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# Govt seeks format for blue economy strategy

Tanzania, with support from the EU, is implementing a blue economy programme focusing on (environmental protection and climate resilient, sustainable management of coastal ecosystems

By Guardian Reporter

THE Vice President's Office (VPO) is formulating a national blue economy policy and its implementation strategy, for an integrated system of management and development of marine resources.

Abdallah Hassan Mitawi, acting VPO permanent secretary made this affirmation when opening the blue economy and climate change seminar for several ministries handling different sectors in the capital yesterday.

A VPO statement said that the plan seeks to promote economic growth and sustainable development, adding that blue economy is a concept that shapes economic growth by

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University of Dar es Salaam Chancellor former President Jakaya Kikwete (L, seated, in distinctive red-gold-&-black academic regalia) confers an array of degrees and diplomas to 2,796 graduands at ceremony held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## SPORTS

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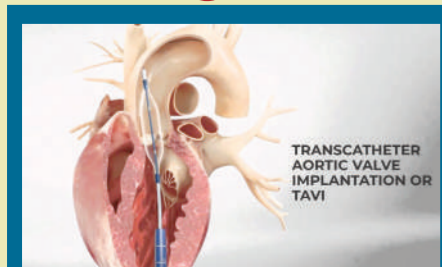
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**Heart specialists in India for training**

# Samia: Use current subsidies to widen farming, uplift lives

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has encouraged Tanzanians to invest in the agriculture sector by expanding farms, producing multiple types of crops as the government is well prepared to provide all needed relief to support their efforts.

Addressing a rally at Barafu grounds in Igunga District, Tabora Region yesterday as part of a two-day tour of the region, she said that the government is providing subsidies to enhance the capacity of farmers to buy fertiliser for themselves in the future.

The government would purchase all their crops as it seeks markets especially in foreign countries, she said, stressing that the government will procure all the produce at a fair price and store it for future use.

She was specific that the provision of subsidised farming inputs will take up to 2025, in which case farmers need to produce enough crops and use the sale proceeds to transform their lives.

The subsidies will not last forever, so the cash needs to be used wisely to build a good future in agriculture sector families, she stated.

She laid a foundation stone for the Vocational Educational and Training Authority (VETA) centre in the district, telling the rally that the government decided to construct vocational training colleges in all districts, providing a variety of technical and vocational skills plus



entrepreneurship.

VETA colleges will provide needed skills of various fields including agriculture, livestock keeping, poultry and processing thus produce competent youths to serve in those areas or set up own projects, she said.

Husein Bashe, the Agriculture minister, said the government has commenced deep designing work for modern irrigation scheme extending 3000 hectares at Wembere basin.

"We also have major irrigation projects in Simbo ward of 700 hectares, Mamapuli (3500 hectares), Igurubi (1800 hectares) and Buhekela (334 hectares)," he said, noting that the government is also working on a key water project to facilitate farmers in Tabora to use

water from Lake Victoria for irrigating farms.

Batilda Buriani, the regional commissioner, said the region has benefited from various disbursements from the government to implement water, health, agriculture, education and other projects.

The government has issued funds to construct five new district hospitals, rehabilitate Urambo Hospital and build dispensaries and health centres, she elaborated.

A total of 87bn/- has been disbursed for 17 new secondary schools and 17 primary schools, 47 dormitories, teachers' houses and hiring new teachers, greatly helping to improve performance of schools in national examinations, she added.

## CSOs Week seeks to take up tech, digital space disputes

Our world is changing rapidly due to the digital revolution we are living through and has the potential to modify social conventions even more

By Getrude Mbago

SAFE digital space including artificial intelligence (AI) is among key issues in activities of this year's civil society organisations (CSOs) week slated for Arusha.

Francis Kiwanga, the Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) executive director made this observation to journalists in Dar es Salaam ahead of the five-day CSOs Week from next Monday.

He said the annual event brings on board policymakers, technologists and stakeholders from within and outside Tanzania, to extensively discuss strategies needed in leveraging technology for positive societal impact.

The forum will provide stakeholders with an opportunity to discuss the use of technology and safe digital space in relation to artificial intelligence to accelerate national development, he stated.

Up to 500 participants are expected to attend the event, with the coordinators directing their efforts towards ensuring optimum participation of actors from diverse sectors, he said.

The week-long event is a vital moment for multi-sectoral development actors concerned with steering the development of people, communities and the nation in general, he said.

CSOs Week sessions will be set on exploring technology solutions to development problems and climate smart digital tools for agriculture and market access to smallholder farmers, he explained.

Digital transformation has drastically changed societal communication and social frameworks, with the potential to further reshape the world in profound ways, he stated.

"The civil society sector works closely with people in communities through the implementation of interventions that support the advancement of gender equity, inclusion of people with disabilities, democracy, youth participation, peace and social cohesion," he asserted.

He laid emphasis on the view that discussions on intersection of technology and society are vital to understanding change, navigating the challenges they pose and leveraging opportunities they present.

"Our world is changing rapidly due to the digital revolution we are living through and has the potential to modify social conventions even more," the activist intoned.

"Understanding these changes, overcoming the difficulties they create and taking advantage of opportunities they present needs conversations focused on the junction of technology and society," he elaborated.

This year's gathering is the fifth in a series of similar events held in 2018, 2019, 2020 and

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## CSOs Week seeks to take up tech, digital space disputes

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2021 and will carry the theme "Tech and Society: Then, Now and Beyond," to explore the transformative power of technology and society in Tanzania, he said.

In the "then" component civil society will examine the historical interplay between technology and society, how past technological advancements have influenced societal structures, systems and processes, including the work of civil society actors.

The "now" component pushes civil society to critically analyse the current state of affairs, focusing on the contemporary impact of technology on societal dynamics, opportunities and challenges it presents for CSOs in seeking to effect change.

The "beyond" component prompts civil society to envision the future, recognising that the intersection of technology and society is evolving. This compels civil society actors to anticipate future technological trends and their potential societal impacts," he said, underlining that this will ensure that civil society actors remain at the

forefront of these developments.

The discussions will facilitate collaboration and innovation to maximise the potential of technology in advancing social development and addressing various pressing challenges, he elaborated.

He expressed satisfaction that this year's CSO Week is supported by private sector entities, including Stanbic Bank, the Vodacom Foundation, Equity Bank, NBC Bank, KCB and NMB Foundation.

Private sector engagement and partnerships with civil society are key in mitigating societal challenges as each actor plays an important role in their resolution, he stated.

Anette Torjusen, a Norwegian Church Aid senior advisor said that the forum was vital to explore the transformative power of tech and society and work together towards a brighter and more inclusive future for the people.

The issue of climate change and environment will be among key topics, triggering discussions and strategies to further help protect nature, she added.

## Govt seeks format for blue economy strategy

FROM PAGE 1

sustainable use of water resources, environmental conservation and community involvement.

Those conducting the training will build the capacity of the participants on how to deal with climate change through budget support programmes, increasing knowledge on the blue economy and climate change, he said.

He emphasized that climate change is real and its effects are being seen, causing great harm to the sea and rivers, noting that the world witnessing hurricanes, El-Nino and increased sea levels and river flooding.

This demands that the country deals with the effects of climate change by preserving forests, water sources and other resources forming the basis of blue economy strategies, he said, expressing gratitude to the European Union (EU) for helping the government implement activities related to the blue economy.

Kemilembe Mutasa, the VPO acting director of environment, had initially stated that the two-day seminar involves experts from both parts of the Union, when welcoming the chief guest.

Noting that climate change issues pose acute challenges, she said the government had initiated various programmes implementing them as a signatory to global climate change con-

vention.

She said that Tanzania is preparing to participate in the next global conference on the climate change (COP28) set for Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, highlighting that blue economy issues will be a major theme for the Tanzanian delegation.

Tanzania with support from EU is implementing a blue economy programme focusing on (environmental protection and climate resilient, sustainable management of coastal ecosystems).

It is also seeking to support sustainable, job intensive business initiatives in the blue economy, including the productive use of the marine and coastal ecosystems, transformative governance and policy reforms, she stated.

In order to prepare technical personnel to implement such programmes in their respective ministries, VPO organised the two-day seminar targeting technical personnel from line ministries and their respective institutions.

These were listed as the Vice President Office (VPO), the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, the Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI), Marine Parks and Reserve Units (MPRU), the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) and the National Carbon Monitoring Centre (NCMC).

## Truck carrying hazardous sodium cyanide overturns on a highway

*When I arrived at the scene I found that the drivers who were 10 were given first aid but also precautions were taken to ensure that the chemicals do not cause harm to the people*

By Correspondent Beatrice Shayo

RESIDENTS of Kagongwa in Shinyanga Region have been cautioned to stay away from an incident scene after a lorry carrying sodium cyanide - a hazardous compound used for dissolving gold in mining sites lost control in the area draining the chemicals.

The vehicle, a Scania with registration number TI24 ECX was involved in an accident around 9- am causing panic among residents.

Shinyanga Regional Police Commissioner Janeth Magomi said she received information at around 9:30 am that a vehicle belonging to Taifa Transport and Logistic was involved in an accident.

She said security organs were working on the matter to control effects of the chemicals to people around the area in case they come into contact.

"When I arrived at the scene I found

that the drivers who were 10 were given first aid but also precautions were taken to ensure that the chemicals do not cause harm to the people," she said.

She called upon residents to collaborate with security organs and issue information on such incidents to avoid health risks that may result from the chemicals.

Head of the Fire and Rescue Brigade in Kahama Edward Seleman said they received information on the matter and were prepared to rescue in case there was an emergency.

Chairman of Kashime ward Emanuel Mabula said they were in panic because the chemicals had a label 'poisonous do not touch'.

Project manager for Taifa Transport and Logistic Happiness Nyiti said they received the information while at Buzwagi mining site and were forced to visit the area.

She said the materials were being taken to Buzwagi, Bulyankulu and North Mara mining sites where they are used for gold smelting.

She hailed security organs for controlling movements around the accident's scene, saying up to now there are no effects to humans.

She said the company has been conducting training to drivers transporting chemicals on how to handle them when such incidents happen.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan pictured at Kizonzo village in Iramba District, Singida Region, yesterday inaugurating a project meant to provide Shelui town in the region with water from Lake Victoria. Photo: State House

## SADC to reinforce measures associated with food safety

By Guardian Reporter

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) is working to foster regional coordination and harmonisation of food standards and regulations to prevent foodborne diseases, reduce the risk of food contamination, and safeguard the integrity of food.

In his official opening remarks at the 14th SADC Food safety technical committee meeting Lusaka Zambia yesterday, SADC Director for Industrial Development and Trade (IDT), Dhunraj Kasseer said one in ten people in the world falls ill and 420,000 people die every year after eating contaminated food.

He said 40 percent of children under five years of age carry the burden of foodborne diseases, with 125,000

deaths every year.

"SADC Member States commit to cooperate in developing and implementing effective measures that respond to threats of food contamination to protect lives and livelihoods while at the same time reducing differences in these measures, which may result in barriers to trade," he said.

The meeting is jointly organised by the SADC secretariat, through the European Union (EU) funded Trade Facilitation Programme (TFP) and the African Union Commission (AUC) to promote the protection of public health, economic development, and international trade.

AUC Senior Sanitary and Phytosanitary Advisor, Chiluba Mwape encouraged SADC Member States to increase investments in building capacity of all

actors in the food value chain to improve compliance with food standards.

He underscored that "The African Union renews her commitment to prioritise food safety and together, we can build resilient and sustainable African food systems for improved food security, nutrition and safe trade in line with the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA)."

In 2019, the AU published a common Sanitary (human or animal life or health) and (plant life or health) Phytosanitary (SPS) Policy Framework for Africa which recognises the importance of reducing barriers to trade.

The SPS policy framework aligns with the objectives of the AfCFTA and recognises the economic potential of the agriculture and food sector par-

ticularly in the intra-African cross border trade.

The AU Commission therefore considers the meeting as a critical entry point of initiating actions to improve cooperation with SADC structures related to food safety.

This Meeting which attracted attendance of representatives of food safety national focal points from 13 SADC member states is expected to validate reports on food safety.

The committee will review country reports of member states on how they have progressed in developing domestic food policies and standards.

Representatives of the bodies responsible for food safety will share experiences and specific trade concerns as well as discuss unresolved Non-Tariff Barriers.

The African Union Commission will present on the AU SPS Policy Framework and the Food Safety Strategy for Africa, in an endeavour to assist the SADC Food Safety Technical Committee to benchmark with continental developments.



