegedly conniving with pastoralists apparently not ready to distinguish between pastureland and farmland.

However, pastoralists often argue that the government is yet to realise that their livelihood depends solely on the livestock - and hence need for unhindered access to pastureland and water points.

But both land tillers and cattle herders are entitled to equal protection by the state, with the contribution of the two groups to the national economy invaluable - and therefore necessary.

Feelings of hatred among communities can turn catastrophic if not properly addressed. That is why we need to do a lot more to end these conflicts because, if we don't act accordingly, the nasty trend will be especially disastrous.



Too many people are dying alone, leaving families to grieve remotely

By Robert Roy Britt

ONE year ago this week, my 85-year-old father sad he knew he would die "soon". Swiftly advancing cancer had left his body failing rapidly. There was nothing left to do but take pain medication and wait.

But daddy was among the lucky, in one respect, and so was his family. This was that his brain remained perfectly intact, and he was able to do the waiting at home. He called all his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in for a few final conversations packed with the advice of a lifetime.

However, death for many is a far more heartbreaking, solitary and even pointless event, an end among relative strangers often drawn out by the false hope that medical science can defeat the inevitable with one last procedure or pill.

The result, far too often, is a lonely, agonising demise in an intensive care unit with little to no chance for loved ones to say goodbye in person.

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, 38 per cent of Americans died in hospitals and 22 per cent in long-term care facilities. This is according to a new report in *The Lancet*, a British medical journal. The figures are similar or higher in several other Western countries, including Canada and the UK.

The pandemic has greatly increased these lonely passings, highlighting what the report's commission of 27 experts calls "the ultimate medicalised death", an over-reliance on medical advances that goes against our social and personal instincts and values and, from a practical standpoint, generates huge medical bills at the end of life that can leave families financially decimated.

The commission does not deny or downplay the incredible benefits of modern medicine - or the vital lifesaving care provided by doctors and nurses for Covid-19 and other diseases.

Rather, it points out a growing imbalance in how people commonly view death and then ultimately how they - as families, communities and society overall - face the inevitable when the time comes.

"Dying is part of life but has become invisible, and anxiety about death and dying appears to have increased," says Richard Smith, a retired doctor and co-chair of the commission.

He elaborates: "Our current systems have increased both undertreatment



and overtreatment at the end of life, reduced dignity, increased suffering and enabled a poor use of resources. Healthcare services have become the custodians of death, and a fundamental rebalance in society is needed to reimagine our relationship with death."

Death is different these days

The commission is composed of doctors, philosophers, theologians, economists and experts in health care at the societal and community levels from countries around the world.

At the core of the problem as they see it is that there is an aging population served by ever-advancing medical techniques that can extend lives beyond a point of diminishing returns to the patient, loved ones, and society. Or, in poorer countries or among the disadvantaged in wealthier countries, lack of access to health services that could improve life in its final stages.

Behind it all is one dramatic shift: The report notes that once upon a time, most deaths were relatively swift, owing to injury or acute disease, whereas nowadays the majority of people die slower deaths from chronic disease.

"How people die has changed dramatically over the past 60 years, from a family event with occasional medical support to a medical event with limited family support," says Libby Sallnow, PhD, a lecturer at St. Christopher's Hospice in the UK and co-chair of the commission.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has seen many people die the ultimate medicalised death, often alone but for masked staff in hospitals and intensive

care units, unable to communicate with their families, except digitally," Sallnow says in a statement, adding: "A fundamental rethink is needed in how we care for the dying, our expectations around death, and the changes required in society to rebalance our relationship with death."

Recognising the value of death

The report concludes that what is needed is a comprehensive rethink of death and how society cares for the dying, based on five principles.

One: The social determinants of death, dying and grieving must be tackled, to enable people to lead healthier lives and die more equitable deaths.

Two: Dying must be understood to be a relational and spiritual process rather than simply a physiological event. This means that relationships based on connection and compassion are prioritised and made central to the care and support of people dying or grieving.

Three: Networks of care for people dying, caring and grieving must include families, wider community members alongside professionals.

Four: Conversations and stories about everyday death, dying and grief must be encouraged to facilitate wider public conversations, debate and actions.

Five: Death must be recognised as having value. "Without death, every birth would be a tragedy."

"Death is not only or, even, always a medical event," says Mpho Tutu van Furth, a priest from The Netherlands and also a co-author of the report.

"Death is always a social, physical,

psychological and spiritual event and when we understand it as such we more rightly value each participant in the drama," adds the cleric.

During that last visit with Dad, he reminded us of many familiar tales of his long and amazing life. We were all given one last chance to **hard-code** his memories into our minds.

We got to let him know how much he had meant to us, how grateful we were for his compassion and inspiration, and how each of us in our own way carried his values with us.

In the midst of a pandemic, I was well aware how fortunate we were to have that opportunity, one denied so many others in their time of ultimate grief.

In a quiet moment on the deck the evening before I was to fly home, Dad's emaciated frame wrapped in blankets to fend off a mild chill in the air, the two of us shared what we knew would be a final drink.

He reminded me of the first time we had had a drink together, in a bar in Alaska on a fishing trip, just after I had turned 21 - one of many excursions and experiences in which he taught me how to live.

The next morning, as a glorious sun warmed us out on that same deck, I got the chance to do that so-important thing countless others have been denied: I told him one last time that I loved him, and I said goodbye...

• *A Medium dispatch. Robert Roy Britt is an independent health and science journalist, former editor-in-chief of LiveScience, writing about how we age and how to optimise the mind and body through time.*

To build a successful career, you must stay focused

YOUNG professionals of nowadays are so desperate to land a job that they accept just about any opportunity that comes their way, even if it's not exactly what they had been looking for.

As a graduate, you should pay attention to trends and steer clear of the gig economy as much as possible to avoid getting in a mix of confusion and not being able to practice what you like.

Gig economy consists of temporary occupations like becoming a taxi driver, and while these can be fantastic money sources for individuals in need, they often don't help a professional develop their career. Career paths are defined by professional progression within an industry, firm, or any other organization.

Mind you, as we all are aware, career paths are forged in terms climbing up the ladder within an area of expertise. Having completed college and being in a possession with a clear perspective of jobs you aim to have is vital if you're looking to flourish in your field.

If you have a dream job in mind, you may map which jobs you should take in order to get to that ideal post and identify which abilities are essential for each role. By outlining which talents are necessary to go to your next desired career, you can then tell which you already possess and which you need to start working on. Jumping from one gig to another, chasing the next get-money-quick opportunity most certainly won't help with those necessary skills.

In the past, career trajectories were more or less set in stone, with a person starting out as an entry-level employee and working their way up but today's professionals like yourself must constantly adapt and learn new abilities. That means you must always be on your toes, any time wasted engaging in other activities might cost you time and a drawback in keeping up with latest ad-



vancements in your industry.

Also, it's important to keep in mind that the job you're aiming for may not exist five years from now. In today's rapidly changing work-

place, professionals must be able to adapt quickly and keep up with the latest developments in their field with focus and zeal.

No matter how much gigs pay

our bills, put food on the table and are more flexible, however, those part time jobs aren't fulfilling, aren't even a career path, and don't offer the opportunity for

growth within an organization and beyond.

As you sit back and reflect as to whether you are building a career or just chasing the next meal and settle bills, you should weigh the pros and cons of both hope you seek to refocus on and the bigger picture, namely your career.

You can aspire to have outstanding career in which you can make a significant difference both within your organization and in the wider community. With so many tiny tasks requiring your attention each day, you must keep pushing and ensuring that tasks are done. Keeping an eye on the big picture can be difficult. That's not a surprise to me. Owning a business and day job has shown me how difficult it can be to balance the 'small things' of running a business with achieving the larger, more meaningful career goals.

A lot of the time, it can feel like you're completely detached from the 'larger work' that you're supposed to undertake. It's a frustrating feeling, and it may really hamper your work if you keep worrying about it. You can, however, find a way around it with a little planning. You can still get everything else done, but you'll be able to get back on track with your priorities as your curve your path to crafting a more meaningful and fulfilling career in your field.

College Comfort Zone

With
Salima Hamisi

saly30@gmail.com
0762 174 124

Barley: The new cash cow changing lives of farmers across the country

By Guardian Reporter

FARMERS who were struggling to make ends meet five years ago across the country are now stable bread winners whose bank accounts boast six zeros after embracing a crop with ready market—barley.

For, they have shifted from subsistence farming to modern agronomic practices that employ mechanization, improved seeds, spacing, safe storage and most importantly, agribusiness skills.

They attribute these changes to the Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) which has been spending billions of shillings to purchase barley from them at good price.

The quantity of cereals purchased has been increasing over time as a result of the country's rapid increase in cereals farming as a result of the government's partnership with the company to encourage farmers to cultivate the crops.

Farmers say they have benefited much from the arrangement with the brewer, of which has ensured reliable market, while payments are made on time.

Martha Kimaro, a resident of West Kilimanjaro, had a difficult life five years ago. Heavily burdened by the responsibilities of being a single mother, she had to toil day and night with a hand hoe on her maize and bean farm, making sure she cultivated enough land to provide sufficient food for her children, as well as surplus to sell to help pay for their school fees and other living expenses.

"Life was so difficult. I used to get up at 5 am every day and go to the farm, where I would normally spend the entire day alone with the sun and rain. Despite my best efforts, what I received was meager and insufficient to support my family. I was a single mother with three school-aged children who relied on me for everything," she recalls.

The farmer says that after realizing she couldn't change her life, she began to consider other possibilities. "I then opened a small business selling fish and milk but life became even more difficult," she says.

Her life did not change until one of her friends, Mama Godi, advised her to try cultivating barley.

"Mama Godi persuaded me to work with her at first, and I was hesitant, but I eventually said, 'Let me give it a try. She had one acre when I joined her but after my effort, we cultivated two, then four the next season, and finally, I had the capital and experience to work on my own farm," she says.

"My life has changed since then as a result of barley. I am extremely grateful to SBL for all of their assistance, not only to me, but also to all of the farmers involved in their project. We get free seeds, extension services, and, most importantly, a reliable market for our crops."

Kimaro referred to SBL's Agri-business project which aims to empower local farmers by providing them with technical and financial assistance to enable them produce raw materials locally, resulting in higher yields and financial independence.

She now has 20 acres of land and is a successful and a contented mother. She has built a modern house, opened a wholesale shop, and can easily pay her children's school fees.



Barley farmers in Kilimanjaro Region involved in Serengeti Breweries Limite's agri-business project look at their produce after harvest. Photo/ Guardian Reporter

Over the last five years, the project has focused on empowering local farmers to produce high-quality cereals, allowing the brewer to acquire the raw materials needed for beer production while also boosting the farmers' economic well-being.

According to SBL Corporate Relations Director John Wanyancha, the project assists farmers in various parts of the country in growing maize, sorghum, and barley, allowing the company to increase the amount of locally-sourced raw materials it uses in its three brewing plants in Dar es Salaam, Moshi and Mwanza.

"This project has benefited a large num-

ber of farmers. We give them free high-quality seeds, connect them with financial institutions to get capital for large-scale farming, and supply them with fertilizer and other farming inputs," Wanyancha says.

A key component of the project is the brewer's effort to connect farmers with financial institutions in order for them to procure much-needed loans to expand their agri-businesses. Farmers who have benefited from the financial scheme have reported this assistance to be immensely helpful.

Mwinyi Makame, a farmer from Bas-

uto in the Hanang district of the Manjara region, is another SBL recipient. "I've benefited from SBL's agri-business programme because the company has consistently supplied me with fertilizer, seedlings, and insecticide," he says.

"In contrast to previous years when I did not have SBL's assistance, I have been able to harvest higher yields as a result of this assistance."

Makame who was skeptical at first says he joined the project five years ago with only 50 acres. He now owns more than 300 acres, which he attrib-

utes to the project. Makame says that he is currently building a new filling station to supplement his income.

Bora Msaki is another success story who joined SBL's agribusiness programme five years ago. Msaki began with 50 acres and has since continued to expand to over 200 acres of barley.

"When I joined SBL's support project, my life changed significantly," he says of the project. I was educated on modern farming methods and became a better farmer with the help of extension services and free, high-quality seeds."

Msaki says he can now keep increasing his production and is happy to own three combine harvesters, five tractors, and one big, modern planter worth more than 70mn/-)

Act more swiftly to halt rash of coups in Africa, expert warns

By Peter Fabricius

MILITARY coups, once the preferred method of changing power in Africa but then later rather unfashionable, are making a comeback, with six successful and two failed ones in just the past two years.

The last successful putsch was in Burkina Faso on 24 January - its seventh since independence in 1960. On 1 February, troops loyal to elected president Umaro Sissoco Embaló only just managed to fight off armed men who had attacked the presidential palace in Guinea-Bissau, apparently determined to kill him and the prime minister.

Africa averaged four coups a year for the four decades after independence until 2000, according to US researchers Jonathan Powell and Clayton Thyne. They have listed more than 200 coup attempts on the continent since the late 1950s, about half of which have been successful.

In 2000, the Organisation for African Unity (now the African Union) introduced sanctions against governments that came to power via "unconstitutional changes of government" - that is, coups. The main punishment was to suspend them from the continental intergovernmental body, but other targeted measures have also been used.

The sanctions seemed at first to have an effect as the average dropped to under 1.5 coups a year for the next two decades, according to Powell and Thyne. But now it appears coups are on the rise again.

The continent's leaders will be meeting at the AU summit in Addis Ababa this weekend to try to find a way to discourage coups.

As Jean Kamau, Kenya's ambassador to the AU and Ethiopia, said at an Institute for Security Studies webinar this week that the AU "will have to deal more decisively with unconstitutional changes of government. We thought if we deal decisively with one country it would be a deterrent but clearly it's not". She was apparently referring mainly to Mali, on which the AU and the Economic Community of West African States have imposed severe measures after the military conducted two coups, in 2020 and 2021, and then reneged on its promise of allowing swift transition back to constitutional rule. But in vain.

Kamau said that suspending military juntas from the AU did not seem to be working so these measures needed to be revisited.

One of the most worrying features of the latest batch of coups is that they seem to be enjoying rising popular support. Images of junta leaders being cheered by crowds in the streets of different capitals may even be contributing to a copycat effect.

The reasons for the sudden spike in coups are not completely clear and they also vary.

In Sudan last October, the military seized sole power to avoid having to transfer it to a civilian leader as part of a transitional government deal. In Chad in April, the military pulled off what the political opposition called a "dynastic coup", as the officers short-circuited the constitutional succession process to unilaterally install one of their own, Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno, as interim president after his father, Idriss Déby, was killed by rebels.

The soldiers who toppled Guinea's President Alpha Condé in September 2021 were mainly motivated by outrage that he had manipulated an amendment to the constitution the year before to allow himself what would previously have been an unconstitutional third term in office.

Intensifying and spreading violent jihadist extremism in West Africa and the Sahel is also clearly driving coups. Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba and the other young officers who toppled Burkina Faso President Roch Kaboré were aggrieved that his government had left them isolated in the frontline fighting against the jihadists without proper supplies and support.

The decade-long insurgency in Mali played the decisive role in the 2021 military coup and was a factor in the 2020 and 2021 coups. The motives of those who tried to topple Embaló in Guinea-Bissau on 1 February are not yet quite clear, though Embaló said drug trafficking was a factor. The country has been labelled a "narco state", largely because of the South American cocaine that flows through it to Europe.



A man holds a portrait of transitional Malian President Assimi Goïta (left) and Guinea junta leader Colonel Mamady Doumbouya while people gather on Nation Square to support the Burkina Faso military in Ouagadougou on 24 January 2022. The president of Burkina Faso was arrested on 24 January 2022 and detained by soldiers along with members of his cabinet, security sources said, one day after troops staged a mutiny in the jihadist-racked country. Soldiers rose up at several army bases across the West African state on 23 January 2022, demanding the sacking of the military top brass and more resources to fight the Islamist insurgency. (Photo: Olympia de Maismont / AFP)

In more general terms, disenchantment with the poor performance or blatant clinging to power of civilian governments is one of the main overlapping causes of coups. That is why the people so often dance in the streets when the army takes power.

And that is why so many analysts have been urging the AU and its subregional bodies, such as the Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas), to impose sanctions not only on military juntas that seize power unconstitutionally but also on civilian leaders who cling to power unconstitutionally by rigging elections or manipulating constitutions to abolish presidential term limits. Or who simply govern badly and corruptly. The AU and its subsidiary bodies have provisions for enacting such measures but they don't use them - and for obvious reasons. The AU has too many leaders who are themselves guilty of employing such ruses to stay in power so they have no incentive to enforce sanctions against others.

Powell, a coup expert at the University of Central Florida, agrees that the AU and regional bodies need to extend their punitive measures to corrupt and undemocratic civilian leaders as they are often catalysts for coups.

But he also says these intergovernmental bodies as well as the wider international community need to apply sanctions against military juntas more swiftly, strongly and consistently if these measures are to work as deterrents.

"The failure to respond to a few recent cases, perhaps most notably Chad in 2021 and Zimbabwe in 2017, sent signals that coups were okay under the right conditions," Powell told DMI68.

The AU failed to punish the Chadian junta. And, in Zim-

abwe, Emmerson Mnangagwa's ousting of then president Robert Mugabe was widely characterised as a coup as armoured vehicles surrounded Mugabe's house. But Mnangagwa's government insisted Mugabe had resigned and the AU went along with that.

Powell also believes that the AU should be extremely strict about never recognising soldiers who come to power by force and then replace their military uniforms with suits and run for political office.

"The willingness of various actors to quickly recognise officers as legitimate leaders after post-coup elections further sends the signal that soldiers in power is okay. Seeing folks like Mauritania's Abdel Aziz or Egypt's [Abdel Fattah] el-Sisi not only accepted as presidents, but even becoming the AU chairperson, further illustrates that any costs of coups can be relegated to the short term.

"I think it is important to demonstrate that participation in a coup necessarily ends any later political involvement. Relevant organisations should not tolerate coup participants to participate in elections, should refuse to recognise any coupist as a head of state, member of a cabinet, etc.

"Coupists should certainly not be allowed to eventually chair the regional organisations that purport to want to end these events. The same goes for foreign states providing military assistance."

Powell believes the wider international community must go further in deterring coups by having nothing more to do with coup leaders even if they try to legitimise themselves by running for civilian office.

He criticises the US, for example, for resuming suspend-

ed military aid as soon as coup leaders are willing to contest an election. Instead, they should be doing their utmost to ensure that coup leaders - such as Mali's junta leader Assimi Goïta - have no political or military future.

Powell adds that, although most of the attention has been on how to respond to coups, part of the prevention toolkit must be for the AU, regional organisations and the international community "to get serious" about other violations.

"Leaders should not be allowed to manipulate electoral rules, term limits, etc. Aside from violating the region's purported goals for preventing the unconstitutional maintenance of power, these acts are themselves common catalysts for coups.

"Preventing coups means preventing their primary triggers, and executive aggrandisement is a large one."

Powell urges Africa and the international community to act swiftly and decisively in West Africa - and in the Sahel especially - to deter the rash of coups before the situation spins out of control.

"Unfortunately, the sheer number of attempts in such a small geographic area will simply overwhelm any regional response at this point. Maintaining suspensions throughout a belt of coups that could have stretched from the Atlantic to the Red Sea (had Chad been suspended and had Niger's 2021 coup attempt succeeded) would be, to say the least, challenging. "It could generate even larger problems if more costly sanctions were imposed, particularly on the economic and security fronts," Powell says.

"Given that public support for coups, and even military rule, appears to be increasing, it will become even more difficult for actors to mount a meaningful response." **DMI68**

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

Forest conservation drive takes a new twist in Kilosa

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

FOREST and environmental conservation efforts have taken a new zeal and impetus in Kilosa District, Morogoro Region.

This time around, the ruling party's district secretariat has directed the district authorities to provide full support for the community forest project and enforce laws governing forest conservation and management.

After visiting Chasimba village, Masanze ward to see for themselves on how the villagers conserve their forest on village land, the party committee members commended the villagers and directed that no any other illegal activities should be conducted in the forest reserve.

Chasimba village, Kilosa District Council in collaboration with the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and the Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA) are implementing the third phase of transforming the Tanzania charcoal sector project (TTCS) within the 'conserving forests through sustainable forest based enterprise support in Tanzania' (CoForEST) project.

The main goal of this project is to promote sustainable pro-community natural forest management in ways that transform forest product value chains and contributes to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The visit of the party political committee aimed at increasing understanding on forest conservation, assessing the achievements and challenges and then advice.

Kilosa District party's secretary Shabani Mdoe said the party committee will meet district councilors and forest officials to set strategies for sustainability in carrying out and expanding the project.

"We will meet to assess the villagers' knowledge and understanding on the project and ensure that this project continues to benefit our people even after the donors have left," he asserted, commending the villagers and partners, TFCG and MJUMITA for the conservation drive.

"Members of the party have seen for themselves. Initially, I had little knowledge on this project. When I heard it for the first time, I thought it was just felling down trees and leaving bare land but now, I have acquired full knowledge of the project and we will support this initiative for the benefit of the current and future generations," he said.

"If you want to conserve the forest well you should not introduce illegal activities such as mining in this forest. You should only stick to one agenda of conserving our forest," he further noted, explaining that the villagers have to elect committed, hardworking and faithful committee members to the village natural resources committee who have the forest conservation drive at heart and not those who would sabotage the villagers' conservation efforts.

Kilosa CCM youth wing Secretary Philbert Kipenda and parents' wing secretary Scolastica Salim commended Chasimba villagers for their efforts to conserve the forests. The



Kilosa District CCM secretary, Shabani Mdoe speaks to Chasimba villagers in the district.

newly built dispensary stemmed from the conservation project, which has transformed income prospects and improved the governance of forest products in the area.

"We commend the way the villagers are working towards conserving the forests which in turn is contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation," the youth leader said.

TFCG's CoForEST project manager, Charles Leonard explained that forest conservation requires collective efforts. So the aim of the project is to

promote sustainable pro-community natural forest management such that it transforms people's livelihoods, forest governance and value chains.

He said 88 percent of Dar es Salaam households use charcoal produced illegally, whereas 90 percent of households in Tanzania use charcoal and firewood which are also produced illegally. "While we emphasize alternative energy sources, we cannot sit aside and look at our forests being depleted on a daily basis; we must act. We want charcoal that will be produced on a

small area but sustainably in a manner that will not compromise the future," he declared, highlighting the datum that deforestation nationwide stands at about 469,000 hectares annually.

"This deforestation is happening on village land because there is no clear management system," the manager said, noting that statistical data shows that 45 percent of the country's forests stand on village land, estimated at 22m hectares. Out of this, only 5m has been placed under community based forest management, thus being secured.

The rest, about 15m hectares, is not under explicit management, thus the 469,000 hectares cleared annually implies that these forests will disappear in a matter of years."

"So, TFCG and MJUMITA came up with an approach, a model - sustainable charcoal production that looks at harvesting these resources sustainably by involving the community in community based forest management (CBFM)," he explained, indicating that the community set aside a portion of forest on village land, where 10 to 20 percent of the forest is converted into sustainable charcoal production.

That means 80 to 90 percent of the CBFM is intact and protected, with revenues from the 20 percent that is used for sustainable charcoal is invested into the management of that resource. But some of the money is invested into social services like water, construction of classrooms and others. So in the long term these benefits create conservation incentives, where TFCG and MJUMITA are showing this as a model, an opportunity to scale up forests remaining on village land, and nationwide it is 16m hectares lacking formal protection.

"So, if we don't create these incentives the forests will disappear as the population is increasing and people will need to clear more land for agriculture," he said.

Earlier, the natural resources committee member Idd Tangula said Chasimba village started sustainable charcoal production in 2018/19 and since then the village has raised more than 145m/-. The amount has been used for different development projects such as the village dispensary, school desks and tables, building teachers' washroom, and purchasing motorcycles for village patrols, among other benefits.

Mwanga bank hands 472 tables, chairs to 10 secondary schools

By Guardian Reporter

MWANGA Hakika Bank has donated 472 tables and chairs worth 30m/- to Mwanga District secondary schools to reduce the shortage of learning facilities for 13,429 students in the district.

The donation will drastically cut the shortage of tables and chairs in the schools, after 233 more students were enrolled in the 2021/2022 study year.

Before the donation, the district was facing a shortage of 689 tables and chairs in 10 schools out of 26 secondary schools in the district.

The bank's board chairman Ridhuan Mringo handed over the donation, saying that the bank's gesture was in line with its corporate social responsibility ethic which aims to support

government initiatives, noticed in helping to improve the learning environment.

"We're happy to join hands with other stakeholders in this initiative to ensure that students are having a favorable learning environment. Through this, we are supporting the government in improving the education sector in our country," he affirmed, emphasizing that the bank will keep on supporting development initiatives to ensure national development plans are achieved.

"Our bank has transitioned from microfinance to a full commercial bank and this gives us more capacity to extend our efforts in supporting social initiatives like what we did today," he said.

Receiving the table and chairs,

District Commissioner Abdallah Mwaipaya commended Mwanga Hakika Bank for being at the forefront in supporting development initiatives, noticed during the current financial year.

"These desks are going to all the schools that are facing acute shortage, needing up to 600 desks. We thank Mwanga Hakika bank for this support and we believe this will help in reducing the challenges in secondary schools. Later we will start working on primary schools," the DC underlined.

Mwanga District is building 50 classes for secondary schools billed at 976m/- procured from different sources, including 500m/- from the national budget, 200m/- from the Covid-19 recovery loan funds, 30m/- from internal revenues,

and Education Programme for Results (EP4R) 237m/-, he added.



We're happy to join hands with other stakeholders in this initiative to ensure that students are having a favorable learning environment. Through this, we are supporting the government



Mwanga Hakika Bank board chairman Ridhuan Mringo (R) hands over one of the 474 tables and chairs worth 30m/- to Mwanga district executive director Mwaipaya Nasombe to support secondary schools in the district. Looking on (in blue suit) is Mwanga district commissioner Abdallah Mwaipaya. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Airtel Tanzania director of communications Beatrice Singano speaks at the launch of a the three-month customer promotion dubbed 'TESA KIMILIONEA' which gives Tanzanians the chance to win 100,000/-, 1m/-, or grand prizes of 10m/- and a grand winner of IST Toyota car yesterday in Dar es Salaam. She is with Airtel Money Director Isaack Nchunda. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Airtel Money launches cash, car prizes in new initiative

By Guardian Reporter

AIRTEL (T) Ltd has announced a three-month promotion where its customers will stand a chance of winning big prizes.

Corporate communications director Beatrice Singano said yesterday that the promotion, dubbed 'Transact and Win Promotion' gives customers the chance to win 100,000/-, 1m/-, or grand prizes of 10m/- and a grand winner of an IST Toyota car.

Customers and agents who use the services regularly are eligible to enter and have the chance of winning prizes during weekly and monthly draws.

To enter the draw, customers and agents need to use cash in sending money Airtel to Airtel wallets, cash out, paying any bill using Airtel Money, bank transactions, international money transfer's, buying data bundle and airtime purchase while for agents this includes cash in and cash out transactions. To take advantage, customers will need to dial *150*60# and transact or use 'My Airtel App,' she said.

All transactions will enter into a week-

ly draw, and there will be 100 winners for 100,000/- each and another two weekly winners for 1m/-each. In addition, all transactions within a month will get a chance to win one grand prize of 10m/- or an IST Toyota car, she elaborated.

"At Airtel Money, we are committed to serving and rewarding our loyal customers. The prize draw is one example of how we add value to our customers and raise awareness on the different ways to use Airtel Money. Good luck to all customers.

"Over the long term, we have been expanding our network through the roll-out of more Airtel Money branches and agents, while introducing friendly to use applications in addition to investing in 4G expansion to reach even more areas. With network expansion and innovation in products and services, our customers enjoy our service across the country," the director intoned.

Airtel (T) is a subsidiary of Airtel Africa, a leading provider of telecommunications and mobile money services present in 14 countries across the continent, she added.

Internet-based means become new highlight of this year's local 'two sessions' in China

By Zhou Renjie

INTERNET-BASED means are more and more frequently used by deputies to people's congresses and members of committees of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), China's legislative and political advisory bodies.

The country's local "two sessions", the annual meetings of lawmakers and political advisors at various levels, recently kicked off across the country, bringing to the spotlight all kinds of applications of digital technologies that have brought new experiences and created new platforms for deputies to local people's congresses and members of the CPPCC local committees in fulfilling their duties.

Thanks to an upgraded digital proposal system, Shanghai's municipal-level political advisors are able to get timely and accurate information about various industries and departments conveniently via a data-based digital platform.

In east China's Zhejiang province, provincial-level lawmakers can now learn about the status of their proposals and suggestions in real time through an office automation app; and members of the CPPCC Zhejiang provincial committee are able to obtain information about government affairs, track the handling of proposals in real time, and later get feedback on their work on an online platform.

The vigorous development of digital technologies in recent years has speeded up the informatization of local "two sessions".

In the past, people can only reach deputies to local people's congresses via phone call or at local legislators' liaison stations. Now in Xihu district, Hangzhou city, Zhejiang province, residents can chat with local legislators online via mobile phones.

Thirty-four members of the Hunan provincial committee of the CPPCC from Hong Kong and Macao, who couldn't attend this year's session due to the COVID-19 pandemic, expressed their opinions about helping Hunan integrate into the construction of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area online.

From digital proposals to deliberation of state



The fifth plenary session of the 13th Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) Shanghai committee seeks people's opinions and advice online, Jan. 19, 2022. File photo

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 221 00--

In this Puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

3 letters LAY, DUO, EVE, IRE, ADE, LWB, SHE GUN, ALL
 4 letters AMEN, MENU, ACID,
 5 letters ARENA, OCEAN, ON DIT, AISLE, NAKED
 6 letters BRAZIL, GREEDY, DEDUCT, DREDGE SKILLS,
 7 letters MEANDER,
 8 letters BAGAMOYO, EREWHILE,

CLUES: Across
 1 Tanzania's Capital
 6 the letter H
 7 feeling fear or anxiety
 8 an African wild horse with black-and-white stripes and an erect mane
 9 living, not dead
 12 an illicit drinking place in India
 16 suitcases or other bags for a traveller's belongings
 17 extending upwards from or above
 19 people aged between 13 and 19 years
 22 the sixth note of a major scale
 23 Egypt's Capital
 24 tamed animal

CLUES: Down
 1 Bangladesh Capital
 2 a lovable
 3 corn
 4 an assistant to a political leader
 5 frightened
 10 a small wingless parasitic insect which infests human skin and hair
 11 a person who does not eat or use animal product
 13 very eager to hear or see something
 14 grow
 15 a missed attempt to kick a ball
 18 history
 19 a built-up area small than a city
 20 every single
 21 dry land

WORD-FIT SOLUTIONS
 GUARDIAN DEDUCTION
 ESAINP MWANZA
 MARINCA EMOANW
 AFRICAL SHARLAHA
 YADAMDET TREATY
 YSENSEITHEME
 GREYELCEOLIRAN
 MOCAGEATRACEU
 INCOMESTTEABMAD
 NTIREELIBYAG
 TRUSTADDAIIE

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS
 1 TANZANIA
 6 H
 7 FEAR
 8 GAZELLE
 9 ALIVE
 12 DUKKA
 16 BAGGAGE
 17 UPON
 19 TEEN
 22 F
 23 CAIRO
 24 ZEBRA

By Magezi: 0755429240 telixmagezi@gmail.com

affairs online and remote consultation, it is evident that fulfilling duties via online means becomes increasingly prevalent among China's lawmakers and political advisors.