Creditinfo Tanzania CEO Edwin Urasa (L) and University of Dar es Salaam vice chancellor Prof William Anangisye exchange documents in Dar es Salaam yesterday on an MoU for the establishing of joint cooperation in research and practical training and the strengthening of a research centre for banking and financial services. Photo: Guardian Correspondent





Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister Jerry Silaa (L) pictured in Singida municipality on Monday going through a map alongside experts from the regional land commissioner's office. Photo courtesy of Lands ministry

## 'Government to come up with innovation policy'

By Getrude Mbagu

THE government is planning to come up with a special innovation policy to further stimulate creativity and protect various innovations and digital works in the country.

Mohamed Mashaka, director of ICT services in the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology said in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking during the ongoing 07th Tanzania annual ICT conference 2023 (TAIC 2023).

According to him, the new policy will focus on supporting and supervising talents and emerging innovations, registering and protecting them to bring digital transformation in the country.

"There are many youth who have been coming up with good innovations but they end up losing them with other strong people taking their ideas, so with the strategy and the policy, we will identify, protect and promote for its sustainability," he said.

He welcomed young Tanzanians with innovative ideas and projects to visit the ministry for them to be registered and supported on how to improve and develop their innovations.

He acknowledged that Tanzania needs to keep up with the fast-paced digital transformation in the world, that's why it was updating various policies and strategies.

Mohammed added that incubators, accelerators, innovation hubs, centres of excellence and entrepreneurship hubs are springing up across the globe, Tanzania inclusive, as new types of organisations that support and promote entrepreneurship.

He further said the government is also working on a plan to establish modern innovation hubs in various regions in order to stimulate creativity and technological projects that will greatly help address challenges facing the society and improve national income. He named the regions as Arusha, Dodoma, Mwanza, Tanga, Lindi, Mbeya and others in Zanzibar.

"The centres will help and enable innovators who will produce, implement

ideas and projects which will compete well in the digital sector thus bringing productivity in the regions, we have witnessed how innovative companies from Dar es Salaam are getting tenders to provide service work in other regions," he said.

He said the digital economy is one of the fields that generates a lot of funds, especially for young people while contributing to other economic sectors.

The official further said the country has been making efforts to implement more e-governance initiatives and promote the use of digital technologies in public services. Faraja Mwasasu, student welfare officer at the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) called on financial institutions especially banks to install supporting technologies so as to enable persons with disabilities to access services by themselves without being supported by other people.

Jasson Ndanguzi, head of technical services at the ICT Commission said as for the last six conferences, TAIC brings together stakeholders including academia, researchers, development partners, business industry, investors and youth in digital innovation spaces and practitioners in the ICT industry.

The conference aims to call the attention of all stakeholders through discussion and knowledge sharing on matters related to policy, research, innovation and business aspects of the digital economy and ICT sector contribution to Tanzania's economic growth and global digital presence.

It is themed: "Unleashing emerging technologies in the digital transformation for job creation and socio-economic development."

**...the digital economy is one of the fields that generates a lot of funds, especially for young people while contributing to other economic sectors**

## Minister Jafo calls for speedy sewage absorption trenches in urban areas

By Guardian Reporter

DR SELEMANI Jafo, Minister of State in VPO (Union and Environment) has urged for the speedy exercise in cleaning sewage trenches in various urban centres in the country to allow water flow to the desired directions.

He said the step will assist to mitigate floods since unneeded sewage water block the trenches after rains.

Dr Jafo made the remarks when he

was elaborating various issues concerning environment conservation during the 'Dakika 45' TV programme aired by ITV Channel.

He said that in order to accord priority to the environment agenda, in 2021 the government came up a policy for the environment and in 2022 the national Plan for the Conservation of the Environment was introduced that involves various institutions in ensuring safe environment.

It should be recalled that Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) has forecast for heavy rains expected in some regions of the country, hence the government is educating the people to make preparations for the event.

"We also have challenges regarding trash in some areas such as refuse entering in sewage pipes thereby blocking them and cause floods, hence as government we have issued directives to remove the refuse," he said.

Meanwhile, Dr Jafo also spoke on the plastic bags ban saying the campaign was a great success but continues as many people have understood the government's intention, hence most of them are now using alternative carrying bags. He added that earlier there were challenges regarding plastic bottles that are thrown about but now these are raw materials in factories for recycling.

He also said the solution on complaints regarding delays in obtaining investment permits has been found by establishing a system for issuing permits for dangerous waste - the Environmental Impact assessment (EIA) permits.

## APHFTA pleads for formulation of body to regulate health insurance

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Association of Private Health Facilities of Tanzania (APHFTA) has called for the formulation of a special body to regulate health insurance in the country to create fairness and address challenges including delaying of payments offered by private hospitals.

Speaking at APHFTA zonal meeting in Dar es Salaam, Chairperson Dr Lazaro Wambura said the new body would act as a referee to replace the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) which is currently doing all the mandates including regulation.

"Currently NHIF is the referee, a player and the lineman, a move which causes conflict of interest because what is happening now has led to the closure of businesses for many of our members," he said.

The other grievance according to

Wambura was the number of institutions collecting levies and fees adding that it was necessary to bind the institutions so that the fees are paid at once.

He said the association sees the coming of the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) as a game changer in the provision of healthcare, saying this will make even the marginalised to get healthcare.

"For example, when NHIF decides not to pay for Panadol, all the invoices concerning the drug are ignored and that means we have given the services for free which is not friendly to our businesses," he said.

Rehema Msami owner of GEMSA health centre based at Segerea in Ilala district said the association works to strengthen Public Private Partnership (PPP) which is key to development.

She decried a number of levies and

fees collected by a number of government institutions, saying it was necessary for the fees to be put in one pool.

"We believe that in unity we can raise our voices, so that the system we are using today are changed because it is not friendly to our businesses," she said.

Commenting on the same, Regional Medical Officer (RMO) for Dar es Salaam Dr Rashid Mfaume hailed the support of private health operators to the government, saying out of the 1,336 health centres in Dar es Salaam, 86 per cent are owned by the private sector.

"The aim is to let quality services reach a huge number of people by abiding to the health policy in the long run ensuring that the private sector complements the government efforts to provide quality and affordable healthcare services," he said.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured on Monday addressing the International World Food Forum at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) headquarters in Rome, where he represented President Samia Suluhu Hassan. Photo: PMO

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## Chief Justices from 16 African countries to convene in Arusha

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

SIXTEEN Chief Justices from various African countries are expected to attend the Southern and Eastern African Chief Justices Forum (SEACJF) slated for Arusha from October 23 to 27 this year.

Briefing reporters here yesterday, Dr Paul Kihwelo, Judge of Tanzania Court of Appeal, who is also head of Lushoto Institute of Judicial Administration (IJA) said the aim of the meeting is to exchange experience on judicial administration systems.

He also said they aim to boost relationship between parliament and the judiciary, enhance economic democracy and the use of modern technology on the digital systems for the dispensation of justice, of which Tanzania now leads.

However, he said SEACJF was established in 2003 in assisting to have independent judiciaries, democracy, respect of the rule of law and human rights, transparency and accountability.

He added that the forum has also been able to establish a Judiciary College located in South Africa for the training of judges.

Judge Kihwelo further said that the participants of the forum will support the Royal Tour documentary film which President Samia Suluhu Hassan starred by visiting some of tourist

attractions in the country's northern tourism circuit.

For his part, Tanzania Judiciary administrator, Prof Elisante Ole Gabriel said the meeting is held every year in member countries and is coordinated by SEACJF that sits in Lusaka, Zambia.

He added that the meeting will be preceded by a meeting of judiciary administrators from the 16 member countries that will be held for one day on October 22 in Arusha.

"Since the inception of this forum, Tanzania has many things to be proud of including its being the leader in operating our judiciary digitally," Prof Ole Gabriel said.

He said the participants of the forum come from Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, South Africa, Namibia, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Botswana, Malawi, Mauritius, Angola, Mozambique, Seychelles and Zanzibar.

He said the meeting will also involve exhibition by various judiciary stakeholders including TPA, TANAPA, IJA and the Attorney General's Office.

He named other stakeholders in the exhibition as including Mzumbe University, ATCL, Moshi Prisons College, Ministry of Industry and Trade, NCAA, TTB, LATRA and NDC.

"The aim to invite the stakeholders to show our various services offered in the country in advertising our country's tourism attractions," he said.



An entrepreneur who has benefited from Skills Development Fund support (L) pictured at Kibaha in Coast Region on Sunday briefing Prof Carolyne Nombo (in dotted dress), Permanent Secretary in the Education, Science and Technology ministry, at the just-ended Adult Education Week exhibition held at Kibaha in Coast Region on Sunday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Govt sets gender-inclusive guidelines for public services

By Correspondent James Kandoyo

THE government has prepared gender-inclusive guidelines for public services to strengthen, control oppressions and incorporate gender issues in planning, strategies and programmes in respective institutions.

George Simbachawene, Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the launch of the

guidelines and leadership training for women cohort III and IV.

He said the government intentionally decided to coordinate its efforts to prevent all forms of gender oppression within public institutions and promote a respective environment in public institutions.

Simbachawene said the government is optimistic that employers will incorporate gender inclusiveness in the entire process of human resources. He said the aim is to strengthen their

work performance by empowering and offering opportunities to all staff.

Tanzania ratified international and zonal conventions on the elimination of oppressions such as, Conventions on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1985.

The convention wants governments to ensure non-discrimination on the basis of gender and to ensure equal access to the law for all women in its territory, including refugee women.

He said that statistics show that women account for 28.6 percent of the ministers, deputy ministers, permanent secretaries and heads of public institutions; a good achievement towards achieving the 30 percent of representation of women in leadership posts.

"Despite gender inclusivity in public services, some public institutions have not included gender issues in some matters including budget. This led to government failure to attain its goal,"

he said.

He said the government prepared the guidelines in collaboration with United National Development Programme (UNDP). He called on the Uongozi Institute to continue involving men in the programme to make it effective.

Uongozi Institute CEO, Kadari Singo said the institute conducts training to women to build their capacity in matters related to leadership. He said a total of 800 women within and

outside the country submitted their application but only 100 were selected.

Uongozi Institute was established in 2010 by the government to inspire and equip Tanzania and African leaders to deliver inclusive and sustainable solutions.

This is done through the provision of high-quality executive education, facilitation of policy dialogues, action-oriented research and technical assistance for public and private institutions.



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- Each bid must be submitted in a separate sealed envelope and clearly marked **"BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY - (eg. BID No. 2023/ARA/I&M/LOT No. 1)** and the offer for the purchase of the property with full name and address of the bidder should be submitted to the address below at or before **10:00 Hours on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023**. Bids shall be opened in Public at **10:30 Hours** in the presence of Bidders representatives who choose to attend the opening ceremony at the office mentioned below.
- The successful bidder or otherwise shall be announced at the bid opening ceremony.
- The successful bidder shall be required to deposit not less than 25% of the bid price immediately after being awarded as the highest bidder and balance 75% of the bid price shall be paid within fourteen (14) days from the date of award or within the period that shall be agreed between the buyer and the Bank through our communication to the highest bidder; failure of which the offer shall be revoked forthwith and the 25% down payment shall be forfeited and the next highest bidder who meets the conditions may be awarded, or cancel the sale process altogether.
- Bidders are advised to conduct their independent valuation and inspection of the property if they wish to do so, as all the information contained in his advertisement is free from liability.
- The Bank shall not be bound to accept the highest bid or any bid at all or reject any or all the bids without having to assign any reason.
- All costs regarding the transfer of ownership shall be borne by the successful bidder.
- The properties shall be sold on where is as it basis.
- All bids should be addressed to the address below.

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Health minister Umyy Mwalimu (L, foreground) has a quick word with Tanga regional health officials and members of the Tanga-Bombo Regional Referral Hospital management team shortly after visiting the hospital yesterday. Next to her is the hospital's acting medical officer, Dr Rashid Suleiman. Photo: Correspondent Oscar Assenga

## Construction of Nsalaga-SIA highway resumes with speed

By Guardian Correspondent,

Mbeya

THE construction of a 29 km four-lane highway from Nsalaga in Mbeya to Songwe International Airport (SIA) has gathered speed whereby all houses inside the road reserve have been demolished.

The building of the road was suspended due to the existence of other various infrastructure along the road including water, electricity and communications and delay on the demolition of some houses for various reasons.

Some residents of Mbeya Region have urged the government to closely supervise the contractor to speed up in order to remove the existing challenges.