Digital and information technologies help lawmakers and political advisors better fulfill their duties in accordance with the law and can comprehensively improve their competence.

Topics concerning people's wellbeing attract the most attention from deputies to people's congresses and CPPCC members during this year's local "two sessions", whether online or offline. The people's congress of Shapingba district in southwest China's Chongqing municipality has leveraged both online and offline means and used mini-programs to expand channels for seeking legislation advice from the public.

Yang Zhaoxia, a member of the Beijing municipal committee of the CPPCC, considers good ideas from the people the "golden key" to her execution of duties. Her proposals for transforming manhole covers on sidewalks which can easily cause pedestrians to sprain their ankles and disposing abandoned bikes are both based on the suggestions from the people.

As new technologies and old traditions converge on discussions about people's concerns, difficulties and urgent needs, China's people-centered development philosophy is passed on by digital technologies and practiced through concrete endeavors.

Digital technologies have been brought into full play by China's lawmakers and political advisors in maintaining close ties with the people, listening to their voices

and responding to their expectations.

East China's Shandong province launched a campaign to encourage residents from all walks of life to make suggestions for the provincial government's work under 22 topics, including employment and entrepreneurship, education, and health. Media outlets of southwest China's Guizhou province have invited netizens to interact with deputies to people's congresses and CPPCC online.

It's believed in China that making the most of the Internet for the expression of people's views, ideas, worries and concerns and promoting communication between the people and lawmakers and political advisors through both online and offline democratic channels so that work benefiting the people can actually proceed and yield fruits is a major task of democratic construction.

The efforts of various regions across China to leverage Internet-based means to seek people's advice during the local "two sessions" are the epitome of China's socialist democracy that covers all aspects of the democratic process and all sectors of society—a true democracy that works.

China's socialist democracy with Chinese characteristics is marching toward a brighter future as the country continuously increases its lawmakers' and political advisors' competence and the efficiency in their execution of duties via online means, integrates new technologies and models into democratic and scientific decision-making, smoothes the channels for the people to express their ideas, and forms a synergy for improving people's well-being.

People's Daily

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 AMIKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:00 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAWKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMIKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:00 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAWKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMIKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:00 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAWKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMIKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:00 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAWKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMIKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:00 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAWKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMIKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:00 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAWKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMIKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DJ SHOW 13:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:00 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAWKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

THE GLOBAL 3D PRINTING BUILDING CONSTRUCTION MARKET TO DOUBLE

By Guardian Correspondent

THE global 3D printing building construction market is expected to grow from \$0.01 billion in 2021 to \$0.02 billion in 2022 at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 177.0%.

The market is expected to reach \$0.87 billion in 2026 at a CAGR of 169.3%, according to 3D printing building construction Global Market Report 2022 by Dublin based Research and Market, the global market research store.

The 3D printing building construction market consists of the sales revenue earned by entities (organizations, sole traders, and partnerships) that construct buildings through 3D printers and offer related services.

3D printing or additive manufacturing is a computer-controlled sequential layering of materials to create three-dimensional shapes.

In the construction industry, 3D printing is used to build components of building or to create a whole building. It helps to construct faster and more accurate structures with reduced labor costs and less wastage.

The main types of 3D printing building construction are modular, and full building.

Modular building entails generating standardized structural components in an off-site factory and then assembling them on-site.

The processes used are extrusion, powder bonding, and others and the materials used are concrete, plastic, metal, hybrid, and others.

The 3D printing building construction includes residential, commercial, and industrial construction.

Asia Pacific is the largest region in the 3D printing building construction market in 2021,



Detailed 3d model of a building under construction

according to the report.

Asia Pacific is expected to be the fastest-growing region in the

forecast period.

The regions covered in the global utility system construction

market are Asia-Pacific, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, North America, South America, Middle

East and Africa.

The capability to build complex structures within a stipulated time for a reasonable cost is a major factor driving the demand for 3D printing building construction market.

3D printing building construction is cost-effective, saves time, provides more precision, safe, cuts labour costs, is environmentally friendly, and easily helps build complex building structures.

3D printing in construction is economical in terms of material usage when compared with the traditional manufacturing process.

Moreover, 3D printing reduces the labour costs by 50%-80%, production time by 50%-70%, and construction waste by 30%-60%.

Therefore, the economic benefits offered by 3D printing construction is expected to significantly boost the market growth.

Increasing flexibility in 3D printing operations using advanced software is a major trend shaping the growth of the 3D printing building construction market.

In November 2019, AMFG, a UK-based provider of MES software, announced the strategic partnership with EOS to enable machine connectivity and end-to-end workflow automation for additive manufacturing.

The companies together plan to offer customers the management of their entire additive manufacturing operations with AMFG's Manufacturing Execution System (MES) and direct connectiv-

ity to machines with the software platform.

EOS is a technology supplier in the field of industrial 3D printing of polymers and metals.

A high initial capital investment requirement is anticipated to impact the growth of the 3D printing building construction market over the coming years.

The high cost of 3D printers and their maintenance is a major challenge for industry players. According to Winsun 3D Builders, a 3D printing construction company, the high initial investment of 3D concrete printers is currently at a level that requires high capital and decent construction projects in order to support small and medium companies to overcome the capital requirements for expansion and growth.

The requirement of high initial capital to set up the process is expected to hinder the growth of the 3D printing building construction market in the forecast period.

In January 2019, Apis Cor, a company engaged in 3D printing in construction, announced a strategic collaboration with Gerdau, supplier of long and special steel worldwide.

The collaboration is aimed at accelerating Apis Cor's ability of 3D printing in the construction industry in the USA and South America.

Gerdau previously supported Apis Cor in the "3D printing habitat challenge" organized by NASA. Gerdau was founded in 1901 and is a long steel producer based in Brazil.



London saw a big fall in rental demand during the pandemic (PHOTO/GETTY IMAGE)

UK rental costs jump as workers return to the office

LONDON

THE cost of renting a property in a city centre is rising as office workers, students and international residents return, according to Zoopla.

The property portal said greater competition meant that renters taking on a new let were paying £62 more a month than they did pre-pandemic.

This higher demand is set to ease in the coming months, in part owing to the rising cost of living facing renters.

Another survey suggests interest in new office space has risen in recent weeks.

First-time buyers rise: 'I couldn't keep paying rent' Demand for city-centre properties to rent dropped dramatically, particularly in London, during the pandemic lockdowns.

Many students and young workers who were working from home returned to live with their parents, and international travel restrictions reduced medium-term overseas visitors.

Zoopla said that the gradual return to the office, and well as the general winding down of Covid restrictions, had boosted the rental market.

It said demand for rental properties in January was up 76% compared to an average January in each of the previous four years.

"The flooding of rental demand back into city centres thanks to office workers, students and international demand returning to cities means the post-pandemic recalibration of the rental market is well underway," said Grainne Gilmore, head of research at Zoopla.

The number of properties available had been curtailed by existing renters staying put.

Together, this has meant a rise in rent for new lets, up 8.3% in the final quarter of 2021 compared with the same period a year earlier. A typical monthly rent in the UK rose by £62 per month to £969.

This increase in rent was seen across most major cities including Birmingham, Edinburgh, Leeds and Manchester, Zoopla said.

"Rents have risen sharply in recent months, amid a

backdrop of rising living costs. But it is important to point out that in terms of rental affordability, in most markets rents are still close to the 10-year average," Ms Gilmore said.

The average rent accounts for 37% of gross income for a single earner. Ms Gilmore added that demand would ease as the cost of living squeeze became more of an issue.

Many renters who want to buy a home have been frustrated by rising house prices, and any pressure on the cost of renting would be unwelcome for them.

The plight of first-time buyers has been the topic of sharp debate in recent days after the broadcaster Kirstie Allsopp suggested young people would be better placed to afford a property if they quit Netflix, gym memberships and coffee.

Kirstie Allsopp's comments on young people saving to buy

a property have stirred debate

Those comments in a national newspaper at the weekend prompted a furious backlash from many on social media, although some supported her views.

In terms of buyers, another property listing website Rightmove recently suggested that there had been a long-term shift with buyers willing to pay more for space and privacy.

That has meant some demand transferring from city centre to out-of-town living in some cases.

Rightmove also said mid this week that business owners enquiring about leasing office space surpassed pre-pandemic levels in January.

It said enquiries were 54% higher than in January 2021 and 15% higher than the same point in 2019, before the pandemic.

(BBC)

How Covid has shaped the construction sector

NAIROBI.

A few areas of business were impacted by the pandemic in such a profound way as building and construction. We experienced immense shifts in what we need from buildings, from changing work-life patterns to the movement of retail activity further online. This may take years to fully come to fruition.

At the same time, however, this 'change point' represents an opportunity for the buildings sector to make real change towards delivering an environment which is fit for the future. There are a few things to look out for in the coming year as those changes start happening. Firstly, old buildings will find new life.

The pandemic had a big impact on the buildings sector, as public health measures turned homes into offices and left office buildings empty.

While some of these effects may have receded, the way we use buildings has changed for good: office attendance will not return to pre-Covid levels, advances in remote and hybrid working will not be rolled back, and physical retail will never fully recover the ground it lost to e-commerce.

At the same time, greater demands is now being placed on residential property - to meet many more needs than previously. We face a situation where some types of property, such as office buildings, are over-abundant, while pressure increases for more homes and buildings that cater for logistical tasks, such as parcel processing and collection.

We should therefore expect to see businesses making real efforts to tackle the challenges of repurposing buildings with significant opportunities to meet our changing property needs.

Secondly, power will be at the heart of rethinking building usage in the current times. The changes we have seen in how buildings are used over the last two years came at a time when we were already experiencing changes in property usage, for example as a result of the shift to online shopping, coupled with a regulatory and societal push for greater energy efficiency in response to climate change.

The urgent action needed better approaches to building efficiency, in terms of designing and retrofitting buildings for reduced energy usage, and this tends to mean changes to a building's power management system.

The growing adoption of EVs will replace fossil fuels in vehicles, while electric cooking and heating offer significant efficiency gains but introduce yet greater demand for electrical power.

At the same time, the increasingly persuasive economic case for small-scale renewables will see rooftop solar deployments become common, leading to buildings becoming more complex consumers and producers of electricity.

The term 'prosumers' is often used to describe the way building owners will manage this new relationship with power, so expect to see and hear more reference to prosumers in the year ahead.

How buildings interact with energy infrastructure has long been a vital consideration, but as they are developed and redeveloped in response to changing needs in the coming years, that consideration will rise higher up the agenda.

We can expect the basic processes of the industry, such as tenders for contracts and construction standards, to become increasingly focused on questions of power management.

Thirdly, digitisation will become an essential enabler. For major changes in how buildings interact with electrical infrastructure to be viable, we cannot rely on traditional technologies and approaches.

Smart technologies including smart meters, will become essential to provide buildings with the capability to feed power back to the grid, and provide insight to network operators about how and why each building is using power.

Additionally, safety in buildings will be redefined. The safety of buildings has been a central question over the last two years, as public health authorities have raced to understand the dynamics of viral transmission and the impact of interventions like increased ventilation on how building management systems work.

US NON-BANK MORTGAGE SERVICERS UNDER SCRUTINY

NEW YORK

REGULATORY scrutiny of servicing practices at U.S. mortgage companies is expected to increase in 2022 as pandemic-related government forbearance programs expire and borrowers transition to other permanent loss mitigation alternatives or default, Fitch Ratings says.

Enforcement actions and resultant fines could rise with greater scrutiny from various regulators stemming in part from elevated customer complaints, which could lead to increased headline/reputational risk for mortgage companies and potentially higher regulatory capital requirements.

A modest increase in fines and/or higher regulatory capital requirements, as could be seen with the potential reintroduction of the Federal Housing Finance Agency's (FHFA's) increased net worth, liquidity and capital standards, are unlikely to be a ratings event for larger rated non-bank mortgage servicers.

Record profitability in IQ20 to IQ21 has bolstered capital and liquidity profiles for most servicers, with larger servicers also able to extend their liquidity profiles with longer dated unsecured issuances.

The expanded regulatory framework for mortgage servicers since the global financial crisis has been supportive of ratings, along with servicers implementing enhanced systems and processes, investments in technology and increased automation, allowing servicers to respond to regulatory concerns more effectively.

The U.S. mortgage industry is subject to exten-

sive federal- and state-level regulations, which rapidly evolved during the economic fallout from the pandemic amid the transition to more automated and remote business platforms.

The Consumer Finance Protection Bureau has prioritized mortgage servicing oversight under the new administration.

Nearly eight million U.S. homeowners have entered forbearance and loss mitigation programs since March 2020, with nearly six million homeowners since exiting the program with loans in performing status or paid off, according to the CFPB.

The current- to 30-day delinquency transition rate for mortgages fell to 0.7% in October 2021 from 3.4% in April 2020, when mortgage forbearance-related consumer complaints were also at their peak.

The national mortgage delinquency rate was 3.38% in December 2021, 10 basis points above the record low in February 2020.

Loans in active foreclosure fell to an all-time low in December 2021 at 0.24%, with 4,100 foreclosure starts, which was nearly 90% below December 2019 levels despite the recent expiration of the foreclosure moratorium.

However, foreclosure activity could rise in 2022, inviting additional regulatory scrutiny given the number of borrowers who have been exiting accommodating programs in recent months as well as rising interest rates limiting refinancing options.

December 2021 90+ day delinquency levels remained elevated at over twice pre-pandemic levels, including those still in active forbearance, despite the improving economic backdrop reflect-



ed in lower 30+ day delinquencies, with more than a half million borrowers in active loss mitigation as well as a larger number of borrowers who are working through the foreclosure process,

according to Black Knight.

According to Fitch research, forbearance plans for non-prime, non-bank servicers, which peaked at 71% of all loan workout options in IQ21, saw a

10% decline in 3Q21 as borrowers exited forbearance agreements, while the number of loan modifications tripled to 19% from 6.6% year over year. (Fitch)

Utilising low-cost financing to build affordable homes

LAGOS

NIGERIA'S population explosion in the last three decades coupled with a sustained lack of investment in affordable housing in its rapidly expanding urban areas has created a housing deficit in the millions.

With homeownership one of the most significant markers of a country with healthy growth, the deficit presents an opportunity to include construction-led economic expansion as a tool in Nigeria's economic diversification arsenal.

It is not just Nigeria; lack of housing is an Africa-wide problem, with the deficit ranging from 30,000 in Burundi to 3.5 million in Egypt, according to the United Nations Population Division 2014 'World Urbanisation Prospects' report.

Other numbers to mull over: in Africa, the average rural household size is 5.4 members and 4.5 persons in urban households. The homeownership rate in Nigeria remains at 25%—the lowest among other African countries compared to countries like Kenya at 75% or South Africa at 56%.

This situation is especially evident in major Nigerian cities like Kano, Lagos, and Ibadan, where housing demand can increase by 20% annually.

The limited housing supply exacerbates the already dire situation, with the housing pool availability versus demand ratio pegged at 10%. The situation is further compounded by developers struggling to complete their projects, bogged down by largely unfavourable lending rates compared to the rest of the world.

Exacerbating the issue is the advent of short-let housing in the last few years. In Lagos for instance, areas like Lekki, Victoria Island and Ikeja have seen a sharp rise in rental prices due to in-

creasing amount of homes and apartments being used for short-term rentals.

State and federal governments have made concerted attempts to improve the housing situation. These efforts resulted in the formation of the Real Estate Developers Association of Nigeria (REDAN), the Building Materials and Manufacturers and Producers Association of Nigeria (BUMPAN), the Nigerian Mortgage Refinance Company (NMRC).

However, organisations like Shelter Afrique offer a much-needed injection of large-scale private funding to address both demand-side and supply-side constraints.

As the only pan-African financial institution dedicated solely to the growth of Africa's housing and real estate sector, Shelter Afrique offers developers a payment structure similar to those available in Germany, the United Kingdom and Hungary, with favourable terms like 10-year loan payment periods at competitive interest rates.

Indeed, the pan-African housing finance institution has a clear mission - to increase access to quality, low-cost housing across Africa.

While Shelter Afrique, alongside other institutions like the African Development Bank (AfDB), is working hard to address the staggering housing deficit across the continent, domestic parastatals and organisations also play a crucial role.

In Nigeria, the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMBN) has been consistent and proactive in providing loans and financing across the real estate value chain.

In 2020 alone, FMBN distributed \$30.5 billion (US\$74 million) through its service offerings to bring home ownership within the reach of more citizens.

By channelling resources towards easing de-



mand- and supply-side pressures, this formal sector focus could help address some of the major issues highlighted in the recent World Bank report, 'Stocktaking of the Housing Sector in Sub-Saharan Africa' including little formal savings, limited access to loans and the reliance on informal or micro-lending.

Likewise, targeted funding initiatives will ameliorate incremental construction or self-funded construction problems. This would ease pressure on the public sector, leaving room for govern-

ments to address appropriate town planning, building standards, the provision of land title issues, and infrastructure trunklines for water and power.

As an example, REDAN has recently partnered with Shelter Afrique to finance 12,000 affordable housing units in Nigeria. The memorandum of understanding, signed in July 2021 will see 6,000 units developed across the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria in the first phase of the project.

However, for international agencies such as Shelter Af-

rique, making inroads into new territories like Nigeria can be difficult. Exchange rate volatility and sky-high interest rates make financing projects a dicey game, but there are ways to mitigate the issue.

Issuing local currency bonds backed by its US Dollar balance sheet is a route Shelter Afrique plans to take as it seeks to deliver on its mission to help provide greater access to affordable housing within the country. The organisation has finalised plans to issue bonds of up to N250

billion in Nigeria, commencing in 2022.

This represents an attractive investment opportunity for savvy institutional investors such as pension funds, insurance companies, asset managers and banks. In turn, housing developers, construction companies and mortgage providers can obtain Naira loans from Shelter Afrique at more competitive interest rates.

Nigeria's housing construction industry presents an opportunity to begin to tackle some of its most pressing problems. Concerted domestic and international investment in affordable homes could spur ownership in record numbers.

(Nairametrics)

Rents for luxury London homes up 5%

LONDON

RENTAL values for luxury homes in London and the surrounding Home Counties are now 5 per cent above their pre-pandemic level in March 2020.

In prime central London, the annual change surged to 19.8 per cent in January compared to a year earlier when the market was depressed amid the third national lockdown in England, figures compiled by global property consultancy Knight Frank show.

There was also a significant change in prime outer London where the annual increase hit 16.6 per cent in January - again a reflection of the steep rises that took place over the course of last year.

"The unprecedented backdrop of the pandemic led to exceptional rental value growth last year," said Tom Bill, head of UK residential research at Knight Frank.

"It has tailed off in recent months

as the supply and demand imbalance corrects itself but that process still has some way left to run, which will keep upwards pressure on rents this year."

In another positive note for landlords, the fall in rental values seen in the year to March 2021 when a flood of short-let properties hit the market and demand dried up, has reversed in line with easing restrictions.

However, this is less positive for tenants, who now face higher prices for rental homes.

"It's a tough time to be a tenant at the moment, rents are rising and the availability of stock is low, which means transaction volumes are lower. That said, we believe stock levels should start to improve later this year," said Gary Hall, head of lettings at Knight Frank.

A separate study from Zoopla found that rents in the UK are now £62 per month higher on average than when the coronavirus lockdowns started.

Across the UK, the average monthly

rent was £969 by the fourth quarter of 2021. Zoopla said, with higher average rents adding to the pressure on households already facing a perfect storm of rising bills and squeezes on their income.

Meanwhile, price growth is also on the horizon in prime London sales markets, Knight Frank said, with the number of new prospective buyers 72 per cent above the five-year average in January, although the number of sales instructions was down by 12 per cent.

A return to more balanced conditions does not appear imminent, said Knight Frank, as international buyers still appear reluctant to make a purchase while the uncertainty around Covid persists.

The consultancy expects international buyers to arrive in greater numbers from the spring as their habits tend to be more seasonal.

In the meantime, supply is building gradually with the number of new market valuation appraisals, a leading

indicator of supply, 6 per cent above the five-year average in January. That compares to an equivalent decline of 30 per cent in January 2021 when the UK locked down.

"Supply chain disruptions have prevented normality returning in various sectors of the economy including the property market," said Mr Bill, head of UK residential research at Knight Frank.

"A supply/demand imbalance has produced gravity-defying UK house price growth and there may be a similar bounce later this year in prime central London. The extent of any uptick will depend on how quickly different countries are able to suppress the effects of Covid-19 and how easy outwards and inwards travel becomes. The lifting of travel restrictions in the UK last October is only one part of this global puzzle."

The problem of low supply will take a period of time to resolve, as prospective sellers are often discouraged by a

Figures show eye watering amount Aussies spent on property

SYDNEY

AUSSIES spent an eye-watering amount on property last year, but with international borders opening in less than two weeks, there are more warnings.

Aussies' frenzied buying and selling on the property market last year added up to a third of the country's national economy, with a whopping \$688.7 billion spent on homes.

As home values surged by more than 20 per cent in some parts of the nation - rising at their fastest rate in three decades - data showed there was a 57 per cent jump in housing settlements equalling one-third of Australia's \$2 trillion economy.

The figures from conveyancing platform PEXA showed property transaction soared to more than 834,000 last year in NSW, QLD, Victoria, WA and SA, up by 38 per cent compared to 2020.

Skyrocketing property prices have also seen the Australian market reach a value of \$9 trillion, but have also shone the spotlight on housing affordability and how younger generations are being locked out of buying.

While there have been predictions the property market will experience a serious drop from midway through this year, with 2023 house prices predicted to plunge by a whopping 11 per cent, according to a NAB, other experts aren't so sure.

Scott Butterworth, the chief data and analytics office of PEXA Insights, said records had been busted while international borders had been closed.

"We've had record volumes at a time when migration flows have been basically zero, so what happens when those borders are reopened?" he told the Australian Financial Review.

Buyers agent Michelle May also predicted the reopening of international borders on February 21 will see the return of student and skilled labour immigration and as a result, apartments being sold and rented in inner cities again.

"Whilst lockdowns spurred an increase in tree and sea changes over the past couple of years, in 2022 I'm predicting we'll see a reverse of that. Many apartments which have been sitting idle as they were marketed to skilled labour immigration and students, will now be snapped up again with our borders opening," she added.

TECHNOLOGY

CLIMATE CHANGE OFFERS LONG-TERM INSURANCE COVER - GOLDMAN SACHS

LONDON

ANALYSTS at Goldman Sachs believe that the London Market and re/insurance stocks are debating whether companies are pricing correctly for the increased cost of weather losses due to climate change, or whether companies are basing pricing on historical trends.

According to analysts, the market is also questioning whether or not companies have been conservative enough in their catastrophe budgets, or whether they are basing these estimates on previous trends which has led to estimates being behind the curve, and ultimately increasing the probability of disappointing earnings.

Goldman Sachs believes that any increase in companies' cat budgets would be positive, even if they believe them to be conservative.

Although this could potentially lead to short-term earnings estimate declines although it would improve long-term market confidence.

Analysts believe this could start to have capital consequences, with S&P recently publishing a report suggesting they are now looking at natural catastrophe losses relative to budgets.

Despite S&P's report, Goldman Sachs believes that climate change likely to drive higher weather losses, leading to a material tailwind to the sector, which will ultimately increase both demand for property insurance and property reinsurance and the price of insurance and reinsurance.

The analysts noted that insurance and reinsurance pricing can be changed every 12 months, and if weather losses continue to increase, then the re/insurers can increase pricing every year in response to this.

Analysts noted that property re/insurance is a short-tailed business and hence if the reinsurers are mispricing, they know and can react very quickly. In their view, it is clear that weather losses have increased, and indeed data from the Insurance



Information Institute (III) in the US clearly shows that the level of catastrophe losses has continued to rise each decade.

Furthermore, both the severity and frequency have been increasing, with 2017 becoming a record year for US weather losses in terms of absolute cost, while 2020 was a record year in terms of the number of \$1bn+ events.

Last year was also similar, as Swiss Re estimates that global insured losses from catastrophes was \$105bn, the fourth highest on record.

Man-made disasters triggered another \$7bn of insured losses, resulting in estimated global insured losses of \$112bn compared to the ten-year average of \$86bn and 2020 losses of \$99bn.

Hurricane IDA led to c.\$30bn+ of insured losses and was the second-

most damaging and intense hurricane to make landfall in the US state of Louisiana on record, behind Hurricane Katrina.

Analysts further explained that the remnants of the storm also caused widespread flooding across the Northeastern United States. However, winter storm Uri and other secondary peril events caused more than half of the total losses.

While the two biggest losses were from the US, international (non-US) catastrophe losses were also much higher, with industry expert Cresta CLIX estimating that accumulated losses from \$1bn+ events were \$21.6bn in 2021, well above the long-term average of \$17.2bn.

The July 2021 European floods - the costliest natural catastrophe event in German history - was over half of this

number with the loss now expected to be c.\$12bn.

Swiss Re has also reported estimates that rising catastrophe losses could translate to \$149bn to \$183bn of new global property premiums by 2040, this will bode well for property insurers and particularly the reinsurers.

This increase in demand would not only drive the top line of reinsurers over the next 20 years, but would drive pricing higher too with the current supply of capital likely to struggle to meet this increased demand.

The analysts concluded that whilst climate change is likely to offer a material tailwind to property insurance demand, both underlying economic growth and urbanisation should also drive demand.

(Agencies)

Seven tips for financing offshore real estate

By Luigi Wewege

YOUR goal is to purchase real estate in another country. Perhaps it will serve as an investment property until you decide to make it your retirement home. It may be property that you plan to develop as a business site.

Whatever the case, there's the matter of determining how to pay for that offshore property. Here are seven tips that will help you come up with a strategy that works.

1. Learn About Applicable Property Laws

You learned a little about applicable property laws while looking for the best parcel of real estate. That's great, but there's likely that you need to know before making the actual purchase. Depending on which country is involved, the laws may include special provisions for internationals who want to purchase property within that nation.

For example, there may be restrictions on what parts of the country are open for offshore ownership. In other instances, there may be incentives or tax breaks that you can claim. In other cases, it may be necessary to have some temporary resident status even though you will only be in the country a few weeks out of the year.

Keep in mind that it's necessary to secure the services of a financial agent in some nations. The agent acts on your behalf through the entire process, beginning with the property purchase. Agents often make the purchase easier because they understand the local real estate laws and how they apply to you as a non-citizen.

2. See if your domestic bank offers loans

Did you know that your domestic bank may offer loans that you can use to purchase offshore real estate? Some may be mortgages,



or they may be in the form of general loans. It doesn't hurt to ask about this option and find out what interest and repayment terms are involved.

Keep in mind that using the offshore property as security for the financing is not likely in this instance. You will need to pledge one or more of your domestic assets as part of the deal. This is because a domestic bank would have more difficulty repossessing an offshore property.

If you have equity in your domestic residence, it may be possible to tap into it and secure a domestic mortgage to use for the offshore purchase.

3. Channel loan proceeds

Assuming you can get funding through a domestic bank, the loan proceeds may be routed through an offshore bank. For example, the proceeds might be deposited into an offshore checking account or even a special

mortgage account. Upon receipt and confirmation that the transaction is completed, the offshore bank would allow you to use the funds to manage the property purchase.

This is where your knowledge of the applicable laws related to purchasing and owning offshore properties will come in handy. During that learning process, you'll find out if it's necessary to involve an offshore bank. If you already have checking and/or time deposit accounts with a bank in the country where you want to buy property, the transfer of funds will be simple.

4. Investigate mortgage options

Many banks in offshore locations do have provisions for helping expats and other non-citizens to purchase real estate. Rather than securing financing from a domestic bank and then funneling the money through an offshore

bank account, consider working with the offshore bank directly.

Why would you want to do this? The offshore bank likely has financing terms and conditions that rival anything you could secure from your bank at home. In some cases, the interest rate, how it's applied, and even the miscellaneous fees related to the financing may be more competitive. If you already have at least one account with that offshore bank, the terms may be even more competitive.

5. Secure financing from a mortgage company

Up to this point, you've focused on obtaining financing through a domestic or offshore bank. It may be time to widen the search and see what a mortgage company could do for you. As with banks, there are mortgage companies set up to offer financing for different

Bamburi Cement orders two solar power plants

NAIROBI:

Bamburi Cement has signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) with Momnai Energy to set up two solar plants.

One 14.5MW unit will be situated next to its integrated Mombasa plant and the other 5MW unit by its Nairobi grinding plant.

This will account for up to approximately 40% of the cement producer's total power supply. Construction of the solar power plants is scheduled to begin end of 2022, after requisite regulatory approvals with expected completion within a year.

"We are elated to be making this step towards switching to more affordable and clean energy that will not only lead to a significant reduction in power costs but also bring us closer to our goal of achieving net zero carbon emissions," said Miriam Ngolo, Bamburi Cement's Strategy and Business Development Director.

Other recent sustainability work by the subsidiary of Switzerland-based Holcim has included substituting heavy fuels with alternative fuels like biomass, including rice husks, and other waste material such as waste tyres and waste oil in its operations.

XX

Global Gypsum conference to be held in November

EASTORIL

THE 20th Global Gypsum Conference and Exhibition will take place at the Estoril Congress Centre in Portugal early November 2022.

The event will be co-located with the Global Insulation Conference and Exhibition, after a survey of participants in both industries which was strongly positive towards co-location.

Delegates with different interests will be identified by their delegate badges. All of the combined conference social events (Welcome Party, Gala Dinner, Farewell Reception) will be held jointly.

After joining together for a unified welcome and for VIP presentations, the audience will be able to choose its preferred topic, since each conference will have its own dedicated lecture theatre, with parallel sessions for gypsum and for insulation.

Organisers say the conference venue is particularly large and well-appointed, and will allow delegates and exhibitors plenty of space in which to meet and do business.

XX

China eases curbs on home loans

BEIJING

Bank loans to fund low-cost rental projects will no longer be subject to regulatory curbs, the People's Bank of China said in a statement, the latest bid by authorities to tackle a slumping property market.

Under the lending limits that took effect in January last year, China's largest state-owned banks were told to trim their loan exposure to the property sector to 40 percent or less. Banks' mortgage lending was capped at 32.5 percent of outstanding credit. Those exceeding the limits were given a grace period of four years to meet the requirements.

The latest easing comes after banks were recently urged to lend more to developers and speed up mortgage approvals. Authorities have also made it easier for companies to obtain financing to buy assets from weaker real estate firms by excluding such debt from regulatory limits on borrowing.

"It's a strong signal of credit easing," following the move to loosen M&A loans, said Yan Yuejin, research director at E-house China Research and Development Institute.

Separately, embattled Chinese developer Shimao (0813) is in talks to sell part of the stake in its first wholly owned Hong Kong residential project, mainland media ifeng.com reported. The luxury project at 9 Yin Ping Road in Kowloon is valued at HK\$20 billion.