Stefano Mwasile, one of the residents said the infrastructure that were seen

as obstacles on the road have already been removed.

He said in some area they have been faced with floods due to drainage system and that when completed such challenges will be reduced.

"We have waited for this project for a long time. For Iringa and Njombe regions the project had been completed already. It is a good road, the only problem is from Igawa to Tunduma which had now begun," he said.

Raphael Mboya said there some people who had already been compensated but were reluctant to move, and added that they started shifting when their houses started to be demolished.

Recently, Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera called on the contractor, CHICCO from China to start construction of the highway starting at Ifisi area where there were no infrastructure.

## Delegates arrive in Arusha for ACHPR ordinary session

By Guardian Correspondent, Hai

PARTICIPANTS of the 77th plenary meeting of the African Charter on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) have started arriving in Arusha for the meeting slated for October 20, this year.

The chairman of the African Commission of Human Rights, Remy Lungu, in company with other commissioners and officials have arrived at KIA for the meeting to be opened by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Lungu said the meeting will discuss various issues on human and people's rights in African countries, since there are still many challenges regarding the violations of human rights in many areas. "Here we expect to exchange experience and come out with some agreement on how to solve these challenges so that people should live by receiving their rights without any obstacles," he said.

However, Lungu thanked the government of Tanzania for agreeing to host the meeting that will involve

over 700 participants from various countries.

ACHPR acting Commissioner, Abiola Idowu, speaking soon after arriving at KIA, said since its inception, the Commission has had a big contribution in various issues on human and people's rights in the African continent.

Earlier, the Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Pindi Chana said more than 700 stakeholders from various nations are expected to attend the 77th ACHPR plenary session.

She added that at the meeting, various issues will be discussed including the human rights situation in Africa, reports of human rights activists, legal aid, the launching of various documents of the Commission and the observing of the Day of African Human Rights by adhering to the Maputo Protocol.

"ACHPR is supposed to implement its three major responsibilities that include the protection of human and people's rights, to enhance human and people's rights and provide the interpretation of the ACHPR Protocol," she said.



# The Guardian Limited

## JOB VACANCIES

**Position** : SUB-EDITOR - THE GUARDIAN  
**Department** : Editorial  
**Reporting Channel** : Managing Editor  
**Place** : Dar es Salaam

### JOB PURPOSE

#### Duties and Responsibilities

- Checking and editing stories, writing captions, placing photos and writing headlines within set deadlines and in conformity with journalistic ethics, editorial objectives and house style
- Checking and correcting editorial copy (news stories, features, etc.) allocated by the Chief Sub-Editor for facts, accuracy, taste, house style, language use, clarity, details, objectivity, spelling, etc.
- Subbing (rewriting) editorial copy to fit allocated space without distorting facts or downplaying the salient points or points of major interest.
- Rewriting editorial copy as necessary for simplicity, clarity and style.
- Writing headlines for the copy by ensuring that they reflect the overriding message of the stories.
- Editing the photos and other illustrations selected by the Chief Sub-Editor - to fit space allocated
- Writing or rewriting captions, taking care not to give obvious details.
- Submitting the edited copy to the Chief Sub-Editor within set deadlines.
- Making up news pages as directed by the Chief Sub-Editor - as a guide to graphic designers
- Checking all headlines, captions, photos/illustrations, copy text, page logos and all other page elements, and signing off the pages (to graphic designers) within set deadlines.

#### Minimum Qualifications and Experience

- Bachelor's degree in Arts or related disciplines
- At least three years' experience working in journalism, with having served as a sub-editor an added advantage
- Mastery of written and spoken English and Kiswahili
- Knowledge of any other language will be an added advantage

#### MODE OF APPLICATION

Apply online via email address: [vacancy@guardian.co.tz](mailto:vacancy@guardian.co.tz) by **31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023.**

**NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.**

Please, note that The Guardian Limited is an equal opportunity employer.

# The Guardian Limited

## JOB VACANCY

**Position:** SUB-EDITOR – SPORTS DESK – THE GUARDIAN  
**Department:** Editorial  
**Reporting Channel:** Managing Editor  
**Place:** Dar es Salaam

### JOB PURPOSE

#### Duties and Responsibilities

- Checking and correcting editorial copy allocated by Sports Editor for facts, accuracy, taste, compliance with TGL house style, language use, clarity, details, objectivity, spelling.
- Rewriting the copy as necessary for simplicity, clarity and compliance with the newspaper's house style.
- Editing photos/illustrations selected by Sports Editor to fit allocated space and writing/rewriting captions taking care not to give obvious details.

#### Minimum Qualification and Experience

- Bachelor's Degree in journalism
- At least four years' experience in journalism, in part as sub editor
- Mastery of English and Kiswahili
- Knowledge of any other language will be an added advantage

#### MODE OF APPLICATION

Apply online via email address: [vacancy@guardian.co.tz](mailto:vacancy@guardian.co.tz) by **31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023.**

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# The Guardian Limited

## JOB VACANCY

**Position** : WEB (SITE) EDITOR - The Guardian/Nipashe  
**Department** : Editorial  
**Reporting Channels** : Managing Editors  
**Place** : Dar es Salaam

### JOB PURPOSE:

This position requires a digital savvy bilingual journalist obsessed with using data & insights to generate engaging content and build audiences across multiple platforms.

\* She/He should have a proven track record in creating targeted, interactive web & social media content, managing online communities and converting casual readers and followers into engaged fans.

\* As an audience-first digital journalist, she/he should be obsessed with quality, clarity, accuracy and speed and should also be comfortable with various content management systems (WordPress, Drupal, CoreMedia), analytics tools (Chartbeat, Google Analytics) and footprint & impact trackers (Keyhole, Hootsuite).

#### Main Responsibilities:

- \* Using audience data to refine content strategies for news, features and special projects for TGL's YouTube and social media pages, focusing on mobile-first delivery.
- \* Developing monthly content calendars (outside events stories) for guardian.co.tz, ensuring a consistent pipeline of original digital reporting and exclusive web stories.
- \* Uploading & distribute articles (text, visuals & audios) to guardian.co.tz and other TGL sites and social media channels
- \* Ensuring accurate and timely content delivery for distinct/specialised audiences.
- \* Editing headlines and copy for websites, video & social media platforms utilising SEO bestpractices (use of metadata, tags, keywords, internal linking, optimised media).
- \* Championing the use of videos and interactive photographs across TGL websites & social media pages
- \* Ensuring content is of evidently publishable quality.
- \* Prioritizing web coverage to focus on readership (engagement) and impact, giving prominence to content demonstrating confirmed newsworthiness and clarity.
- \* Developing and deploying new content formats, including new segments for existing TGL video platforms (YouTube & Instagram), interactive stories and visualisations.
- \* Researching and cultivating & operationalised new digital distribution platforms for TGL content (e.g. TikTok, Discord), working closely with managing editors, on Online & New Content.
- \* Cultivating and effectively managing relationships with various sources and stakeholders to ensure that

newsmakers talk digital-first.

- \* Serving as digital liaison and champion with TGL's various news desks & content team, helping them learn to deliver news for digital platforms first.
- Generating and disseminating creative multimedia content in keeping with changing news landscape realities and convergence requirements.
- Researching, preparing and producing content for TGL online publications
- Reacting to stories trending on social media and making live presentations on TGL Digital, informing the public on the same
- Website management and Content Management Systems (CMS) - updating TGL's websites on a 24-hour cycle to meet targets for assigned sub-sections
- Proofreading and editing online copy for newspaper websites.
- Ensuring all articles and posts observe correct grammar and style guidelines.
- Testing website usability and appearance for attractiveness and errors.
- Designing new features for website to increase user engagement.
- Monitoring website communications to discern and forestall problems
- Integrating SEO (search engine optimisation) and improving content to maximise effectiveness
- Fulfilling any other duties or responsibilities assigned by head of unit.

#### Minimum Qualifications and Experience:

- \* Bachelor's degree in Journalism/Mass Communication or equivalent from a recognised institution.
- \* Three years' working experience, preferably in a newsroom or other media environment in progressively responsible editorial or content production roles.
- \* Expertise relating to digital audiences, content creation and distribution using various CMSes, editing & sharing video (Premier Pro, Final Cut, MimoLIVE).
- \* Knowledge of motion graphics, animations, visual effects (Blender, Adobe AE), HTML, CSS, & JavaScript will be an added advantage.

#### MODE OF APPLICATION

Apply online via email address: [vacancy@guardian.co.tz](mailto:vacancy@guardian.co.tz) by **31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023.**

**NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.**

Please, note that The Guardian Limited is an equal opportunity employer.

# The Guardian Limited

## JOB VACANCIES

The Guardian Limited, publishers of leading Tanzanian newspapers The Guardian, Nipashe and Nipashe Jumapili, is looking for motivated and experienced professionals to fill the following positions:

**Position** : REPORTER - THE GUARDIAN  
**Department** : Editorial  
**Reporting Channel** : Managing Editor  
**Place** : Dar es Salaam

### JOB PURPOSE

Entails going out on assignment as well as use of own initiative to gather news. The job holder will ensure that the news stories submitted are factual, of public interest, detailed, well-researched and in conformity with TGL's editorial objectives and house.

#### Duties and Responsibilities

- \* Developing and writing news stories and feature articles to finished form so that no major rewriting is required or no extensive additional reporting is needed.
- \* Briefing News Editor or Chief Reporter on newsworthy information gathered and writing stories using the selected facts by set deadlines.
- \* Following up news leads (tip-offs or hints) and maintaining close contact with news sources (using own contact book).
- \* Consistently building up own contact book and demonstrating its value.
- \* Preparing daily news coverage docket and forwarding it to the News Editor every day.
- \* Keeping abreast of political and other trends and developments in Tanzania, elsewhere in the East Africa region, and globally.
- \* Building enough rapport with a wide range of newsmakers and other people to cultivate and maintain a decently long list of credible news sources.
- \* Developing workable ideas for development into quality news stories, feature articles, commentaries, photographs, graphics and other news material.
- \* Implementing these and other ideas by conducting focused interviews and research, and actually writing news stories, features, etc.
- \* Strictly observing set newspaper production deadlines as well as journalistic and social ethics, the Company's Editorial Policy and other guidelines.
- \* Helping in grooming or mentoring interns on media attachment at TGL as well other junior writers.
- \* Generally assisting the News Editor, Chief Reporter and other senior writers in ensuring that the News Desk functions properly.
- \* Performing any other duties as may be assigned by your supervisor.

#### Minimum Qualifications and Experience

- \* Bachelor's degree or Diploma in Journalism or Mass Communication
- \* At least three years' working experience
- \* Mastery of spoken English and Kiswahili
- \* Knowledge of any other language will be an added advantage.

#### MODE OF APPLICATION

Apply online via email address: [vacancy@guardian.co.tz](mailto:vacancy@guardian.co.tz) by **31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023.**

**NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.**

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# SIDO starts to issue certificates of recognition to entrepreneurs

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) has started to issue certificates of recognition for entrepreneurs who have established small industries hence contributing to economic development.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam during handing over certificates to 110 entrepreneurs, the Director of Finance and Administration at SIDO, Ahmed Kitaraka, urged them to use the certificate as intended.

"I urge all of you who have received a certificate of recognition from SIDO to use them in your working places and not photocopy and transfer to fellow entrepreneurs anywhere," he said.

Kitaraka said the certificate would help other institutions to understand the umbrella under which they fall.

He said the organisation issued

the certificate after they have visited the entrepreneurs at their working premises

According to him between June to September this year they visited 110 industries in Dar es Salaam region.

He asked entrepreneurs to adhere to quality control and communication skills for their own development.

"Quality control and poor communication skills are some of the challenges facing most of you. We will have to sit down and look at ways to overcome them," he said.

Speaking on behalf of others, an entrepreneur identified as Obeid Musiba, thanked SIDO for supporting them.

He said the organisation has continued to help small and medium entrepreneurs who want to establish industries.

"Through SIDO some of us have managed to access loans from major

commercial banks to expand our businesses," he said.

He said the certificate would help them to improve quality production hence increase their income and to state coffers.

For his part the Acting manager Sido Dar es salaam region, Melkiado January, said the certificate would help SMEs to access their rights easily.

He informed SMEs on the services that are offered by the organisation at Vingunguti branch.

He said SIDO offers information services on technical, business development services and marketing to entrepreneurs.

He urged SMEs to make use of the TBS mark services that are offered free of charge after they attend training.