XX

Fortune Global 500 to build industrial park

NANJING

HENGLI Group, a Fortune Global 500 company based in east China's Jiangsu Province, has started the construction of its new polyester science and technology industrial park in Changxing Island in the northeastern Chinese city of Dalian.

The park will be built in three phases and it aims to establish major industrial chains covering degradable materials, functional polyester materials, high-performance resin materials, high-end fiber materials and new energy materials, the company said.

With a total investment of about 26 billion yuan (about 4 billion U.S. dollars), the Phase I construction project of the park is expected to generate 42 billion yuan worth of annual output value after being put into operation in 2023.

The Phase I project includes production lines with an annual output of 2.6 million tonnes of functional polyester and 1.6 million tonnes of high-performance resin as well as supporting facilities like a wharf.

Hengli Group plans to build the park into a globally influential eco-friendly industrial base, thereby fueling northeast China's revitalization. (Xinhua)

types of properties, even ones located in other countries.

You can also investigate mortgage companies that operate in the country where your offshore property is located. Don't hesitate to compare the terms offered by offshore and domestic mortgage lenders. You may find that the offshore lender provides more competitive interest rates and other terms.

6. Consider developer financing

Developer financing for international clients is sometimes available. Simply put, this financing allows you access to funds that can be used to purchase the offshore property and begin making improvements to it. If this type of financing is available, you will often learn about it by studying real estate laws in the country where the property is located. An agent with an offshore bank may also point this out as a financing option.

The key is what you plan on doing with the property. It may be completely undeveloped, and you want to build a home there. A distressed residential property that you plan on renovating may also be eligible. If you are thinking of opening a small business on the first floor of an existing building and include living space on the second floor as part of the renovation, that may also apply.

Why developer financing? You may be able to secure grants, tax breaks, and other incentives in exchange for buying a property and making it into something more functional and valuable. Since this benefits the community and you personally, this could be the most practical method for making the purchase.

7. Purchase property

Self-financing may be the best approach in your case. Using this idea, you would make use of domestic resources that are already on hand. It could be the funds housed in an interest-bearing account, a certificate of deposit that's about to mature, or even a fund you set up to use for emergencies.

The point is that those funds are there for you to use as you see fit. There's no need to qualify for financing through any lender. All you will have to do is transfer the funds to your offshore account, remit the payment to the seller, and make sure any applicable taxes and other fees are paid to the appropriate government agency. At that juncture, you have your offshore property without any financial encumbrance.

Luigi Wewege is the Senior Vice President and Head of Private Banking of Caye International Bank, headquartered in Belize, Central America.

WORLD

Libyan PM survives assassination attempt

TRIPOLI

ASSAILANTS struck Libyan Prime Minister Abdulhamid al-Dbeibah's car with bullets early yesterday but he escaped unharmed, a source close to him said, amid intense factional wrangling over control of the government.

The source said the incident happened as Dbeibah was returning home, describing it as a clear assassination attempt, but the attackers fled and the incident has been referred for investigation.

Reuters has seen no immediate photographs or footage of the incident or its aftermath, or spoken to other witnesses to the incident.

If confirmed, an attempt to assassinate Dbeibah could aggravate the crisis over control of Libya after he said he will ignore a vote scheduled by the eastern-

based parliament later yesterday to replace him.

Armed forces have mobilized more fighters and equipment in the capital over recent weeks, raising fears the political crisis could trigger fighting.

Libya has had little peace or stability since the 2011 NATO-backed uprising against Muammar Gaddafi, and it split in 2014 between warring factions in east and west.

Dbeibah was installed in March as head of the UN-backed Government of National Unity (GNU) that was meant to unify the country's divided institutions and oversee the run-up to an election in December as part of a peace process.

Rival factions have been jostling for position after the election process fell apart amid disputes over the rules, including over the legitimacy of Dbeibah's own candidacy for president after he



Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah

pledged not to run.

The parliament, which mostly backed eastern forces during the civil war, has declared the GNU invalid and will hold a vote on Thursday to name a new prime minister to form another government.

Dbeibah said in a speech this week that he would only hand over power after an election and the UN's Libya adviser and Western countries have said they continue to recognize the GNU.

The parliament said this week that no

elections would be held this year, after it and another political body amended the country's temporary constitution, dismaying the many Libyans who had registered to vote.

The parliament's move to choose a new prime minister may lead to a return to the situation before Dbeibah's unity government was installed, with parallel administrations seeking to rule Libya from different cities.

However, analysts say that may not immediately trigger a return to civil war.

Agencies

India biggest state holds polls in key test of Modi's popularity

NEW DELHI/VRINDAVAN

INDIA'S most populous state of Uttar Pradesh began voting on Thursday in the first of a series of local elections that will be a key test of the popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his ruling party.

With a population almost as big as that of Brazil, keeping power in the bellwether state would give the Bharatiya Janata Party a boost in its bid for a third successive victory at nationwide parliamentary polls due by 2024.

In Vrindavan, a Hindu holy city around 160 km south of India's capital New Delhi, saffron-clad monks bundled up against the winter cold waited in line with other locals to cast their votes. "If people want to have a good government, then they have to come out to vote", said 41-year-old Acharya Udit Narayan Diwedi, who said he voted for the BJP.

Defeat in Uttar Pradesh, or in any of the other three states it holds that also stage elections this month, would add to pressure on the Hindu nationalist party amid criticism of high unemployment and its handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"If the BJP loses, especially in UP, that will be a big setback," said Rahul Verma, a fellow at New Delhi-based think-tank Centre for Policy Research. "But you can call this a semi-final. The game in 2024 will be very, very different."

For the main opposition Congress party, led by the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty, the calculation appears more bleak. Of the five states



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi

where voting begins this month, it holds only Punjab in the northwest.

"Congress desperately needs to win states, even if it's smaller states, just to get back in the habit of winning. Otherwise they are in trouble," Verma added. Failure to do so would lead to more questions over the leadership of Rahul Gandhi, whose father, grandmother and great-grandfather have all served as prime ministers but who has struggled to dent Modi's high ratings.

Religious lines

During campaigning, the BJP has appealed to large Hindu majorities in the northern states of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Both are home to important holy sites, some of which are disputed by Hindus and minority Muslims.

Opinion polls suggest the party will win the vote in both states, despite some opposition parties seeking to mirror its Hindu-first agenda and appeal to its support base.

"We have seen all political parties playing within the same field of the BJP," said Nilanjan Mukhopadhyay, author of a biography of Modi, on the campaign so far. "That is one of their biggest successes."

Congress and activists have criticized the approach, saying that it risks stoking communal tensions that have flared up into deadly violence in the past.

Yogi Adityanath, a hardline Hindu monk who is seeking re-election as chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, touted his record on fighting crime, and said that law and order took precedence over religion.

"My government dealt with the issues of corruption," he told a small group of reporters on Monday.

"Law and order has improved markedly and police action during my rule was taken against gangsters and mafia groups without discriminating on the basis of their caste or religion," Uttar Pradesh, home to around 200 million people, votes in seven phases ending on March 7, while most other states begin polling in the coming days. Counting in the five states begins on March 10, with the results expected soon after.

The BJP faces a challenge from Congress in the northeastern state of Manipur, while in the western state of Goa, the Aam Aadmi Party is trying to expand its reach beyond its traditional base of India's capital New Delhi.

The fifth state, Punjab, looks like a close contest between the ruling Congress, AAP and several regional parties.

UK PM unveils plan to end final virus restrictions this month

LONDON

BRITAIN'S Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced Wednesday that he plans to remove all remaining COVID-19 restrictions in England a month earlier than planned.

Current COVID-19 restrictions were set to expire on March 24 but Johnson suggested rules could expire later this month.

"Providing the current encouraging trends in the data continue, it is my expectation that we will be able to end the last domestic restrictions, including the legal requirement to self-isolate if you test positive, a full month early," the prime minister told MPs.

During this week's instalment of Prime Minister's Questions in the House of Commons, the lower house of the British Parliament, Johnson said he would present the government's "Living with COVID" strategy when the Commons returns from its recess on Feb 21.

As of the end of last month, people with COVID-19 in England can end their self-isolation after five full days, as long as they test negative on day five and day six.

As of Tuesday, Britain had recorded 17,932,803 COVID-19 cases and 158,677 related deaths, according to official figures.

More than 91 percent of people aged 12 and above in Britain have had their first vaccine dose, over 84 percent have received both, and some 65 percent have received booster jabs.



'Russian officials won't attend Munich Security Conference'

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN officials for various reasons won't attend the Munich Security Conference that's taking place on February 18-20, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said at a news conference on Wednesday.

"As far as the Russian Foreign Ministry is aware, Russian officials for various reasons won't attend the Munich Security Conference on security policy that's taking place on February 18-20 this year," she said.

Earlier, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Russian President Vladimir Putin will not take part in the Munich Security Conference either in person or via video link.

About 35 heads of state and government will take part in the Munich Security Conference, which is scheduled for February 18-20.

The US is expected to be represented by Vice President Kamala Harris and Secretary of State Antony Blinken. The German delegation will be led by Chancellor Olaf Scholz. Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky also plans to participate.



US, Canada warn of economic hit from trucker protests

WINDSOR/OTTAWA/WASHINGTON

TRUCKERS opposed to coronavirus mandates risk hurting the auto sector and agriculture as they block US-Canada border crossings, the White House said on Wednesday as Ford halted some output and Ottawa urged an end to the 13-day-long protests.

Many pandemic-weary Western countries will soon mark two years of restrictions as copycat protests spread to Australia, New Zealand and France now the highly infectious Omicron variant begins to ease in some places.

Horn-blasting protests have been causing gridlock in the capital Ottawa since late January and from Monday night, truckers shut inbound Canada traffic at the Ambassador Bridge, a supply route for Detroit's carmakers and agricultural products.

Production has been affected at Ford Motor Co and Chrysler-maker Stellantis.

Another border crossing, in Alberta province, has been closed in both directions since late on Tuesday.

Starting as a "Freedom Convoy" occupying downtown Ottawa opposing a vaccine-or-quarantine mandate for cross-border truckers mirrored by the US government, protesters have also aired grievances about a carbon tax and other legislation. "I think it's important for everyone in Canada and the United States to understand what the impact of this blockage is - potential impact - on workers, on the supply chain, and that is where we're most focused," White House spokesperson Jen Psaki said on Wednesday.

"We're also looking to track potential disruptions to US agricultural exports from Michigan into Canada."

Agencies

US hospitals struggle with blood supply shortages

HOUSTON

BLOOD supply reserved for medical use is so low in the United States that the first sentence on the homepage of the American Red Cross is: "WARNING: BLOOD CRISIS" in bold.

The Red Cross, which contributes to 40 percent of the nation's blood supply, said it is the "worst blood shortage" in more than a decade and has had to limit blood product distributions to hospitals as a result.

Blood donations have declined by 10 percent since March 2020, according to the Red Cross Col-

lege. High school students who accounted for a quarter of total blood donations in 2019 had the steepest drop 62 percent.

The bad winter weather and surge in Omicron cases have further driven down the blood supply. People have also canceled donation appointments because they are infected with the coronavirus and cannot donate blood.

Through the end of January in North Carolina, about 75 percent of donation appointments were unfilled compared to 56 percent a year earlier. In addition, blood

drives hosted by employers and

colleges have been frequently canceled throughout the pandemic because of closures or work-from-home policies.

There is also a staffing shortage as a result of the pandemic. Medical staff members have to quarantine when they test positive for the coronavirus. But some people said they have a hard time scheduling a donation now because the slots are full until March. This has been further complicated by supply chain pressure on needles, bags and other equipment.

In a Feb 8 report by America's Blood Centers, 16 of 59 blood cen-

ters across the nation have a one-day supply of blood and 18 centers have one to two days of blood supply.

Only one center reported blood for three days or more, while the rest supplied no data. That means at least more than half of the blood centers have one to two days of blood supply or less.

January is traditionally a blood donation drive period for the Red Cross. The organization appealed to the public for blood donations by sharing the story of Kristen Mill from Spring Grove, Illinois.

Mill's body cannot produce

enough hemoglobin to carry oxygen in her blood, a health problem caused by a tick bite in 2008. Weekly blood transfusions are essential for her to survive.

On a recent visit to the hospital for a transfusion, she was told the hospital had no blood that matched her type, and she would have to wait until the right match became available.

"It's very scary, especially if you don't know if the blood is coming, because this is something that you need to live," said Mill, who ended up having to wait for blood on multiple occasions in recent weeks.

Beijing endeavours to help citizens better enjoy winter sports

RIDING the wave of the 2022 Olympic Winter Games, Beijing has made great efforts to promote the popularization of winter sports across the city and encourage citizens to pay attention to, participate in and share the benefits of the grand sports event, showing the world the unique charm of the world's first "dual Olympic city".

Seeing that students skate freely on the ice and enjoy themselves at a sports school in Shijingshan district, Beijing, Liu Xiaodan, vice president for business at the sports school, couldn't help but recall how difficult times used to be.

Just a few years ago, Shijingshan district had no ice rink or ski slope, said Liu, adding that when the school first organized on-ice training for stu-

dents, it had to borrow the outdoor facilities of other districts in Beijing.

In July 2015, Beijing, together with Zhangjiakou city, north China's Hebei province, won the bid to host the 2022 Winter Olympics, which has greatly stimulated Beijing citizens' enthusiasm for ice and snow sports.

Grasping the opportunities provided by the Beijing 2022, Shijingshan district has ramped up efforts to catch up. After increasing financial input and speeding up construction of facilities for winter sports, the district has finally built 10 skating rinks and six ski resorts.

Nowadays, students at the sports

school of the district are able to receive training in ice sports skills without leaving their school.

"To satisfy people's demands for participating in ice and snow sports, we must build and improve winter sports venues and facilities," said Ge Jun, deputy director of the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Sports.

So far, Beijing has built 82 ice rinks, 97 ice surfaces and 32 ski resorts, compared with 42 ice rinks, 44 ice surfaces and 22 ski venues before it won the bid for the 2022 Winter Olympics, according to Ge.

The capital city of China has also put efforts into bringing winter sports

facilities closer to residents. By setting up portable ice rinks and ski fields at open space of stadiums and residential communities, it enables residents to enjoy ice and snow sports near their homes throughout the year.

"When I was young, I was already a regular of the ice rink," said Liu Guosheng, an elderly resident in Beijing, referring to the Kunming Lake ice rink at the Summer Palace, the biggest natural ice rink in downtown Beijing. He now takes his grandson to the ice rink and teaches him to skate.

They are also able to experience a wide range of snow sports activities at a nearby ski field, including walk-

ing in a snow maze and going down a slide in the snow.

Beijing's municipal parks provide citizens with both skate rinks and ski venues, enriching their fitness activities and cultural life in winter, said Zhang Yahong, deputy director of the Beijing Municipal Administration Center of Parks.

At the eighth Ice and Snow Gala in Beijing Municipal Parks kicked off at the end of 2021, Beijing's municipal parks held colorful activities centering on ice sports, snow sports and Winter Olympics-themed exhibition, opened 11 ice and snow fields to the public, and enabled local citizens to

experience over 40 kinds of winter sports activities, according to Zhang.

Since 2014, Beijing's municipal parks have held the Ice and Snow Gala for several consecutive years under the theme of "introducing ice and snow sports into parks and involving more people in winter sports to welcome the Beijing 2022", attracting nearly two million participants.

During this winter, the culture and tourism authorities of Beijing launched 22 high-quality ice and snow tourist routes to help citizens better enjoy ice and snow activities, which combine skating, skiing, mountaineering, Internet-famous places, and many other elements.