Dar es Salaam region is estimated to have more than 400 small and medium industries which are supported by SIDO.



Songwe Regional Police Commander Theopista Mallya has a word with Oswe Secondary School students during a visit to the school at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Agricultural players urged to scale up SAGCOT model across Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

KINONDONI District Commissioner Saadi Mtambule said that it's time the agricultural stakeholders should cooperate with the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) in order to develop a 'SAGCOT model' and have it implemented in their own regions.

DC Mtambule made the call over the weekend in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the meeting dubbed: "Towards feeding Africa by 2030", involving different agricultural stakeholders.

"With emergence of SAGCOT many Tanzanians have been drawn into farming because farming now makes business sense to them; productivity has increased, jobs are created too," the DC said. He noted: "In Ihemi cluster (Iringa, Njombe and Ruvuma Regions) crop value chains are found everywhere in agriculture, livestock and fishery sectors. We witness production of avocado, Irish potatoes

and maize rising sharply," he said.

Mtambule added that farming stakeholder should work with SAGCOT to have clusters in their places and create jobs for youths.

He also recommended that a SAGCOT model be conceived and implemented countrywide in order to increase agricultural productivity and shore up national efforts in creating jobs for youths.

Benno Mgaya, from Rusitu, Njombe Region, testified to how Ihemi Cluster transformed farming in the region by opening opportunities for small farmers and youths. "Disposable income of small farmers has increased and institutions are earning more than they used to earn," he reported.

SAGCOT Chief Executive Officer, Geoffrey Kirenga, welcomed the idea and pledged that the SAGCOT centre will work on ideas and recommendations made by the meeting, adding that the centre will work with all regions in order to achieve the feed Africa initiative. "Our

meeting seeks to implement President Samia Hassan's directive on agriculture embedded in the initiative," he said.

SAGCOT was created in 2010 as a public-private partnership that seeks to develop Tanzania's agricultural sector by fostering responsible agri-business investments, but currently SAGCOT focuses on the southern regions.

SAGCOT uses a cluster system to promote people's livelihoods. A cluster groups together three or four regions. The meeting was informed that a cluster is a geographic concentration of interconnected companies, specialised suppliers, service providers and associated institutions. In a cluster small farmers get timely what they need to enhance farming productivity, while direct and indirect jobs are created simultaneously.

Tanzania is focusing on increasing agricultural activity to create huge surplus produce and increase exports, delegates called for a SAGCOT model and have it implemented throughout the country.



Foundation for Civil Society executive director Francis Kiwanga addresses journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on five-day Civil Society Week celebrations scheduled to be held in Arusha Region from October 23. He is flanked by Norwegian Church Aid senior advisor Anette Torjusen (L) and Malala Organisation resident director and representative Nuria Mshare. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

# Colleges urged to boost syllabi, produce acceptable graduates

COLLEGES have been advised to work closely with employers to improve curricula so that it will help them to produce acceptable graduates on the labour market.

The collaboration among the two will help give students the opportunity to do practical training at work places and gain experience, thus removing the complaints of many employers that many graduates are half cooked.

Gordian Bwemero, Quality Control Manager from College of Business Education (CBE) said recently when speaking to the college's stakeholders about the new apprenticeship programme they've introduced.

He said there have been many complaints from employers that many university graduates do not cope well with their responsibilities when they are employed directly after graduation from universities or colleges.

He said that the problem of employment for youth in the world is a big challenge and there are various reasons that contribute to the situation including the lack of employment opportunities which are few compared to those who graduate.

"We are witnessing a large increase of graduates every year where in Tanzania it is estimated that an average of 800,000 to 1,000,000 students graduate, but among them only 5.7 percent manage to find employment in the formal sector," he said.

Bwemero mentioned another problem as lack of qualifications needed in the labor market as many

graduates lack skills and experience that cause many employers to complain that many graduates do not have required skills.

"It has become common in this country when many employers advertise job opportunities, you will hear that they want experience of five years and more. So, if the youth does not get that opportunity, where will he get that experience? Now who should be blamed for the problem of unemployment among youth in the country, there is no direct answer," he said

Bwemero said some people have been blaming the youth themselves that they fail to find the skills and expertise needed in the market while in college because most of them are studying to pass exams.

He said some people blame the government for not creating a good environment, policies, and better strategies to provide employment opportunities for youth while others say that the private sector has not invested enough to create employment opportunities for youth.

In addition, he said some people have been blaming universities and middle colleges for failing to produce graduates who have the necessary skills needed in the job market.

"For example, they say that theoretical education has been prioritized for the teaching and testing

of students, many colleges are more focused on theory than practice and they say that the training offered in colleges is not compatible with the needs of the labor market," he said.

"Employers say that some of the courses offered put too much emphasis on things that are not in line with the needs of the current world and the cooperation between colleges and employers is poor so graduates lack the knowledge of the jobs they have studied," he said.

He said that in an effort to reduce the problem of employment, universities and colleges should provide entrepreneurship education to provide innovative graduates who can create employment opportunities for themselves and others.

He advised colleges should introduce apprenticeship training that will enable their graduates to have knowledge and experience when they are in college, they will be learning in practice the fields they are studying.

He said in response to the challenge of youth unemployment, CBE has started a business incubation programme to enable students graduating from the college to have business skills and self-employment.

He said that the college has entered into a contract with many institutions including banks so that its students can work in practice while they continue to study at the college.



## INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR GOODS AND SERVICES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024

### Brief Summary Description of Program:

Church World Service (CWS) is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. CWS Tanzania operates as Church World Service Africa through a Cooperative Agreement with the Department of State/Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration. Church World Service Africa is administered by the Church World Service Immigration Refugee Program (CWS/IRP) and is based in Nairobi Kenya with country offices in Pretoria, South Africa, Kasulu, Tanzania, Kampala, Uganda and Kigali, Rwanda.

### DESCRIPTION OF REQUIREMENTS

Church World Service Africa (hereinafter referred to as CWS) invites skilled and eligible suppliers of goods and services to submit sealed applications for purposes of pre-qualification exercise as per below listed categories.

S/N	Categories	List Of Works, goods, Services, consultancy and Non consultancy Services
1	CAT-2024-25.001	Supply of General Office Stationeries.
2	CAT-2024-25.002	Supply of Office Furniture and Fittings
3	CAT-2024-25.003	Supply of Electronic Appliances e.g. TV, Radios, Fridges, Dispensers
4	CAT-2024-25.004	Supply of Electrical Fittings, Lighting materials, sockets, PVC pipes, Control units & installation services and related products.
5	CAT-2024-25.005	Supply and Maintenance of Air Conditioning (HVAC) Systems
6	CAT-2024-25.006	Supply of Cleaning Materials and Sundries e.g. Soaps, Mops, Tissues, Detergents, Bleaching Agents etc.
7	CAT-2024-25.007	Supply of Toys and Kids Play Equipment
8	CAT-2024-25.008	Supply of Relief Non-Food Items e.g. Blankets, Jerri cans, Mosquito Nets, Kitchen Sets, Buckets and Basins, Tarpaulins, Dignity Kits etc.
9	CAT-2024-25.009	Supply of Solar Panels and Accessories
10	CAT-2024-25.010	Supply of Bottled Water and Water Dispensers
11	CAT-2024-25.011	Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Generators
12	CAT-2024-25.012	Supply of Motor Vehicle & Generator Fuel (Diesel & Petrol), Lubricants and Fuel Cards
13	CAT-2024-25.013	Supply and maintenance of Telecommunication & Electronic Equipment (HF, VHF, Satellite phones, PABX, Conferencing, Cameras, GPS and Related Products
14	CAT-2024-25.014	Supply of Safety Equipment e.g. Safety Boots, Gloves, Masks, Helmets, dust coats, overalls, and related products
15	CAT-2024-25.015	Supply of General Hardware Materials, Tools, Pipes and Fittings and related items.
16	CAT-2024-25.016	Supply of Audio-Visual Equipment including screens, projectors and related equipment
17	CAT-2024-25.017	Supply, Installation and Maintenance of CCTV system, Access Control, Intruder Alarm and Related Accessories
18	CAT-2024-25.018	Supply, Installation and maintenance of Fire appliances/Fire Hydrants and Training on Safety Services
19	CAT-2024-25.019	Supply of Promotional Materials and printing services
20	CAT-2024-25.020	Supply of Motor Vehicle Tyres, Suspension Tubes and other Accessories
21	CAT-2024-25.021	Supply of Power and Battery Backup systems
22	CAT-2024-25.022	Supply of Tents
23	CAT-2024-25.023	Provision of Structured Cabling Services
24	CAT-2024-25.024	Provision of Comprehensive Office Cleaning Services
25	CAT-2024-25.025	Provision of Clearing and Forwarding services
26	CAT-2024-25.026	Provision of Fumigation and Pest Control Services
27	CAT-2024-25.027	Provision of Travel Agency Services
28	CAT-2024-25.028	Provision of Electrical Services
29	CAT-2024-25.029	Provision of Plumbing Services
30	CAT-2024-25.030	Provision of Carpentry Services
31	CAT-2024-25.031	Provision of Outside Catering Services
32	CAT-2024-25.032	Provision of Security and Related services e.g., Alarm Response, Guarding, Dogs etc.
33	CAT-2024-25.033	Provision of Housing and Real Estates Agency Services
34	CAT-2024-25.034	Provision of Repair and Maintenance of Motor Vehicles - Garage Services, Body Works & Car Wash
35	CAT-2024-25.035	Provision of Car Hire and Taxi Services
36	CAT-2024-25.036	Provision of Courier Services: Parcels deliveries and related services
37	CAT-2024-25.037	Provision of Hotel, Accommodation and Conference Facilities
38	CAT-2024-25.038	Provision of Insurance Brokerage Services
39	CAT-2024-25.039	Provision of Voice, Data/ Internet Communication Services and Computer Networks/Videos conference - purchase or hire
40	CAT-2024-25.040	Provision of Vehicle Tracking Services
41	CAT-2024-25.041	Provision of Construction & Civil Works
42	CAT-2024-25.042	Provision of Occupational Safety and Health Services
43	CAT-2024-25.043	Provision of Finance, procurement, and auditing Consultancy Services
44	CAT-2024-25.044	Provision of Legal Services
45	CAT-2024-25.045	Provision of Motor Vehicle Valuation Services
46	CAT-2024-25.046	Provision of Environmental and Safety & other Regulatory Audits
47	CAT-2024-25.047	Provision of Counselling Services
48	CAT-2024-25.048	Supply of ICT equipment's e.g., Laptops, printers, Mouse, Routers, Headset etc.

Applicants should send their company profiles which includes physical address, contact information (landline and mobile numbers) and valid email address. For applicants to qualify for shortlisting exercise must include the following valid and verifiable information such as certificate of registration and extract, business licence, Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) certificate, VAT registration (For VAT registered business), Tax clearance issued within 6month, financial statements for the last two years, past and current business references and contacts information and any other statutory documents for business category you're applying for.

### SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS / INFORMATION

For electronics, tonners and IT related products and services, the applicants must submit proof of being authorised supplier/dealer/service providers for companies such as HP, CISCO, Dell, APC, Microsoft, Samsung, Apple etc.

### IMPORTANT:

Please note that this request for application is not an invitation for submission of tenders. Its purpose is to identify companies that would be interested and eligible to participate in the solicitation/ invitation for bids when issued. The complete details of the requirement will be issued to the bidders after this request for application is closed, evaluation completed for pre-qualification of the companies.

CWS reserves the right to change or cancel the requirement at any time during the solicitation process.

Thus, submitting a reply to this Request for application does not automatically guarantee your company will be considered for receipt of the solicitation when issued. Vendors that are deemed qualified upon completion of an objective evaluation of their RFA submission will receive a formal acceptance letter of their application.

This notice is placed by Church World service Africa Tanzania. The accuracy, reliability and completeness of the contents of furnished information is the responsibility of Church World Service Africa.

Suppliers and Service providers interested in participating in the planned pre-qualification process should submit physical sealed envelope from Monday to Friday between 8am -4.30pm clearly indicating category number and description of goods and services to the below address, the deadline for submission of application is on 3rd November 2023:

**Church World Service Tanzania**  
1st Floor, De Ocean Plaza Plot # 400, Toure Drive  
Masaki Area, P.O. Box 71497  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Or

**Church World Service Tanzania**  
Mlimani area, opposite UNHCR,  
P.O. Box 500, Kasulu,  
Kigoma, Tanzania







## TIB Bank 980.7bn/- loans big uplift for agribusiness

ONE way to thematically interpret the TIB Development Bank financing of up to 980.7bn/- for small and large-scale projects in numerous production fields in the regions like agriculture, mining, transport, communications, energy, water, health and industries is a simple relocation of resources. Most revenue that is allocated to TIB Bank for production sector loans is generated in urban areas, while rural areas can't raise such financing. It is a thorn the government seeks to solve while financing the sector.