People's Daily

Prince William visits UAE as Britain seeks to deepen ties

DUBAI

PRINCE William, second in line to the British throne, began yesterday a visit to the United Arab Emirates at a time when the former British protectorate has faced an unprecedented though mostly foiled string of missile and drone attacks.

Kensington Palace said it was the Duke of Cambridge's first official visit to the UAE. Six of its emirates ceased being British protectorates 50 years ago when they joined in a federation. The seventh joined in 1972.

The visit, at the request of Britain's foreign office, comes as it is seeking to deepen trade ties with wealthy Gulf Arab states as part of its post-Brexit strategy.

William will visit the Expo 2020 world fair being hosted by Dubai and also promote his environmental award, The Earthshot Prize, and highlight the United for Wildlife campaign which counters the illegal wildlife trade.

"Excited to be arriving in Dubai to celebrate the UK at @DubaiExpo and discuss the vital issue of working together with the UAE and international partners to achieve a more sustainable world," William wrote on Twitter.

Oil-rich UAE last year pledged to invest 10 billion pounds in Britain and has said it wants a free trade pact with it.

But as Britain seeks to engage globally after Brexit, opposition lawmakers and campaigners have criticized the government for prioritizing business over human rights concerns.

Britain condemned a Jan 17 drone and missile strike that killed three civilians in the UAE capital Abu Dhabi and was claimed by Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis, who the UAE is fighting as part of a Saudi Arabia-led military coalition.

The UAE has said two other air attacks by the Houthis and a fourth claimed by another, shadowy group were intercepted without casualties.

While the British monarch has few practical powers and is expected to be non-partisan, it gives Britain a degree of "soft" power in global, diplomatic relations.

Prince Charles, William's father and first in line to the throne, has visited the Gulf many times and developed strong links with the region.



Britain's Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, gestures as he tours alongside Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan, chairman of Abu Dhabi's Executive Office, the Jubail Magrove Park in Abu Dhabi during an official visit to the United Arab Emirates yesterday. AFP

UN agencies appeal for 4.4 bln USD to assist 29.1 mln in Eastern Africa in 2022

NAIROBI

THE United Nations humanitarian partners have appealed for more than 500 billion shillings (4.4 billion U.S. dollars) to provide life-saving assistance and protection to about 29.1 million people in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia in 2022, the UN relief agency said on Wednesday.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) said between 12 and 14 million people are waking each day to face high levels of acute food insecurity and severe water shortages across the three countries, due to drought in the first quarter of 2022.

"We urgently call on donors to fund these appeals so that we can immediately respond to the life-threatening needs across the Horn of Africa," UNOCHA said in its latest update on the drought situation in the region.

The UN relief agency called on donors to fund the vibrant network of local, community-based and women-led organizations, including refugee-led organizations, which carry out incredible work in drought-affected communities every day.

It welcomed the emergency declarations issued by the governments of Kenya and Somalia and called on governments across the region to prioritize the drought emergency by allocating the necessary funds to provide timely comprehensive support to their communities.

According to the UNOCHA, about 5.5 million children are expected to be acutely malnourished in these three countries in 2022, including more than 1.6 million severely acutely malnourished.

It said the migration of livestock herds has reduced milk availability, negatively affecting nutrition, especially for children under five years old.

Security Council calls for release of Burkina Faso president

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED Nations Security Council on Wednesday expressed serious concern about the "unconstitutional change of government" in Burkina Faso and called for the release and protection of President Roch Marc Christian Kabore and other government officials.

According to a Security Council statement, the council members took note of the decision by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union to suspend Burkina Faso's membership "until there is swift and effective restoration of constitutional order by the military authorities."

The UN Security Council also expressed support for regional mediation efforts to resolve the crisis. The council members expressed concern over "the negative impact" of the unconstitutional changes of government in the region, increase in terrorist activities and the dire socio-economic situation.

UN chief joins world leaders in calling for investment to end pandemic this year

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday joined world leaders in calling for urgent investment to end the COVID-19 pandemic this year.

The pandemic could be defeated this year but "only if vaccines, tests and treatments are made available to all people," the UN chief said.

The top UN official was among some world leaders calling for 23 billion U.S. dollars to support the ACT-Accelerator, the landmark collaboration that makes these goods accessible to everyone globally.

"Vaccine inequity is the biggest moral failure of our times - and people are paying the price," said Guterres, underlining the urgency to act now.

"Until and unless we can ensure access to these tools, the pandemic will not go away, and the sense of insecurity of people will only deepen."

The ACT-Accelerator was established in April 2020, just weeks after the pandemic was declared, to speed up development and access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines.

The global vaccine solidarity initiative COVAX is one of its four pillars. The partnership brings together governments, scientists, philanthropists, businesses, civil society and global health organizations such as GAVI, the vaccine alliance; the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), and the UN's health agency, World Health Organization (WHO).

The campaign launched on Wednesday aims to meet a 16 billion dollar financing gap, and nearly 7 billion dollars for in-country delivery costs, in the bid to end the pandemic as a global emergency this year.

The co-chairs of the ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council, which provides high-level political leadership to advocate for resource mobilization, recently wrote to more than 50 rich countries to encourage "fair share" contributions.

The financing framework is calculated on the size of their national economies and what they would gain from a faster global economic and trade recovery. As Guterres put it: "If we want to ensure vaccinations for everyone to end this pandemic, we must first inject fairness into the system."

The funding will help to curb coronavirus trans-



United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

mission, break the cycle of variants, relieve overburdened health workers and systems, and save lives, world leaders said, warning that with every month of delay, the global economy stands to lose almost four times the investment the ACT-Accelerator needs.

Financing will be used to procure and provide lifesaving tools, and personal protective equipment (PPE) for

health workers, to low and middle-income countries.

It will support measures that include driving vaccine rollouts, creating a Pandemic Vaccine Pool of 600 million doses, purchasing 700 million tests, procuring treatments for 120 million patients, and 100 percent of the oxygen needs of low-income countries.

"The longer inequitable access to

COVID-19 vaccines, tests and treatments persists, the longer the pandemic will persist," said President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa, who co-chairs the Facilitation Council together with Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store.

The UN and partners continue to warn against the dangers of inequity three years into the pandemic. Although more than 4.7 billion COVID-19 tests have been administered globally so far, WHO report only around 22 million, a paltry 0.4 percent, were administered in low-income countries.

Furthermore, only 10 percent of people in these nations have received at least one vaccine dose. Since its inception, the ACT-Accelerator has funded vital research and development of new therapeutics, vaccines, and diagnostics, and delivered over a billion vaccine doses through COVAX, among other achievements.

The mechanism has an overall budget of 23.4 billion dollars and donors are urged to contribute 16.8 billion dollars. They have already pledged 814 million dollars, leaving the 16 billion dollars funding gap.

It is expected that the remaining 6.5 billion dollars will be self-financed by middle-income countries. Separate to the budget, another 6.8 billion dollars is required for in-country delivery of vaccines and diagnostics.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus stated that the rapid spread of the Omicron variant has underlined the urgent need to ensure tests, treatments and vaccines are distributed equitably globally.

"If higher-income countries pay their fair share of the ACT-Accelerator costs, the partnership can support low and middle-income countries to overcome low COVID-19 vaccination levels, weak testing, and medicine shortages," he said.

"Science gave us the tools to fight COVID-19; if they are shared globally in solidarity, we can end COVID-19 as a global health emergency this year."

Xinhua

Beijing 2022 wins widespread praise from Olympic athletes from all over the world

THE ongoing Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games, as a window into China, has been widely applauded for its advanced competition venues and considerate arrangements.

Over the past days, athletes and coaches of delegations to the Games have been full of praise for the facilities, venues, as well as personnel of the event. In fact, many athletes started to post videos of them trying facilities of the Olympic Villages for the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games on social media platforms before the opening of the Games.

In these videos, American luge athlete Summer Britcher pressed a button on the remote control and then the mattress of her bed in the Olympic Village was lifted to a proper height to better support the spine; Finnish ice hockey player Petra Nieminen opened a throw pillow with a pattern of Bing Dwen Dwen, the Games' official mascot, and it turned into a blanket.

Other thoughtful designs and arrangements for the rooms in the Olympic Village, such as backpack with the emblem of the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Bing Dwen Dwen dolls, have all shown China's sincerity in creating a comfortable living environment for athletes and pleasantly surprised them.

"I am convinced all the athletes will deliver their best performance," said Masahiko Harada, general manager of the Japanese delegation to the Beijing 2022, at a recent press conference. He told reporters that the Beijing 2022 Olympic Village offers a comfortable environment.

Olympics-related personnel and staff in the "closed-loop" management system for the Beijing 2022 are required to take nucleic acid test for COVID-19 every day.

China has done a good job in epidemic prevention and control and shown tenacity and the ability to pool the wisdom and strength of the entire society, said American freestyle skier Darian Stevens, adding that she believes the host country is able to cope with various situations and deliver safe Olympic Winter Games.

The snow at the National Alpine Skiing Center for the Beijing 2022 is "absolutely perfect", according to Bernhard Russi, chairman of the Alpine ski committee of the International Ski Federation (FIS).



Three Olympic athletes rest after freestyle big air training at Big Air Shougang in Beijing, Feb. 6, 2022. (Photo by Li Ge/People's Daily)

"I think for the ski racers, it's just like paradise," he said at a press conference held on Feb. 5, referring to the venue.

On Feb. 3, athletes from various countries took part in training at the National Alpine Skiing Center located in Yanqing district of Beijing for the first time. Many of them exclaimed that the competition venue is amazing and that the snow and the courses are quite easy to ski.

Russi, who has participated in the designing of alpine ski courses for nine consecutive Winter Olympic Games, attributed the positive feedback from alpine skiers to the high quality of man-made snow at the venue.

Well-known Austrian alpine ski racer Vincent Kriechmayr said the ski courses at the National Alpine Skiing Center are marvelous and that they provide one of the best environments he has ever seen.

In the Genting Snow Park, a venue in the Zhangjiakou competition zone of the Games, a special "Great Wall" made of snow and ice at the starting point of the slopestyle course can protect athletes from strong winds.

American snowboarder Shaun White, a three-time Olympic champion, is very satisfied with the ski course for halfpipe at the venue. The snow here is of high quality, which gives skiers better grip, according to him.

With perfect shape and huge windbreak walls, the ski course for halfpipe is among the best of its kind in the world, said White.

In an effort to host green Olympic Winter Games, China has made use of the venues for the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing to the greatest possible extent, achieved 100 percent green electricity supply for all the venues for the first time in the history of the Olympics, developed a work system and relevant technologies to convert a basketball court into an ice hockey rink within six hours at the Wukesong Sports Centre in Beijing, and adopted ice-making technology with near-zero carbon emissions at the National Speed Skating Oval.

Many athletes have been impressed by how China has endeavored to promote in-depth integration of scientific and technological achievements with sports for the goal of green Olympic Winter Games.

Motivating more people to take part in winter sports is more meaningful than winning a gold medal, said American freestyle skier Alexander Hall.

While snow sports may seem too far from the life of most people, the Beijing 2022 has provided athletes with an opportunity to demonstrate their skills before a large audience, Hall said, adding that it's like the Games has opened another door to winter sports for people.

The success of the Beijing Winter Olympics will have a profound impact on the development of winter sports around the world, according to 36-year-old Norwegian

Chinese envoy urges world to pay close attention to terrorist threats posed by ETIM/TIP

UNITED NATIONS

A CHINESE envoy on Wednesday called on the international community to pay close attention to the terrorist threats posed by the East Turkestan Islamic Movement/Turkistan Islamic Party (ETIM/TIP).

"We call on the Security Council and the international community to pay close attention to the active and developing terrorist threats posed by ETIM/TIP, to cut off its connection with ISIS and erase the space for it to breed and do harm," Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, told the Security Council briefing on Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts.

Citing the secretary-general's report, which points out that ISIS continued to recruit from ETIM/TIP, Zhang (pictured) said that China "is deeply concerned" about this.

"ETIM is a terrorist organization designated by the 1267 Committee of the Council. It has carried out many inhumane terrorist attacks in Xinjiang, China, resulting in mass casualties of innocent people," said Zhang.

The ambassador said that in recent years, this organization has spread and grown in Central Asia, South Asia, the Middle East and other regions, adding that the report released by the monitoring group of the 1267 Committee earlier this month further points out that there are 1,000 to 3,000 ETIM/TIP fighters in Syria.

"They not only launched attacks on the ground, but also recruited, trained and sent terrorists for terrorist attacks in Central Asian countries and China. The ETIM fighters in Afghanistan even clamored to 'return to Xinjiang for Jihad,' he said.

Speaking about the effort to curb the new wave of terrorism, the ambassador said that ISIS is still active in regions such as Iraq, Syria, and Libya, and is spreading at a faster pace in many parts of Africa.

"In Afghanistan, the withdrawal of foreign troops has created a vacuum in the security situation, and such chaos has provided an opportunity for terrorist forces to expand their presence. We hoped the Taliban will fulfill relevant counter-terrorism commitments to prevent Afghanistan from again becoming the breeding ground of terrorism," said Zhang.



"China supports the international community in continuing coordinated actions to combat terrorism in all its forms," the envoy noted.

On civilian protection, Zhang said that "counter-terrorism operations must abide by international law and uphold the principle of protecting civilians." "The overuse of military force will not help eradicate terrorist threats.

On the contrary, it may weaken the legitimacy and effectiveness of counter-terrorism actions, and cause the dilemma of the more counter-terrorism, the more terrorism," he said.

"Military intervention in the name of counter-terrorism is a blatant violation of national security and territorial integrity, and will lead to major disasters and civilian casualties, and create a breeding ground for terrorists. We call on the countries concerned to prudently use military means in counter-terrorism operations, and give priority to the protection of civilians," the envoy stressed.

Zhang also called on the international community to "vigorously help African countries strengthen counter-terrorism capacity-building." "Terrorism and violent extremism are expanding in many places in Africa, posing a severe challenge to national security of regional countries," he said.

"China has always been committed to supporting the capacity-building of African countries that are at the forefront of counter-terrorism ... We stand ready to continue our practical support for African countries in their pursuit of peace and security," said the ambassador.

Xinhua

People's Daily

SPORT



Simba SC players participate in training in Dar es Salaam early this week to shape up for this season's CAF Confederation Cup's Group Stage clash against ASEC Mimosas scheduled for Sunday in the city. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Misfiring strikers dog Simba SC as they face ASEC Mimosas in CAF Confederation Cup

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC is not ready to face ASEC Mimosas in the way they would have liked. They will host the Ivorian giants in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

A lot of doubts surround coach Pablo Martin's side which heads into the CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage's opening game having won three consecutive games.

They will do so without Zambian midfielder Clatous Chama. Simba SC brought back Chama from Morocco's RS Berkane in the January transfer window but was not able to register him for CAF Confederation Cup.

On top of that, Bernard Morrison is surrounded by rumours that he has agreed to join arch rivals, Young Africans SC, alias 'Yanga', at the end of the season.

The Ghanaian attacking midfielder has been suspended for indiscipline and will not be part of the game.

There are also question marks surrounding the possible participation of Denis Kibu.

The likelihood of the 23-year-old then starting against ASEC Mimosas is rather slim, particularly as he has not played at all since he picked up an injury in a league duel against Mbeya City FC. In the best-case scenario, Kibu would be able to take up a place on the bench.

It is frustrating for Pablo because Kibu does give Simba SC a lot in that forward position with his speed and his intensity.

Simba SC striking force performance generally continues to leave a lot to be desired.

For instance when Simba SC locked horns with Prisons, the former toiled, it was slow and predictable in possession and unable to create chances as a result.

The Msimbazi Street side's midfielders, in particular Mzamiru Yassin and Erasto Nyoni, struggled badly, the full-backs were covered off well, while the forwards, Meddie Kagere, John Bocco and Chris Mugalu packed little punch.