A top TIB Bank executive was lately setting out the bank's plans at a meeting with members of the Editors Forum in Dar es Salaam, highlighting plans to start investing heavily in strategic projects such as railways, dry ports, mining, roads and energy. Obviously this is positive for the government's development plans but raises questions of effectiveness or viability of the bank's strategies since being structures at the start of the year. Such questions are not raised directly by the Treasury as it properly understands the bank's functions and limitations.

That is perhaps where the 'public relations' issue comes up, as often times there are wars of words between different government agencies on such issues, which usually leaves onlookers bewildered. In the past two to three years, upwards of 80 per cent of loans issued by TIB in its traditional format were classified as underperforming, and it was soon restructured and recapitalized. Does it mean that it will be more efficient, or has these concerns been brushed aside already?

Definitely the new format of a corporate bank and a development institution financing local government infrastructure projects such as land surveys, upgrading agricultural

markets and developing small businesses looks like it is a roaring success. That is the impression the top executive conveyed, especially as its loan portfolio had disbursed a total of 334bn/- to support agriculture sector projects, with 253 projects supported in 23 regions. Had these projects been loaned by commercial banks it would be easier to project a healthy return rate.

When the bank talks about envisaged strategic projects as including ship rehabilitation projects, expansion of sugar factories, construction of pipe production industries and expansion of dry ports, the issue is how far these projects were seen as commercially viable.

When such a distinction is made, an auxiliary question emerges, as to whether commercially viable projects avoided to seek loans in commercial banks and tapped on TIB Bank resources instead. It is a question of the justification of public assistance with working capital, or even start-up capital in certain cases, if it was altogether justified in all cases.

TIB Bank projections of economic impact of the loaned projects assert that those investments help to create up to 10,000 job openings, as the financing includes loan capital for 12 financial institutions, 78 savings and credit cooperatives (SACCOS) and 128 companies supported through loans.

Assuming that more than half of these entities will eventually be viable and sustainable, the wider economic goals would appear feasible even with low repayment projections if it depends on profitability. One such parameter is water sector projects accessing 14bn/- loans for 66 projects, six water authorities and 60 water user associations in rural areas. These entities can't easily be projected to pay up, or that there will be political pressure to do so.

## Duplicating Bangkok SK cloth factory in special economic zone remarkable

A FAMOUS academic once talked of the need to 'vertically counter-penetrate' Europe and North America and 'horizontally interpenetrate'; other developing countries as African countries seek export openings for economic growth. There are increasing instances of investments across borders that show how Tanzanian firms are learning the ropes of global commerce, with neighbouring countries being the starting point. But that some investors take ideas to as far away as the Far East and start cloth printing, production and export facilities is charming.

Having succeeded in his outward drive, local businessman Suleiman Kilonda, who operates the factory in the Thai capital of Bangkok, is seeking to duplicate the firm locally by the end of this year. The planned factory will have capacity for 100,000 printed dresses per day and eventually employ more than 2,500 workers mostly from the nearby zones. The government only recently feted the notable entrepreneur as his cloth making enterprise contributes in promoting sales of Tanzanian minerals by embedding the precious stones in his clothing.

There is an expectation the local investor said in an interview is that the new plant expected to be set up at Mlandizi in Coast Region, within proximity of the special economic or export processing zone and planned dry port at Kibaha. It is that it will serve as a learning centre for people wishing to do a similar business.

That is technically valid as all productive or service institutions become a role model for others, but it is unlikely that everyone can produce that same product.

It is also apparent that the dress

making involving bits and specks of minerals of various sorts, as they weren't quite listed down, is that it is more a show of glitter with minerals than clothing style per se. That also shows why Bangkok was selected at the location of such a factory as Thailand has both the taste of glitter and relatively high average incomes, such that glittering dresses become a regular stock in trade for supermarkets and glitzy shops. Duplicating the facility in the country could make it easier to use other trade enhancing statutes like the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGO) in the United States, or its European Union equivalent, Everything But Arms (EBA). The two facilities may not last for a decade longer as the world treats Africa more commercially.

It is likely that the ministerial delegation that toured Thailand and visited his SK Export factory, and moving to acknowledge its relevance even for the minerals export strategy sees plenty of opportunity in that sort of product in global markets. The Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) has allocated a plot of more than 1,000 acres for factory outlays at the Mlandizi area in Kibaha District. Most drawings of the prospective factory have already been made.

The investor talked of mobilizing funds to start construction, without suggesting that there any overseas partners for the purpose, or expects credit arrangements by local banks. With his accolade and product novelty, he may not stand long in the queue, decidedly, as an example of how we are also capable of global by innovating on using minerals in dressing, cheapening them in glitzy markets. The tax environment, land rights and use as collateral, possible impact on investment outlays, remain adrift.

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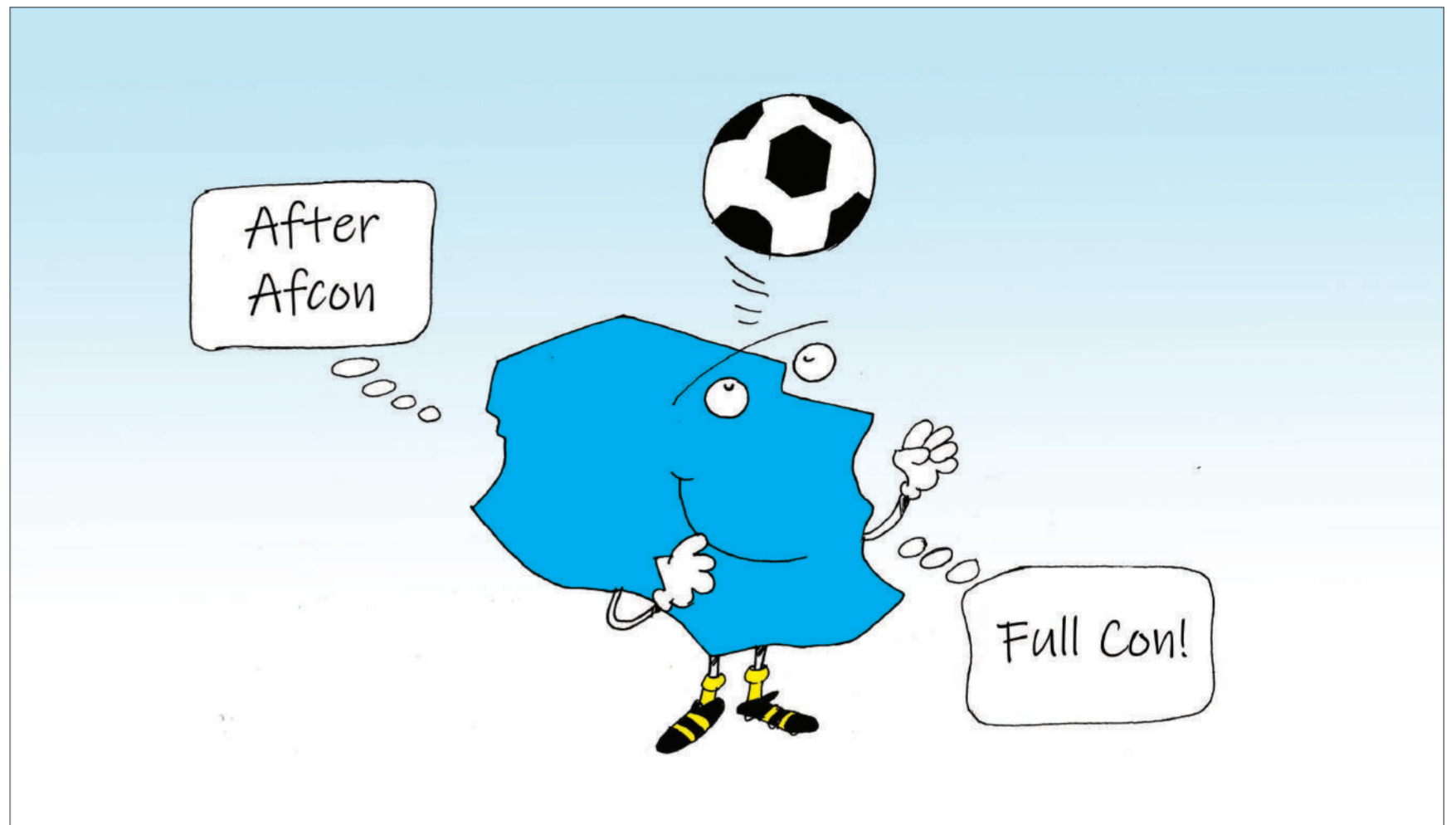
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## To end child marriage in Southern and East Africa, governments need to strengthen laws, implementation

By Divya Srinivasan

ALMOST one third (32 pc) of women aged 20 to 24 in Eastern and Southern Africa - around 50 million - were married before 18 years old. To address this pervasive problem, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Parliamentary Forum has adopted the SADC Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage, a legal framework providing a comprehensive, integrated approach to ending child marriage and protecting children already married.

New research reveals that while some SADC countries have taken commendable action to strengthen legal protections in this area, other Member States have made little or no progress.

These findings feature in new policy briefs produced by Equality Now in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF). Ending Child Marriage in Southern Africa: Gaps And Opportunities In The Legislative Frameworks and Domesticating The SADC Model Law On Child Marriage analyzes laws across the 16 SADC countries and identifies positive legal advances, best practices, and challenges.

A third brief, Ending Child Marriage in Eastern and Southern Africa: Challenges in Implementing Domestic Laws and the SADC Model Law on Child Marriage, examines the implementation of domestic and regional laws on child marriage, focusing on Malawi, Uganda, and Zambia as case studies.

While the SADC Model Law is having a positive impact, its success depends on effective implementation and enforcement by states. To assist governments, the briefs also provide recommendations on strengthening elimination efforts through good application of child marriage laws and policies.

### SADC Model Law

Child marriage severely harms girls and exposes them to various human rights violations. It impedes their right to education, as marriage often entails being forced to drop out of school to assume adult responsibilities. This lack of education perpetuates a cycle of poverty, limiting girls' opportunities for personal development and financial independence.

Early marriages increase the

likelihood of early pregnancies, posing significant health risks to girls whose bodies aren't mature. This can result in complications during pregnancy and childbirth and is associated with higher maternal and infant mortality.

Moreover, child brides are often subjected to domestic violence and marital abuse as they lack the power to assert their rights, and alternative safe spaces are rarely available.

The SADC Model Law defines a child as any person below the age of 18 and recognizes that child marriage violates children's rights, including the right to education, health, and protection from harm. It calls for prohibiting child marriage, creating prevention and response mechanisms, and promoting birth registration. Other components include supporting child brides and their families and ensuring access to education and healthcare.

The Model Law sets 18 as the minimum age for marriage for both boys and girls without exception and is applicable to all types of marriages - whether under statutory, religious or customary law -- with marriages involving a child declared null and void.

To address the complex root causes contributing to child marriage, the Law promotes a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach based on coordination and collaboration between legal, education, healthcare, and social services sectors.

### Inconsistencies and weak implementation of laws

It is important to recognize that some progress in reducing child marriage has been achieved in Eastern and Southern Africa. However, progress is too slow as the prevalence rate has only reduced from 39% to 32% over the past 25 years, while other regions have made much faster progress.

At the current trajectory, it is estimated that child marriage in the region won't end until 2240.

Concerningly, most progress in Sub-Saharan Africa has occurred amongst the wealthiest families, while in poorer communities, there has been a rise in child marriage. This perpetuates an unacceptable and deeply entrenched divide along socio-economic lines and demonstrates how governments need to focus more on prioritizing elimination of child marriage.

Problems include a lack of adequate resourcing to programs addressing child marriage and a general lack of effective implementation of laws and policies, which feeds into low prioritization of decision-making and lack of action on child marriage.

Out of the 16 countries in Southern Africa, only six countries - DRC, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, and Zimbabwe - set 18 as the minimum age of marriage for both boys and girls, with no exceptions.

Five countries - Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Madagascar, and Namibia - set the minimum age as 18, but allow exceptions for customary and religious marriages and for marriage with consent from judicial or other government officials.

Statutory law in the remaining five countries - Eswatini, Lesotho, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia - provides for a minimum age ranging between 15 and 18. These are different for boys and girls, with the boys invariably having a higher age limit.

In addition, all five countries allow for judicial or parental consent to lower the age of marriage even further, and in Eswatini and Lesotho, there are exceptions for customary law that permit marriage from the age of puberty.

These domestic laws violate the international and regional human rights standards that SADC countries have signed on to. Deeply entrenched cultural practices, poverty, and limited access to education and sexual and reproductive healthcare are slowing progress and hindering reform efforts.

Such is the case in Tanzania. In 2016, the Tanzanian High Court gave a landmark ruling that struck down sections of the Marriages Act of 1971, which set the marriage age at 18 for boys and 15 for girls, with additional exceptions allowing marriage at 14 with court approval.

Despite the ruling being upheld by the Court of Appeal in 2019, Tanzania's government has thus far failed to amend the law accordingly.

However, there is encouraging progress elsewhere.

In Zimbabwe, the Constitutional Court ruled in 2016 that child marriage is inconsistent with the Constitution. A new Marriage Act enacted in 2022 prohibits marriage for those under 18 in all cases, including for customary marriages, and allows up to five years imprisonment for offenders.

In addition, the country's National Action Plan and Communication Strategy to End Child Marriage requires registration of all marriages.

In February 2023, the Constitutional Court of Uganda issued a groundbreaking decision in the case, Kirya Martins & Aboneka Michael v. Attorney General, striking down provisions of customary and religious law, including in Hindu and Muslim family laws, that conflicted with the minimum age of

marriage set out in the Constitution.

### Prioritizing legal reforms to end child marriage

Contradictory provisions in different laws on child marriage create confusion in the application of the law and the inconsistencies make jurisprudence difficult to interpret and implement. All SADC countries must prioritize legal reform and enact robust legislative and policy frameworks that comply with international and regional human rights obligations. This means setting the minimum age of marriage at 18, without any exceptions.

While legal reform is crucial, governments must close the divide between legal approaches and those aimed at influencing social and community norms. Prosecution and punishment of perpetrators should be accompanied by a multi-sectoral approach with an ample budgetary allocation.

Community awareness-raising is key and requires comprehensive sexuality education and behavior change campaigns that foster understanding about the negative impact of child marriage on girls and the wider society.

So too is the empowerment of girls through education and other opportunities that increase their agency and decrease their vulnerability to human rights violations.

Child marriage prevention must also be fully integrated into climate change mitigation and disaster response strategies. Africa is bearing the brunt of global warming, with extreme weather events, prolonged droughts, and food shortages intensifying economic hardships, conflicts, and forced migration.

Girls are especially vulnerable, as families may view marrying daughters as a strategy to cope with financial difficulties and as a way of protecting them from the heightened risks of sexual violence and exploitation found in unstable environments.

Having the right laws in place is the foundation upon which access to protection and justice is built. But only through a multifaceted approach championed by governments can we create a future where every child and young woman in East and Southern Africa can reach their full potential, free from the shackles of child marriage and early motherhood.

Divya Srinivasan is Global Lead for End Harmful Practices at Equality Now



# Let's recognise rural women's transformative role in food systems

By Amath Pathe Sene

**R**URAL women are about 2.1 billion, a quarter of the world's population and 43 percent of the world's agricultural labour force is made up of women and 50 percent of which are in Eastern and Southern African countries

Less than 15 percent of landholders worldwide are women. Closing the gender gap in agriculture can improve productivity by 30 percent and could improve the livelihood of over 180 million people.

Step into any local market in a rural setting, and you'll meet women vendors with baskets full of fresh produce and homemade goods to trade. Since time immemorial, rural women have been the primary food producers, harvesting, processing responsible for growing staple foods, fruits, vegetables, and managing livestock.

They have been the custodians of our diets and recipes, ensuring that families and communities have access to nutritious and diverse diets. In many societies, women are the primary vendors at local markets. By selling their produce, they not only contribute to local economies but also ensure food accessibility to a broader audience.

At the primary family set-up, rural women play a pivotal role in ensuring their families' nutritional needs. Whereas women play a critical role in making decisions about food purchases and meal preparations, affecting the health and well-being of their family members, the gender gap limits women in access to financing and credit facilities due to cultural and traditional norms. Moreover, the average income of female-headed households is lower than those headed by men exposing women headed households to a higher risk of poverty.

As we mark this year's International Day of Rural Women, understanding the role of rural women in food transformation is vital to achieving food security, promoting sustainable agriculture, and ensuring resilient rural communities. The reality is that women perform the bulk of unpaid care and domestic work within families and households in rural areas, make significant contributions to agricultural production, food security and nutrition, land and natural resource management, and building climate resilience but suffer disproportionately from multi-dimensional poverty.

As much as they may be as productive and enterprising as their male counterparts, they are less able to access land, credit, agricultural inputs, markets, and high-value agri-food chains and obtain lower prices for their crops.

Traditionally, women are the key players in seed preservation and biodiversity, contributing to adaptation of crops to changing climate conditions and pests. Women have played the role of seed selection which directly promotes the preservation of the world's genetic seed variety for generations to come.

Apart from primary food production, value addition and processing has also been the role of rural women who have mastered the art of transforming raw food



products into consumable and marketable goods for domestic and community use.

Undisputedly, our rural women have intimate knowledge of local ecosystems and have continuously applied this knowledge in land management, promoting soil health, water conservation and biodiversity.

As a significant proportion of rural women work as farmers, wage earners and entrepreneurs, their social and economic empowerment can have a powerful impact on produc-

tivity and agriculture-led growth.

Notably, agriculture remains the most important employment sector for women in developing countries and rural areas; largely falling within the informal economy with little or no social protection and labour rights. Inevitably, this has led to lower standards of living, poorer wages and health and limited access to social services. For us to win the fight against extreme poverty, hunger and malnutrition, there's urgent need to empower women in this sector and attain gender equality.

Empowering rural women means closing the gender gap and increasing agricultural production by 30 percent; more prosperous, healthy and stable societies; challenging and changing societal norms that restrict them; investing in modern tools and technologies to lessen their physical burdens and optimize women; ensuring they have the same access to resources and opportunities as men; providing them with education and training to further boost

their potential and recognizing and celebrating their immense contributions at all levels.

As we celebrate our rural women this year, its critical to remind ourselves that rural women are more than just a statistic and are the guardians of our food traditions, the keepers of our biodiversity, and the pillars of our food systems. Empowering these women is therefore not just the right thing to do; it's the smart thing to do if we are to accelerate the transformation of Africa's Food Systems.

*The writer is the managing director for Africa Food Systems Forum - AFS*

## Women hold the key to success of pastoralism in Africa

By Maina Waruru

**W**OMEN in pastoralist areas of East Africa are critical to the health of livestock in their communities, holding the key to effective animal vaccination campaigns meant to protect herds against deadly diseases.

They are, therefore, an important part of any vaccination strategies designed to guard the animals against killer outbreaks and need to be involved in such efforts for them to be successful.

Achieving the goals of such campaigns has become increasingly important as the effects of climate change introduce new diseases that threaten the sector and, by extension, household incomes.

It has become critically important to integrate females in such health campaigns, and one barrier to their success is the failure of authorities and development agencies to involve them.

While women, due to cultural reasons, do not commonly own livestock, they act as caregivers when the animals are sick, and with incidents of disease outbreaks rising, involving them, in the end, ensures improved food and financial security for families.

Besides, an increasing number of households in the region where livestock keeping is the economic mainstay are being headed by women who also act as providers to their families.

Unsurprisingly, as many as 43 percent of livestock insurance policyholders in northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia, where the policies have been introduced in the recent past, are women, scientists at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) say.

"Besides taking care of animals when they are sick, women influence the allocation of resources at the household level, determining things such as how money should go to buying vaccines, for example. Therefore, a strong gender strategy to allow women access to disease control is very important," said Dr Bernard Bett, ILRI Senior Scientist, Animal and Human Health Program.

In its disease surveillance and response strategy, ILRI engaged "community disease reporters," local leaders, and village women's champions, including women heads of households, to gather information on outbreaks and to create awareness about vaccination campaigns, says Bett.

At times he noted, women got intimidated in queues by men during mass vaccination exercises, making them lose valuable time for other chores at home as they waited for their turn in the queue.

Authorities and organizations carrying out the missions have responded by enforcing a first-come-first-serve policy in the interest of fairness and increased animal health personnel staffing levels for orderly vaccinations, he ex-



**Cattle quench their thirst at a drying river as worsening drought conditions continue in Isiolo County, Kenya. Credit: ILRI/Geoffrey Njenga**

plained.

Recognizing that conflict with household tasks was a permanent reality for women, ILRI practiced and advocated for early communication to enable better planning through community messaging while actively supporting females' role in caring for livestock, he added.

Climate change, evidenced by frequent droughts and flood incidents in arid and semi-arid areas of East Africa that are the home of pastoralism in the region, Bett observed, presented a major disease burden with incidents of outbreaks of diseases such as Rift Valley Fever being a major threat.

"Highly climate-sensitive diseases causing pathogens attracted by changes in weather conditions, including those caused by vectors such as ticks and tsetse flies, become common. Efficient delivery of disease control measures, including vaccinations, is therefore important," he told a recent media briefing in Nairobi.

Owing to the nomadic nature of pastoralists in search of pastures and water in times of shortage it is women are the ones who take care

of households when the men are away with cattle and camels, while women are left behind caring for goats, calves, and vulnerable animals, making them also effectively in charge of their households.

Like their counterparts in the crop farming areas of the region, women pastoralists are faced with the challenge of providing food for their families, which is made worse by lack of income due to livestock deaths, noted Dr Rupsha Bernerjee, ILRI senior scientist attached to livestock and climate initiative.

"Whenever there are shocks such as droughts which in turn lead to food shortages, women skip meals to ensure their families are fed. It is therefore important to promote social inclusion in livestock health programs to ensure no one is left behind," she said.

The impressive uptake of livestock insurance among women increases the resilience of herder communities, enabling them to cope with climate-induced risks, she added.

"Payments made to herders when droughts are very severe help in reducing distress sales of livestock guaranteeing that families are cush-

ioned against possible malnutrition, thus the importance of women livestock health," she told the briefing at the global body's Nairobi headquarters.

In appreciating the important role in the health of livestock IDRC, Global Affairs Canada and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation established the Livestock Vaccine Innovation Fund (LVIF), which supports the development and production of innovative vaccines to improve livestock health and the livelihoods of farmers.

The agency notes that worldwide, more than 750 million people keep livestock as a source of income, 400 million being women, but animal diseases, such as Newcastle disease in chickens and peste des petits ruminants (PPR) in goats, create widespread devastation, with women disproportionately affected because "they are less likely than men to be able to access vaccines to prevent such losses."

"Millions of women livestock holders face financial and animal losses when diseases sweep through their farms. These infections are often highly preventable with a simple vac-

ination, so what is preventing women from taking measures to protect their assets?" the IDRC poses.

To answer find answers to the imbalance, the partners launched a regional livestock vaccine initiative called SheVax+ research project was launched in 2019, bringing together Cumming School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University-US, the Africa One Health University Network (AFROHUN) together and implementing partners, Makerere University, University of Nairobi, and University of Rwanda.

Helen Amuguni, the SheVax+ principal investigator, identifies three primary barriers to livestock vaccine uptake among women smallholder livestock farmers in East Africa, including gender norms, which lead to women having less access to information on vaccinations, animal health, and livestock management practices.

Stereotypes, she says, affect the way women are viewed in relation to livestock ownership, leading to their exclusion during vaccination information campaigns. Power relations also mean some women require permission from the male household head to attend training or control livestock-related resources.

As a result, many women lack understanding of, among other things, the availability and importance of vaccines, while those who do have awareness may be prevented from acting upon it, she explains.

Besides carrying out disease control and management initiatives insuring livestock, as happens with the Index-Based Livestock Insurance pioneered by ILRI to 'de-risk' the sector, was a critical component of cushioning the sector's well-being and incomes for households, according to Bernard Kimoro, head of climate change and livestock sustainability in the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Kenya.

Operational in northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia, the insurance utilizes satellite data to determine and read the conditions of the vegetation, where herders get compensation when the vegetation turns brown/yellow to indicate drought or shortage of foliage.

Desperation in the pure livestock systems in the region due to frequent climate change-linked droughts in the region called for both new animal disease control and feeds and nutritional strategies, he said.

The droughts have led to keepers using unsustainable feeds with high methane gas levels owing as the owners tried to keep animals alive during the dry spells, the official regrets.

The Greater Horn of Africa region is predicted to experience El Nino weather conditions characterized by higher than usual rainfall beginning this October to early 2024.





## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR SUPPLIERS AND CONTRACTORS FOR GOODS, WORKS AND SERVICES FOR THE YEAR 2024.

### INTRODUCTION:

Tanzania Red Cross Society (TRCS) is a humanitarian organisation enacted by the Act of Parliament No. 72 of 1962 and its miscellaneous amendment No. 4 of 2019, mandated to implement disaster relief program activities and other related community-based projects for the purpose of helping the needy, wounded, sick, disabled and the vulnerable in times of peace or war and manmade or natural disasters. It is guided by the Fundamental Principles of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement in assisting communities in their efforts to prevent, prepare and respond to disasters.

TRCS invites applicants from interested firms (including current vendors) for prequalification for the supply of goods, works and services to the organization for the year 2024 as follows:

CODE	CATEGORY DESCRIPTION
<b>CATEGORY A GOODS</b>	
TRCS/PQ/001/G/24	Supply of Agricultural and Livestock Products.
TRCS/PQ/002/G/24	Supply of Oil and Lubricants.
TRCS/PQ/003/G/24	Supply of Office Stationery and office Supplies.
TRCS/PQ/004/G/24	Supply of ICT Equipment, Devices/Computers & IT services including printers, laptops, cameras, desktops, computer hardware, software; teleconference facilities, routers, toners
TRCS/PQ/005/G/24	Supply of vehicle tyres for 4 x4 vehicles and accessories.
TRCS/PQ/006/G/24	Supply and maintenance of office equipment (air-conditioners, refrigerator, etc)
TRCS/PQ/007/G/24	Supply of sanitary items (brooms, liquid soaps, brushes, dust
TRCS/PQ/008/G/24	Supply of medicine.
TRCS/PQ/009/G/24	Supply of medical equipment and devices
TRCS/PQ/010/G/24	Supply of various construction and building materials/hardware materials.
TRCS/PQ/011/G/24	Supply of water treatment chemical and laboratory equipment
TRCS/PQ/012/G/24	Supply of office furniture.
TRCS/PQ/013/G/24	Supply of non-food items (blankets, jerrycans, mosquito nets, mattresses, etc)
<b>CATEGORY B - SERVICES</b>	
TRCS/PQ/014/NC/24	Provision of office cleaning and fumigation services.
TRCS/PQ/015/NC/24	Provision of repair and maintenance services of photocopiers, laptops, printers, UPS, servers and other electronic items.
TRCS/PQ/016/NC/24	Provision of catering services and refreshments
TRCS/PQ/017/NC/24	Provision of conference facilities and its related services (Venue and Accommodation services) in all regions.
TRCS/PQ/018/NC/24	Provision of Vehicle servicing, maintenance and repair.
TRCS/PQ/019/C/24	Provision of Professional Capacity Building, Team building, Training and Development Services.
TRCS/PQ/020/NC/24	Provision of Clearing and forwarding service
TRCS/PQ/021/NC/24	Provision of Security Services.
TRCS/PQ/022/NC/24	Provision of Travel Agency Services.
TRCS/PQ/023/NC/24	Provision of Software application/Website Development and Maintenance Services
TRCS/PQ/024/NC/24	Provision of Courier Services (Local & International)
TRCS/PQ/025/NC/24	Provision of Printing promotional Materials (T-shirts, Brochures, Booklets, Posters, banners and related products.
TRCS/PQ/026/NC/24	Provision of Services for computers, printers, local area network (LAN) and other office machines.
TRCS/PQ/027/NC/24	Provision of General Insurance services for Buildings, Vehicles & Motorcycles.
TRCS/PQ/028/NC/24	Supply of fuel.
TRCS/PQ/029/NC/24	Provision of photography, filming and production of documentaries/ Recording Studios/Audio Production Services
TRCS/PQ/030/C/24	Provision of Assurance and non-assurance services/Audit Services
TRCS/PQ/031/C/24	Provision of consultant services for baseline, midterm and end term project evaluation, proposal writing facilitation, research services and Translation Services.
TRCS/PQ/032/C/24	Provision of consultant service for survey and designing in construction.
TRCS/PQ/033/NC/24	Provision of remittance service (cash transfer)
TRCS/PQ/034/NC/24	Provision of renting/hiring/leasing services (office, houses, vehicles, machines, etc.) in all regions.
TRCS/PQ/035/NC/24	Provision of office maintenance and repair (doors, electrical wiring, water pipes, painting, welding, aluminum partitions, etc)
TRCS/PQ/036/NC/24	Provision of Telecommunication and internet service
TRCS/PQ/037/NC/24	Provision of Service and Maintenance of Fire Fighting
TRCS/PQ/038/NC/24	Provision of asset evaluation and disposal services
<b>CATEGORY C WORKS</b>	
TRCS/PQ/039/C/24	Provision of building, civil engineering and construction

### NOTE:

1. Pre-qualification is open to all eligible National Suppliers/Contractors/Service Providers with proven experience and capacity. Prices are not required at this stage.
2. Existing suppliers who wish to be retained MUST apply afresh and submit up-to-date information.
3. Clearly indicate Tender Number and names; failure to comply will disqualify your application.
4. Tanzania Red Cross Society reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on failure to follow solicitation instructions.
5. The bid evaluation processes will be conducted as per Tanzania Red Cross Society Internal Procurement Guidelines.
6. Interested and eligible firms can obtain a complete set of Pre-Qualification documents from Procurement and Logistics Unit (PLU) during working hours from Thursday, 19th October, 2023 to **Tuesday 07th November, 2023 between 0900hrs - 1600hrs** local time.
7. Fee per tender is Tanzania Shillings One Hundred Thousand Only (**TZS. 100,000**) and it is **non-refundable**.

### Mode of Payment

- Pay by using Bank Account number **011103002443**, Name of Account: **TANZANIA RED CROSS SOCIETY**.
- Visit any of **National Bank of Commerce (NBC) Bank to pay**.
- You will be required to present the deposit slip to Tanzania Red Cross Society in order to get receipt which will enable to buy tender document at Procurement and Logistics Unit.

### 8. The late payment slip shall not be accepted.

### A. QUALIFICATION PROCESS:

Interested suppliers should have the below listed qualification documents and other required information:

- Company profile with details like name, position, telephone contacts, email address, full details of the physical location, the company website and official email address.
- Pre-qualification registration documents including Valid copy of business License, TIN certificate, **VAT** registration certificate, certificate of incorporation, certificate of registration **BRELA**, power of attorney, **Valid** Tax clearance, and other required certificated or permits.
- Financial positions/ investments indicating your company turnover for the period 2020, 2021 & 2022 (financial statements). Please attach copies of audited books of accounts for the indicated period.
- Past Performance and Experience, provide at least three letters of recommendation from organizations where you company has supplied similar services in the last three years. The letter should state on the recommending organization's letterhead, type of goods and services you supplied, comment on performance of your company, number of years they have done business with your company and attach documentary evidence of existence of contract e.g. Local Purchase Order, Contract, Frame work agreement etc.
- Confirmed statement to declare that to the best of your knowledge the information's submitted in this pre-qualification process (and any supporting documentation) are correct.
- Late Tenders, Portion of Tenders, Electronic Tenders, Tenders not received, Tenders not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

### C. SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:

Completed Documents, in **plain envelopes, sealed and marked** with the Tender Category Number and Description, should be deposited in the Tender Box provided at the Tanzania Red Cross Society at the below address on **Wednesday, 08th November 2023 at 1600hrs** and addressed to:

**Secretary General**  
**Attn: Procurement and Logistics Unit,**  
**Tanzania Red Cross Society**  
**Mwai Kibaki Road, Mikochoeni**  
**P. O. Box 1133 Dar es Salaam. Tanzania**

**Att: The deadline for submission will be before 1600hrs on Wednesday, 08th November 2023. Bid Prequalification documents are available, interested and eligible candidates/bidders may obtain further information and the tender documents at Tanzania Red Cross Society –Head Quarter Dar es Salaam**

For any enquiries/questions please call +255 (0) 757 594 771/+255 (0)754 800 003/+255 (0)675 929 412; +255 (0)719 722 990 or Emailing to [james.mashaka@trcs.or.tz](mailto:james.mashaka@trcs.or.tz); [saum.mpogole@trcs.or.tz](mailto:saum.mpogole@trcs.or.tz); [reginald.mhango@trcs.or.tz](mailto:reginald.mhango@trcs.or.tz); and [seki.kasuga@trcs.or.tz](mailto:seki.kasuga@trcs.or.tz)



## NIC to use artificial intelligence in bid to provide better services

By Frank Monyo

THE National Insurance Corporation (NIC Insurance) has said that it is set to introduce the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in their activities to ensure timely provision of services to clients.

NIC Insurance Executive Director Dr Elirehema Doriye revealed yesterday during an event to celebrate the 60th anniversary of its establishment.

He said that NIC will be the first to start using the system which will help customers speed up the registration and payment of claims.

"We will be the first company to use artificial intelligence in the provision of services, in enrollment and the provision of services in registration and claiming debts, the meaning is that the enrollment will be quick and easy and this will ensure that we give our customers a service that will stay in their hearts," he said.

He added that another goal is to ensure that Tanzanians get insurance services and help them face dangerous obstacles in reaching the stage of success.

"Leave the fear to us, there are many things we have prepared, and today we are officially

launching a campaign to celebrate our 60 years, we are proud to be the oldest insurance company in the country, this is the beginning of preparations for the next 60 years," he said.

He added "Among the priorities we have set is to invest in Information and Communication Technology (IT), to ensure that the services they provide and the experience they provide are unique," he said.

He mentioned other priorities as supporting the government in agriculture by providing agricultural insurances and giving impetus to development projects, social activities, and sports by guaranteeing bonanzas that will bring together many stakeholders including journalists.

"Agricultural insurance always looks at two areas, there is the side of crops and livestock, where when a farmer cultivates he gets less crops because each area has a production level. If he gets less than the average, if he has insured NIC will return the difference," he said.

The official also mentioned the strategy they will use to promote their services to customers, including doing various campaigns by going from street to street.

"Making a tour in the media with the aim of providing education, we entered into an agreement with the Dar es Salaam Young African," he said.



Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups ministry Deputy Permanent secretary Amon Mpanju (2nd R) cuts the ribbon to launch improved curriculum that will be used in community development colleges across the country from this year 2023 to 2027 the event was held in Dodoma city at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## DCEA: Educate public on illicit drug effects

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) management has vowed to continue providing education on effects of illicit drugs to the society as efforts to fight the menace.

The Commissioner General of the Drugs Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) Aretas Lyimo has said that group of youth from universities now lead with adverse effects of illicit drugs use.

The group also is involved in the change of harmful chemicals and drugs with alcoholic

ingredients used for human treatment that threaten the existence of the country's labour force.

Speaking here on Monday at the event for signing of the agreement for the cooperation between the government and the private sector regarding the control of harmful chemicals and medicines with alcoholic content, Lyimo said the huge wave of youth using such chemicals have contributed to their mental destruction.

"This has caused many of them failing to finish their studies as well as failing to bear children, the situation that threatens the future of

the nation.

"We have done a small research and discovered that educated youth are leading in the use of illicit drugs while others studying in the US and Tanzania's universities, the situation that may leave the country with no experts due to the use of improvised chemicals as illicit drugs," he said.

He added the adverse effects from the use of these drugs are immense that may result in foreigners taking various positions in various fields, hence he called on the sellers of these drugs to be careful of what they are engaging in.

He added that reports on the global illicit drugs situation from 2017 to 2021 show increased trafficking of such drugs as a good volume had been seized by various drug control authorities.

The seized drugs include 298.9 tonnes of Tramadol, 260 tonnes of Morphine, 33.3 tonnes of fentanyl, 6.6 tonnes of ketamine and 352.4 barbiturates.

He said these were seized in North African countries, West Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.

"During this period more than six Tanzanians were arrested in foreign countries involved

in the trafficking of these chemicals including 100 kgs of ephedrine and pseudo-ephedrine used to make medicines for treating colds and coughs," he said.

He further said in order to boost the fight against the use of harmful chemicals as alcoholic drugs, GCLA, TMDA, MSD and Tanzania Pharmacy Board have continued to involve the private sector in the fight.