They had more than 70 per cent of the ball and yet failed to register a single effort on target until Kagere's penalty in the 67th minute that sealed the important three points.

Last season it was about the defensive

woes that were discussed at length, but it is the outfit's struggles at the other end which have really cost them this season. The side simply has not been clinical enough.

While there was more encouragement with Simba SC's performance in an encounter with Mbeya Kwanza FC, they had 17 attempts but scored only once against the latter.

Their cutting edge has been missing a fact that is captured by the meager tally of two goals scored in the last five league matches.

Simba SC's mean defense has kept eight clean sheets but, at the other end, there have been just 16 goals in 15 Premier League matches.

Last season's Tanzania Premier League top scorer, John Bocco, is a shadow of himself with no league goal at the halfway mark of this season's campaign.

Bocco who scored 20 two goals across all competitions for Simba SC has only one in this campaign.

And that goal came four months ago in a CAF Champions League's second preliminary round match against Jwaneng Galaxy of Botswana.

Bocco's season has been underlined by his glaring misses and similarly wasteful close-range finishes in his personal poor return of one goal in 18 matches across all competitions.

Kagere scored from the penalty spot to end his seven league match goal drought. He is the club top scorer with only seven goals in 21 matches.

Kagere is believed to be the most clinical finisher at Simba SC, but this is not what football supporters are seeing at the moment, which is frustrating.

Mugalu, who came second in the golden boot race in the previous season, is a curious one.

His finishing has obviously been really poor this season though one would cite his long injury layoff as a mitigation factor.

It is not like he has been playing badly but he is just not putting the ball in the back of the net himself enough and that is ultimately what he's going to be judged by. As if that is not enough the striker is back to the injury room.

Pablo clearly does not fancy Yusuph Mhili, who has not really featured since the Spanish coach has come in.

With Mugalu ruled out of the game, Mhili should be in contention to at least sit on the bench against ASEC Mimosas.

In the end, Simba SC's continental campaign might be hanging on whether Pablo can get their misfiring forwards back on form or not.

SPORTS

Another faulty TFF contract should bring stakeholders to think harder

By Correspondent John Kimbute

SPONSORSHIP has been making visible strides on the football scene, unlike practically all other sports and games, where the government is still expected to do the financing and at times stretches a hand with a bowl, especially if some regular international competition is up.

Senior national football side, Taifa Stars, lacks an actual sponsor who has the logo of the side, as traditionally national sides aren't put to commercial coverage, and thus there is a support committee for the side.

It is also possible its stakeholders may carve out some commercial dealing in that regard, like a logo on a shirt, but the tradition usually is that financing the side is charity.

The troubling feature is that too often, or let us say repeatedly, contracts signed by the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) on the sponsoring of the Tanzania Premier League come unstuck, at times with the principal sponsor as it happened in the recent past with Vodacom (T) Ltd.

There is a similar scenario in the current stalemate or disaster concerning the somewhat controversial sponsorship agreement with GSM Group (T) Ltd, as the group is overly marked with premiership archers Young Africans SC, popularly known as 'Yanga', and having a series of relationships with other clubs, as if Yanga is not enough. GSM Group is a rising sponsor lacking a real target.

There was a cascade of social media speculation that the company had also pulled out of sponsoring the Jangwani Street side, but soon a well-placed company official insisted that all was well in that regard, only its link with TFF had been severed.

Even here there were legal entanglements that won't be soon resolved, whether for instance the clubs that have featured the company's logo on their shirts will have done so for three months free of charge as no cash (put at 100m/- per club) had been depos-



GSM Group's Chief Commercial Officer, Allan Chorjo, speaks to reporters in Dar es Salaam last week when announcing the company's termination of its contract with Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) for NBC Premier League co-sponsorship.

ited in clubs by the time the withdrawal notice was given.

Nor is it clear if the jerseys can be replaced mid-season as the sponsorship deal is now in tatters - or GSM Group will be told to serve their sponsorship until the season ends.

That would actually correspond with the norm in legal tradition, where an operational maxim says 'pacta sunt servanda,' that when an agreement has been reached it is served, and to which GSM Group is ill at ease to cite the counter maxim attached to it, as it has claimed in its withdrawal notice. That counter maxim reads 'rebus sic standibus,' that is, the pact is requisitioned if there are unforeseen circumstances, what is also known as 'force majeure.'

What GSM Group is citing in that direction is the refusal of Simba SC to place the GSM Group logo on the outfit's shirts, but that could only have implied a 100m/- sponsorship deficit in the club's regard.

The idea that Simba SC not carrying the GSM Group logo is fatal to the contact (to imitate the lawyers) is to say the least (as Professor Palamagamba Kabudi would put it), 'unconscionable' as cause of obliteration of the pact.

When note is taken that the firm had not paid up the 100m/- due to each club (with the possible exception of its Jangwani Street backyard as they have a wider arrangement with the firm), it builds a scenario of the firm having expected all these things.

It was in a position to know that Msimbazi Street club officials would have vetoed wearing the logo, thus enjoy three months advertisement and withdraw.

That would 'ipso facto' amount to having laid a trap for TFF to accept a 2bn/- sponsorship or thereabouts accorded in general terms

but actually pegged to the archivals of the preferred club of the supposed sponsor wearing the logo as well.

Had it been that the company had sufficient goodwill it would have sought to clear this aspect first, which it didn't initiate as it knew the results thereof, as that needs no asking.

By the James Hadley Chase rule of 'follow the money,' it would follow that this outcome was not actually feared but projected and expected, so it was played out with some skill until the withdrawal notice.

But it is unclear if the firm is sufficiently prepared for the legal loose ends, or as usual it will depend on TFF inaction to send inquiries helter skelter until the season is well and safely accomplished.

While pundits compare this event with the TFF-Vodacom contract cessation previously, one is hard put to remember a ludicrous scenario of this sort, of double loyalties and citing the displeasure of a well-known adversary as the reason for contract rupture, despite that this refusal was nothing surprising. At the same time, the way TFF has reacted to these developments shows a preexisting readiness to accept it as an accident, where a legal scan scarcely brings out that impression.

Yet is it hard to blame TFF as it is in the same situation as referees or members of the league board, as too dependent on issuers of allowances.

Gymkhana golfer targets success in tournaments

By Guardian Correspondent

DAR ES SALAAM Gymkhana Club (DGC)'s golfer, David Jansen, states his recent triumph in the Rotary Charity Golf tournament has motivated him to seek success in the next tournament.

Jansen beat the rest of the showdown's participating golfers to the top honour, recording 40 points.

The player said he did not believe he had been declared the tournament's overall winner.

"I really did not believe I was the champion because I have achieved the feat for the first time," Jansen stated.

He was adamant he is prepared to take part in any competition ahead of him.

The golfer commended the Rotary Club of Bahari Dar es Salaam for organizing the major competition efficiently.

The overall winner had beat Xiho Long, who settled for the runner-up position, on count back.

The showdown's guest title went to Lugalo Golf Club's player Samwel Kileo, playing off handicap seven, who carded 36 points.

In the men's category, Amandeep Dhani maintained his winning streak, ending with 40 points to beat second-placed Jiten Lavingia by hefty two points.

Yvonne Ondari was the tournament's ladies' winner with 38 points, the category's runner-up place went to Jing Sun who recorded 37 points.

Tayana William clinched the Longest Drive's prize in the ladies category as Taha Jabir emerged winner in the men's discipline. The Nearest to Pin award went to Alfred Kiswaga.

The Rotary Club of Bahari Dar es Salaam organized the 11th Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament at the course, targeting to raise 40m/- to



Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC)'s golfer, David Jansen (L), gets the overall winner's trophy from Rotary Club of Bahari's president, Rotarian Diamond Carvalho, after the completion of this year's Rotary Charity Golf tournament which took place at the club's course last week. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

transform the teaching and learning environment at Kinondoni District's Mtakuja Beach Secondary School.

The Mtakuja Beach Secondary School serves almost 1500 pupils and is housed in a campus at Kunduchi.

The Rotary Club of Bahari, in partnership with the business community, Rotary Foundation and the school will be investing in rehabilitating the water and sanitation systems in the school, so as to bring sanitation and hygiene services directly to the children, thereby reducing their exposure to waterborne diseases.

Creating healthier water systems in schools creates a positive cycle by significantly improving school enrollment, attendance and improved academic performance.

Children, who attend school and learn positive health behaviours like washing hands, take these behaviours home to

their families.

The project will also assist the school to rehabilitate the classrooms and the furniture and also provide assistance to the school in accessing a reliable printing service.

Speaking during the event,

Rotary Club of Bahari's president, Rotarian Diamond Carvalho, said the objective of the project is to form an effective partnership between the school management, the Kinondoni Municipal Council, parents and the club to transform the learning environment and put in place processes to ensure that the improvements are sustainable thereby resulting in lower school drop-out rates, decrease in the spread of diseases and an overall improvement in educational achievement.

Carvalho believes that by engaging and working together, Mtakuja Beach Secondary

School can become amongst the leading schools in the region and a model for effective partnership between the school and the community.

He said that the past 10 annual golf tournaments have raised over 300m/- which contributed towards various club service projects, making a significant difference in the community especially providing support to the underprivileged.

In the past, The Rotary Club of Bahari had supported projects that aim to improve literacy, sports and creativity, building of school libraries and equipping the libraries with textbooks and youth economic empowerment.

The Rotary Club of Bahari also made a donation to Sister Carmel Welfare Center for underprivileged girls and built two tailoring rooms, donated 10 sewing machines and five knitting machines so as to sustainably empower the underprivileged women economically.

“

The likelihood of the 23-year-old then starting against ASEC Mimosas is rather slim, particularly as he has not played at all since he picked up an injury in a league duel against Mbeya City FC. In the best-case scenario, Kibu would be able to take up a place on the bench

Klopp: Salah still struggling with AFCON final loss

LONDON

JURGEN Klopp has said Mohamed Salah is still struggling to come to terms with Egypt's penalty shoot-out defeat against Senegal in the Africa Cup of Nations final after returning to Liverpool this week.

Salah was expected to make his first Liverpool appearance since departing for AFCON duty at the beginning of January when Leicester City visited Anfield later yesterday.

Defeat against Senegal in Cameroon on Sunday saw Salah and Egypt lose a second AFCON final in three tournaments and the 29-year-old, whose appearance at the 2018 World Cup in Russia was hampered by a shoulder injury sustained against Real Madrid in the Champions League final a month earlier, has still to win a continental title with seven-time champions Egypt.

The loss to Sadio Mane's Senegal was compounded for Salah due to his inability to take a spot-kick in the shoot-out with Egypt being beaten before he was able to take the fifth penalty.

And with his international career once again failing to match his club achievements, Liverpool manager Klopp said that Salah has yet to overcome the disappointment of missing out on AFCON glory.

"Mo is very disappointed," Klopp said. "It's a massive thing. Losing a final is always hard, especially the way Egypt lost it, which makes it especially hard."

"He is happy to be back here, and he trained yesterday and today, but he is disappointed as well. We spoke obviously, and he will deal with it of course, but yesterday everyone could see he still has the final on his mind."

"I don't think there is a lot of space for more determination in Mo's mind. It's there for all of us, but when you lose a big final, it's really hard."

"But if you can use it [disappointment] for the next game or the next tournament, then it can be useful. How we will benefit from it exactly, I don't know."

While Salah is due to return to club duty against Leicester, Mane is a doubt to face Brendan Rodgers' team having been allowed to travel from Cameroon to Senegal to take part in the celebrations for the country's first-ever AFCON triumph.

"Sadio is not back yet, but it is such a big thing [for Senegal] and you can see that by the celebration," Klopp said. "We didn't want to stress anyone there by asking him to come back, we just said enjoy it and come back as early as possible. I think that will be tonight."

Liverpool face Leicester as Manchester City's closest challengers in the Premier League – Liverpool are nine points behind City with a game in hand – and with hopes still alive of success in the Champions League and both domestic cup competitions.

And although he was reluctant to talk up the prospect of a clean sweep of honours this season, Klopp added Liverpool are determined to push hard on all fronts between now and the end of the season.

"It doesn't seem really likely [to win everything], but we are not here today to know what happens in May," Klopp said. "The focus is on the next game. That is the only way I know to win games."

"The next game is the next challenge. I couldn't care less at this moment, but we want to squeeze out everything from this season, whatever it means. I don't know any other way to give it a try."

"We have 12 games until the next international break so if we, as a club and supporters want to reach whatever the maximum is for us, we had better start creating atmospheres on the highest level and Thursday night is a good chance to do that."

(Agencies)

Eriksen's heart scare energises Denmark's 'heart runners'

COPENHAGEN

FOR Nikolaj Christensen, Danish footballer Christian Eriksen's cardiac arrest on the pitch during the Euros was "a shock" that inspired him, and thousands of other Danes, to join the 'heart runners', a volunteer rescue programme.

What was supposed to be a fun night of watching football on television on June 12, 2021 turned into a nightmare when Christensen saw Eriksen collapse on the field, lying unconscious for several minutes as the stunned crowd in the Copenhagen stadium and millions of television viewers around the world watched on in horror.

"For Danes, and everyone watching the match, it was a real national trauma", recalls the 24-year-old Christensen.

Thanks to Eriksen's teammates' speedy response – some of whom were able to provide first aid in the initial moments – and medics' use of a defibrillator on the pitch, Eriksen was revived and his life was saved, doctors later said.

That was a wake-up call for Christensen, who "also wanted to be able to help", he says.

Launched in 2017, the idea behind the 'heart runners' is simple: draw up a list of first aid volunteers and contact them in case of a cardiac arrest in their vicinity.

No special training is necessary, as all Danes are taught cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) at school and again when they pass their driving test.

To sign up, you just need to download an app on your mobile phone and add your name.

More than 2,000 people have signed up after Eriksen's cardiac arrest, including 641 who did so in the minutes and hours after the incident as emotions ran high, compared to the usual 150 or 200 who sign up during a normal week.

The wave of emotion "was an eye opener for the broader public", says Fredrik Folke, a doctor who co-founded the 'heart runners' programme with the TrygFonden foundation.

Danes realised that anyone can help save a life.

"It wasn't fancy medication, or advanced resuscitation equipment at the hospital, it was basic things" like Eriksen's teammates doing initial first aid and having a defibrillator close at hand, Folke tells AFP.

"That was what saved Christian Eriksen."

- Quick response time -
For Christensen, being a 'heart runner' is inextricably linked to his passion for football.

On July 11, he was once again seated in front of his television watching football, this time the Euro Championship final.

"The Italians hadn't even raised the cup yet when I heard an unexpected alarm on my phone. It took me a few seconds to realise that I had to go run and help someone", he recalls.

He ran to a nearby defibrillator – there are 20,000 spread out in public places around the country – and made his way to the address provided on his phone.

Three other 'heart runners' also turned up, and together they were able to administer CPR to a person in need before the ambulance arrived two minutes later.

Christensen hasn't received any news since then about how things went – volunteers are not informed about whether the patient survives or not.

"I think the person survived. Science tells us that the faster you intervene the greater the chances are of saving a life", he says.

- Survival chances quadrupled -

In 2001, only 19 percent of Denmark's cardiac arrest victims received CPR from a bystander, compared to 80 percent today, according to Folke.

During that 20-year span, the chance of surviving a cardiac arrest outside of hospitals has quadrupled.

In the country of 5.8 million, some 5,000 people suffer cardiac arrest outside a hospital each year, and around 600 now survive.

"The race is to reach the patient as fast as possible with a defibrillator", Folke says.

Emergency services send out an alert that goes to the 20 closest volunteers, and usually about half jump into action.