"In implementing the strategy so far we have entered into and signed MoU with more than 50 firms and two communities involved in human medicines with more than 300 members," he said.

## FAO assesses impact of disasters on agriculture and food security

By Guardian Reporter

IN a groundbreaking revelation, the world now has an assessment of the consequences of disasters on a global scale: Over the past three decades, the agricultural sector has incurred losses amounting to approximately \$3.8 trillion (equivalent to around €3.6 trillion).

According to a report released by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), nearly half of these costs can be attributed to droughts, while floods, storms, pests, health crises, and conflicts are also significantly contributing to this growing impact.

"Disasters are producing unprecedented levels of damage and loss in agriculture around the world. Their increasing severity and frequency, from 100 per year in the 1970s to around 400 events per year in the past 20 years, affect agrofood systems across multiple dimensions, compromising food security and undermine the sustainability of the agriculture sector," Maximo Torero, chief economist, FAO.

Asia is the hardest-hit region, but on a global scale, average annual losses amount to 116 billion euros, equivalent to 5 per cent of annual agricultural gross domestic product, almost equal to losses experienced in Africa, Europe and the Americas put together.

Nevertheless, compared to the estimated counterfactual production, losses appear to be particularly significant in several parts of Africa, primarily eastern, northern and western Africa.

The continent also gets the short end of the stick when it comes to climate related hazards, with a registered 70 percent of all global wildland fires.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) notes a significant increase in the number of disasters, from around a hundred a year in the 1970s to around 400 in recent times. With climate change on the horizon, these impacts are expected to intensify, further exacerbating existing social and environmental vulnerabilities.



## Four heart specialists in India for one-week special training

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

FOUR Tanzanian cardiologists from the Jakaya Kikwete Heart Institute (JKCI) have gone to India to learn the transcath-

eter aortic valve implantation (TAVI).

TAVI surgery is performed for patients with heart valve problems aged 70 and up or for people who are very sick and cannot tolerate a major

open chest surgery.

One of the JKCI doctors who is in India Khuzeima Khanbhai, said in a telephone interview that the type of surgery is not available in Tanzania, it's only done in India because

of the high development of medical technology.

"That's why JKCI send us here to get this rare and important skills," he said.

"We are four specialists who will be here for almost one

week to learn this type of surgery, two are doctors, one is a nurse and one is an expert in operating a Cathlab plant.

"We're learning various skills on how to perform better surgery of this nature in

Tanzania and people with these kinds of heart complications will be treated within the country and there will be no need to send patients abroad," said Dr Khuzeima.

TAVI surgery, is done

through a small hole, through a Cathlab machine which is a laboratory that uses special radiation, for the examination and treatment of the heart.



# Xi Jinping: The chief architect of the Belt and Road Initiative

BEIJING

All eyes are now on Xi Jinping as the Chinese president hosts state leaders, business executives and scholars from around the world for the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation.

In just 10 years, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Xi's signature vision for global development, has become one of the world's most popular public goods, bringing many developing countries chances for leapfrog development.

The gathering in Beijing offers a historic opportunity for all BRI partners to build on the initiative's remarkable achievements and progress toward common prosperity.

Why did Xi propose the BRI? What's behind the initiative's success? And what does Xi hope to achieve with it?

## BOOST DEVELOPMENT FOR GLOBAL PROSPERITY

In the late 1960s, a teenager trudged into a small village hidden on China's Loess Plateau after three days of travel by train, truck and foot. He was among the "educated youth" sent to the countryside to be "re-educated" with the rustic virtues of China's farmer majority.

He was astonished by the stark challenges of life in Liangjiahe – sleeping in flea-infested cave-houses, laboring for long hours and wrestling with hunger. He soldiered through the difficulties over seven years, leading his fellow villagers to a much better life.

That young man was Xi.

"There was no meat in our diet for months," Xi recalled decades later during a visit to the U.S. city of Seattle as Chinese president. "One thing I wished most at the time was to make it possible for the villagers to eat meat to their heart's content."

The bitter taste of poverty reinforced Xi's conviction: Development holds the master key to solving poverty problems. But how?

Xi has chosen to put China's development on wheels. "Roads first, then prosperity," Xi often cites this popular Chinese saying to elaborate on how infrastructure construction can stimulate development. In his understanding, changing a cableway or repairing a section of road, in some impoverished areas in particular, can open the door to poverty alleviation and prosperity of the masses.

A villager from Liangjiahe, Wang Xi-anning, recollected how Xi, who then served as a village leader, repaired the road connecting the village with the outside. "It used to be a narrow and winding path that couldn't even accommodate a wheelbarrow and was then transformed into a broad road," Wang said. The road helped the village kickstart its development.

When Xi took over the helm of China, the country had just risen to become the world's second-largest economy and faced numerous challenges. Opening up has been considered an essential engine for China's miraculous economic rise over the past four decades. Xi has reaffirmed the nation's dedication to further opening up.

The BRI has become "a new top-level design for China's reform and opening-up, and it represents opening-up at a higher level and resonates with the pursuit of high-quality development," said Wang Yiwei, director of the Institute of International Affairs at Renmin University.

While the BRI aligns with Xi's commitment to greater openness, it has played a vital role in connecting the world's most urgent development needs with what China excels in – building roads and bridges for greater connectivity. Xi has a good understanding of the needs of developing countries. He once told the Wall Street Journal in a written interview that from 2010 to 2020, the annual shortfall in funding for Asian infrastructural development was around 800 billion U.S. dollars. A report from the Asian Development Bank finds that developing Asia needs to invest 1.7 trillion dollars a year in infrastructure until 2030 to maintain its growth momentum.

The BRI "leverages China's unequalled experience and competitive advantages in constructing infrastructure: rail, roads, ports, airports, power plants, telecom," said Robert Kuhn, an American expert who authored the book "How China's Leaders Think."

However, the BRI goes beyond in-



Xi Jinping delivers a speech at Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan, Sept. 7, 2013. Xi proposed the building of the Silk Road Economic Belt in the speech. (Xinhua/Wang Ye)

frastructure. It is a Chinese solution to global development issues, said a White Paper on BRI development. The current deficit in peace, development and governance poses a daunting challenge to humankind, offering an opportunity for the BRI to step in.

For the Chinese leader, just as China cannot develop in isolation from the world, the world needs China for its development.

"Xi's proposal of the BRI was primarily driven by his eagerness to share China's development experiences with the rest of the world," said Wang.

As Xi put it, pursuing the BRI "is not meant to reinvent the wheel." Instead, it aims to complement the development strategies of the countries involved by leveraging their comparative strengths. "The BRI I put forward aims to achieve win-win and shared development," Xi said.

## REINVIGORATE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CIVILIZATIONS

Villagers in Liangjiahe still remember that Xi brought two suitcases full of books when he arrived in the village in 1969. Xi loves reading – a fixture in his daily life. He once walked 15

kilometers to borrow a copy of Faust, a masterpiece of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe.

"Reading invigorates my mind, inspires me and cultivates my moral force," Xi said. Even after assuming the top leadership post, he still keeps reading despite a busy schedule and has also encouraged government officials to read.

The reading habit has given Xi a rich knowledge of the histories and cultures of both the East and the West and a source of inspiration for his thinking about global development.

On Sept. 9, 2013, while visiting the Amir Timur Museum in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, during his first Central Asia tour as Chinese president, Xi was attracted by a map of the ancient Silk Road.

Xi pointed to a location on the map, identifying it as Xi'an, his hometown and the starting point of the Silk Road. The city, formerly known as Chang'an, is a significant birthplace of Chinese civilization and the Chinese nation.

More than 2,100 years ago, Zhang Qian, a royal emissary of the Han Dynasty, made a brave journey westward from Chang'an. His adventures pushed open the door to commercial

and cultural exchanges between China and Central Asia and helped blaze the Silk Road linking the East and the West.

Sharing the story with the audience at Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan in 2013, Xi said, "Today, as I stand here and look back at history, I seem to hear the camel bells echoing in the mountains and see the wisps of smoke rising from the desert."

Spanning thousands of miles and years, the ancient silk routes were more than routes for trade. The circulation of goods spurred the communication of cultures. Waves of caravans, travelers, scholars and artisans traveled between the East and the West as cultural envoys. The bustling pathways connected the birthplaces of the Egyptian, Babylonian, Indian and Chinese civilizations and the lands of major religions.

Countless relics discovered along the ancient routes, including the millennia-old "gilt bronze silkworm" displayed at China's Shaanxi History Museum and the Belitung shipwreck discovered in Indonesia, are the embodiments of the Silk Road spirit, which promoted peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit.

"History is the best teacher," Xi says, that reviving and carrying forward the Silk Road spirit and promoting cultural and people-to-people exchanges is integral to the BRI.

"We should establish a multi-tiered mechanism for cultural and people-to-people exchanges, build more cooperation platforms and open more cooperation channels," Xi said while addressing the first Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in 2017.

Xi can always combine theory, history and reality and draw inspiration from the nation's outstanding traditions, said Martin Albrow, a fellow of the British Academy of Social Sciences. For Xi, civilizations do not have to clash, and no civilization reigns supreme. "Civilizations only vary from each other, just as human beings are different only in terms of skin color and the language used," he said.

"In pursuing the Belt and Road Initiative, we should ensure that when it comes to different civilizations, exchange will replace estrangement, mutual learning will replace clashes, and coexistence will replace a sense of superiority. This will boost mutual understanding, mutual respect and mutual trust among different countries," Xi stated while addressing the first Belt and Road forum.

That is why he proposed to hold the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations and put forward the Global Civilization Initiative.

"We should keep our civilizations dynamic and create conditions for other civilizations to flourish," Xi said.

Xi's vision of civilization has been shared by many.

"The BRI has revived the Silk Road spirit. By activating the spirit, different civilizations can return to a harmonious state of mutual learning. That is how civilizations should get along," said Wang Yiwei.

Former Greek President Prokopis Pavlopoulos said, "Chinese President Xi Jinping is a great leader who knows well about civilizations, about the essence and mission of civilizations."

## INSPIRE BUILDING OF A BETTER WORLD

"Mankind, by living in the same global village in the same era where history and reality meet, has increasingly emerged as a community of shared future in which everyone has in himself a little bit of others," Xi told a rapt, packed audience at Moscow State Institute of International Relations in 2013.

It was Xi's first overseas visit after he became Chinese president. During that trip, Xi first proposed building a community with a shared future for mankind. The idea has become a fundamental principle of China's foreign policy. Several months later, Xi introduced the Belt and Road Initiative, widely seen as a significant step towards realizing his vision of a better world.



Xi Jinping visits Liangjiahe Village, Wen'anyi Township of Yanchuan County, Yan'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province, Feb. 13, 2015. (Xinhua/Lan Hongguang)



## CRDB gets 400bn/- credit facility for financing its large customers

By Guardian Reporter

THE Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) listed CRDB Bank has signed an agreement for nearly 400bn/- (US\$150 million) international syndicated facility for lending into large customers in different sectors of the economy.

The international facility was raised from the international financial markets by two largest international financial institutions including Intesa Sanpaolo and Investec.

Speaking during the signing of the facility agreement in Dar es Salaam yesterday, CRDB Bank managing director and Group Chief Executive Officer Abdulmajid Nsekela said the bank's clean records, strong management, commercial focus and strength were the main criteria for securing the facility.

"Our bank has managed to raise huge amount of money from international financial institutions. The achievements

show the trust we have from international investors due to our commercial system of running our business, our credit worthiness and strong economy," he said.

Nsekela said the bank applied to obtain US\$50 million from international investors, but the outcome has surpassed the demand by 400 percent as US\$202 million were mobilized. However, the uptake was only \$150 million.

"Through this international syndicate facility, our institution requiring financing, as what we did, is applying through recognized international financial market to investors who are willing to invest in Africa. Each investors, the way he measure the value of the institution seeking such finance, is committing the amount to invest out of requested amount," he said.

He said the raised fund were obtained from foreign investors in different countries including South Africa,



CRDB bank Board Chairman Dr Ally Laay (L) looks on as CRDB Managing Director Abdulmajid Nsekela (2nd L) signs US\$150 million loan agreement facilitated by Intesa Sao Paulo Bank and Investec Bank in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Right is Head of Credit Solutions for Africa from Investec Bank, Rowan King with Intesa Sanpaolo Group Credit Director, Gustaaf Eerenstein.

Italy, Mauritius, Egypt, Germany, United Kingdom, Far East of which US\$122 will be paid within one year and the