In five years, the number of 'heart runners' has soared from 14,500 in 2017 to 130,000 in January 2022.

In a country the size of France, "that would correspond to 1.4 million responders".

Christian Eriksen's dramatic rescue has also spurred Danes to sign up for first aid courses.

The Red Cross has seen registration for its courses triple since the start of the summer.

AFP



Lukaku's Chelsea redemption tour begins in Abu Dhabi

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates

ROMELU Lukaku had to come to the desert to end his goal drought. The 28-year-old's first goal in a month was enough to ensure Chelsea beat Al Hilal by a score of 1-0 and book their place in Saturday's Club World Cup final against Brazilian side Palmeiras.

Wednesday's opponents here in Abu Dhabi could hardly have made it any easier for him: defender Yasser Al-Shahrani headed Kai Havertz's improvised 32nd-minute cross straight to Lukaku in a central position six yards out and the Belgium international steered home a low finish for his ninth goal of the season. Yet it was reward for a performance that, while not among his best, possessed enough flashes of purpose to suggest this can be a foundation from which he can start to deliver on the club's £115 million summer investment.

There have been too many false dawns since that interview with Sky Italia in December, and critics would point to one or two heavy touches, a failure to anticipate one cross and a complete air-kick at the near post when presented with an inviting cross by Cesar Azpilicueta. However, Lukaku still looked livelier at the Mohammed bin Zayed Stadium than he has done in several weeks, at the heart of a front three producing dangerous moments in tandem with Havertz pressing and probing alongside Hakim Ziyech's innovation in possession.

Manager Thomas Tuchel dealt adeptly with the initial fallout from an unsanctioned interview in which Lu-



Romelu Lukaku scored the lone goal in Chelsea's Club World Cup semifinal win over Al Hilal. (Agencies)

kaku talked openly about his unhappiness and a desire to return to Inter Milan one day in the near future, but every time the forward looks disinterested, fears are raised about the sincerity of his apology and subsequent commitment to the cause. In that context, this outing should be viewed as a positive step but Lukaku will need to build on this, as will Chelsea, when they aim to win the one trophy missing from owner Roman Abramovich's 19-year association with the club this weekend.

"We are very happy that Romelu scored," said first-team coach Zsolt Low, speaking in place of Tuchel, who continues to self-isolate in London following a positive COVID-19 test. "He fought very hard and gave everything in the last game, that's why we give him the chance all the time,

game to game. There was a little bit of luck to score the goal today. We are very happy and we hope that he continues and scores again in the final."

There were, officially, around 1,500 Chelsea fans in among a crowd of 19,175, which gave this the feel of an away game. It was a contest in which Tuchel was in constant communication with his staff, with Low suggesting he gave detailed instructions at half-time from 3,400 miles away at Chelsea's Cobham training base.

Al Hilal, led by Portuguese boss Leonardo Jardim, who until recently was linked with some of the top jobs in European football, made this a much closer contest than many anticipated. Chelsea were indebted to goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga to preserve their lead, just as was the case against Plymouth Argyle in last

weekend's FA Cup fourth-round tie.

Earlier in the day, Edouard Mendy was applauded by the entire squad upon his arrival at the Ritz Carlton hotel in recognition of his successful Africa Cup of Nations campaign with Senegal.

Kepa could hardly have done more in the past few days to seize his chance in Mendy's absence, saving a late penalty against Plymouth and then producing two fine stops here, the second of which required a strong left hand to palm Mohamed Kanno's 68th-minute shot behind via the post. It would be harsh on the Athletic Club academy graduate were he to lose his place for Saturday's show-piece.

"Kepa made a very big performance in the cup and saved the penalty and today, although the opponent does push Kepa too much, when we needed him, he was there," Low said. "Kepa is in a very good shape for weeks. He trained and played very well. In the next days, we have to decide who plays the final. We wait also for Thomas and his opinion and the goalkeeping coaches."

Tuchel will hope to make that decision in person as he aims to fly out in the next 48 hours, so long as he satisfies the relevant COVID regulations.

Lukaku sank to his knees at full-time and engaged in a moment of prayer before taking the congratulations of his teammates. It is clear he remains in search of the all-conquering form that made him such an unqualified success at Inter, but Abu Dhabi might yet prove the start of the road back to his best.

ESPN

Palmeiras dreaming of hog heaven if they beat Chelsea at Club World Cup

By Tim Vickery, ESPN South America correspondent

MIGHT this be the year of the pig? It could if Palmeiras beat Chelsea and win the Club World Cup on Saturday, thereby equaling a feat that only their crosstown rivals have achieved.

South America has not won the competition since the triumph of Corinthians in 2012. Then, as now, the South American champions were from the Brazilian city of Sao Paulo. Then, as now, Chelsea were the UEFA Champions League holders. And then, as now, they look beatable. For the next few days, then, Palmeiras can dream.

The team of Sao Paulo's Italian community, Palmeiras were originally called Palestra Italia until World War II made that unwise. They switched to something more tropical – Palmeiras translates as "palm trees," although they're known by a more porcine moniker. It is believed that the nickname of porco ("pig" in Portuguese) began as an offence hurled at the team during the tensions of the war.

But, as so often in these cases, it has long since been adopted as a badge of pride. And in Abel Ferreira, Palmeiras have a coach who, figuratively speaking, is prepared to wallow in the mud if he thinks it will give his team a greater chance of victory. A somewhat surly Portuguese strategist, Ferreira likes to immerse himself in the task of out-thinking his opponent. And then, with a cool head and a warm heart – one of his catch phrases – he trusts his team to carry out his instructions. In the Copa Libertadores his men overcame Atletico Mineiro and Flamengo, two Brazilian teams with more glamorous lineups than Palmeiras.

Now he dreams of doing the same to Chelsea – whose laboured win over Saudi side Al Hilal offers a glimmer of hope. First, there was the way that the London side ran out of steam in the second half against the AFC Champions League titlists. There may be some connection here with the extraordinary declaration of Chelsea boss Thomas Tuchel a month back, when he complained that his players are mentally and physically tired. He handed his team an excuse – always a dangerous game. And so it is hardly a surprise if the intensity dropped off in a competition which – to the disbelief and fury of the Brazilians – is hardly a priority.

Ferreira will have observed some defensive problems in the Chelsea side, where left wing back Marcos Alonso looked vulnerable in the second half against Al Hilal. This is something Palmeiras can exploit. They made their case in Tuesday's win over Al Ahly of Egypt. The South American



Palmeiras keeper Weverton has been instrumental for the Brazilian side. (Agencies)

champions showed that they have a wider attacking repertoire than a year ago, when they came fourth in the Club World Cup without as much as creating a chance.

The return of club idol Dudu has something to do with it. Skilful and subtle, he sealed Tuesday's win over the CAF Champions League winners with a goal that came from a run down that very flank. He also set up the opening goal – a succinct summary of how the team have improved. Last year Palmeiras used Luiz Adriano as a conventional centre forward. He is a fine player, but he was frustratingly under-used in a team that defends so deep.

In his absence, they now field Dudu with Rony – quick little strikers who will hope to get in between Tuchel's formation of three centre-

backs. They can also draw the defenders out wide, leaving space for Raphael Veiga to run in behind them. Veiga, who scored that first goal on Tuesday from a Dudu assist, has been the team's most improved player. The way the team is now set up requires him to get into the opposing penalty area, and he has responded in style. Many are calling for the attacking midfielder to be given a chance in the Brazil national team. If he can shine against Chelsea, those calls will be very hard for coach Tite to ignore.

Abel Ferreira, though, is well aware that the key battles will be fought at the other end of the field. His team coped with the firepower of Flamengo and Atletico Mineiro. Now can they cope with Romulo Lukaku and company? Before the game there is

no way of knowing. Last year Palmeiras were knocked out in the semifinals by Mexican side Tigres UANL and did not face Bayern Munich, the then-champions of Europe. Back in November the final of the Libertadores was settled by a glaring error by Flamengo midfielder Andreas Pereira at a time when it seemed that Palmeiras were happy to hold on for penalties.

It could be significant that, until that game, Palmeiras had a very bad record against Flamengo, as if the deep defence model lost some of its solidity when up against the extra individual talent of this opponent. The Palmeiras defence is marshalled by Gustavo Gomez, a Paraguayan who is widely considered the best centre back in Brazil. As with some of the other big names of Brazilian club football, he failed to make the grade in Europe, joining Palmeiras in 2018 after an unsuccessful spell with AC Milan. He and his fellow defenders had some awkward moments in the closing stages against Al Ahly, even after their opponents had a man sent off. He will have to hold firm under pressure – and Palmeiras will also be looking for something special from Weverton, their outstanding goalkeeper.

Brazil's last line of defence in the 2016 Olympics, Weverton has since graduated to the senior squad. Tite rates him as highly as Alisson and Ederson, and he has played in four of the current crop of World Cup qualifiers. In the final of the Libertadores, he made an uncharacteristic error, getting his positioning wrong and being beaten at the near post. There was an even more glaring error on Tuesday, when he dropped a routine shot and seemed to have given a goal away – only to be reprieved by the offside flag. There were also a couple of times when he stayed on his line for crosses that he would usually collect. It is hard to imagine a keeper of his quality making mistakes in three consecutive big games.

If he can find his best form – as Casio of Corinthians did in a man of the match display against Chelsea in 2012 – then it may yet be the year of the pig.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**Lukaku's Chelsea redemption
tour begins in Abu Dhabi**

Dar to host 2022 Tanzania Women's Run next month

By Guardian Correspondent

THIS year's Tanzania Women's Run has been scheduled to take place on March 6 in Dar es Salaam.

The event coordinator, Pili Hussein, said apart from inspiring women to get involved in athletics, the race will be used to raise funds for buying sanitary towels for girls who are facing various challenges.

Pili revealed they expect to see various prominent female runners compete in the event.

According to the coordinator, the race is further set to be used to discuss various issues.

They include women's participation in the economic issues towards the International Women's Day celebration.

She noted the race will start at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) ground and end at the same ground.

According to the coordinator, there will be different categories, 5km, 10km races, and a 35km cycling race.

She said all participants are required to pay 35,000/- and called on all women to show up in the competition to make it colourful.

According to Pili, they expect the race will be quite thrilling.

"We believe it will keep women more together and will have more opportunities to discuss issues affecting women, including women and the economy in the country," she said.

She said the race will start at 10 am with light training before the 10km race starts, and then other races will follow.

Competitors that will take first to third place will receive various prizes apart from medals. Athletics Tanzania (AT) has endorsed the event.

Last year's event saw Dar es Salaam's Rebeca Machege win the 10-kilometer race after clocking 35:12:18.

Another Dar es Salaam runner, Annika Stanley, was the race's runner-up, posting 52:56:11, and Beatrice Edward, who clocked 53:04:02, took the third spot.



Yanga's winger, Denis Nkane. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Yanga's head coach counsels winger

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

YANGA's head coach, Nasredine Nabi, has appealed to the outfit's newly signed winger, Denis Nkane, to keep on working hard if the latter wishes to enjoy success at the outfit.

Nkane has not turned out for his new side in the 2021/22 NBC Premier League given the winger is attending training after having sustained an injury in this year's Mapinduzi Cup which took place in Zanzibar last month.

Nabi disclosed he has identified a weakness in the footballer, adding he has already met the youthful player to discuss it.

Nabi noted: "I like working with young people, you know young people are strong, I know he is in pain but I am still not satisfied with his start in the team."

"He started well but after scoring in Zanzibar but there is a kind of contented life in his mind, this is not good for him."

"I told him he still is a young player so he should not think he is popular."

"Yanga has trusted him to come here, all he has to do is prove that coaches did not make a mistake in bringing him here, he has to fight for a place in the first team, he should not rest on his laurels."

Yanga roped Nkane in from Biashara United. The winger made his first appearance for his new club in the Mapinduzi Cup.

Yanga roped Nkane in from Biashara United during this season's mini registration period.

The winger made his first appearance for his new club in the Mapinduzi Cup.

The speedy winger netted a goal for Yanga in the showdown's duel against Taifa Jang'ombe, which ended with Yanga winning 2-0.

In another development, Yanga Princesses' head coach, Edna Lema, has said the club is out to mount a comeback in this season's Mainland Women's Premier League. Edna revealed she will make sure the outfit's footballers do not make mistakes and get good results.

The coach said some shortcomings slowed them down in recent matches, so they need to address them. "We are continuing with preparations to make sure we play well, we have tried to address weaknesses in training and see to it such flaws do not cost us," the tactician disclosed.

Yanga Princesses was not in action in the domestic women top-flight because some of the club's footballers were selected for the national U-20 women's side, Tanzanite Queens, that recently crashed out of the African qualifiers for the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup to be played in Costa Rica in September and October.

Edna said her club will host Tiggers Queens in the Women's Premier League's duel tomorrow.

"We respect the outfit, it is good and has improved, we continue to practice to keep ourselves in good shape as we target to notch good results."

She encouraged the squad's fans to turn out in large numbers in tomorrow's fixture to motivate the players to put spirited displays.

Yanga Princesses sits 10th in the Women's Premier League standing after playing four games and winning two, drawing one, and losing one.

ASEC Mimosas jets in for 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup clash with Simba SC



ASEC Mimosas' head coach Julien Chevalier

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC's opponents in the opening round of the 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup Group stage, Ivory Coast's ASEC Mimosas, arrived in Dar es Salaam yesterday afternoon for the clash.

The Ivorian side touched down at the Julius Nyerere International Airport with a 31-man contingent ahead of Sunday's encounter.

The 20-man playing unit include Cisse Abdoul Karim, Ouattara Lassina, Aka Essis Baudelaire, Zougrana Mohamed, Coulibally Mohamed, Coulibally Wonlo, Singone Tosseta Claude, Zouzoua Pacome, Diomande Amede, and Ki Aziz Stephane.

Bamba Aboubakar, Pitroipa Clement, Coulibally Salif, Toure Ismael Olivier, Oura Anicet, Konate Karim, N'guessan Gilles Privat, Kramo Aubin, Yao Kouassi Attohoul, and Doumouya are the other footballers.

The other traveling members include Ouegnin Francis (Vice-President), Tayoro Franck (President of CNA-CO), Djoman Francis (General Secretary), Julien Chevalier (Head Coach), Kouadjo Felix (Assistant Coach), and N'guessan Fabrice (Assistant Coach).

Soumahoro Alama (Assistant Coach) Kouame Narcisse (Team Doctor), Randriatsiferana Zaka (Physio)

Samake Siaka (Secretariat), and Ali Dao (Communication officer) also make the list.

The Abidjan-based team is currently under the tutelage of 41-year old French Julien Chevalier, who took up the job in July 2019.

He previously held the position of training officer at the ASEC Mimosas Academy from 5 September 2011 to 15 March 2017.

He then left to join the national team of Togo and held the position of Deputy national coach, under head coach Claude Leroy. Chevalier won the Ivorian championship last season.

The Tanzanian champions are bracing for the herculean battle which will kick off at 4 pm as they aspire to secure one of the two knockout tickets up for grab in a group also consisting of Moroccan side, RS Berkane, and Niger's USGN.

While Simba SC is making their fourth Group stage appearance, ASEC Mimosas is a perennial participant in CAF club competitions and won the CAF Champions League in 1998 where they were in the same group with Tanzania's Yanga.

ASEC Mimosas has managed to reach the group stages of the CAF Champions League nine times in the last 12 years, this is also their fourth CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage appearance.

In 2013, the clubs met in the Group Stage of CAF Champions League qualifiers with both chalking up victory in their respective home duels.

Simba SC commanded a 2-1 victory over ASEC Mimosas at home before losing 4-3 away.

Both teams could not make it to the knockout stage.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



eastafrica
RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 Friday Night Live

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM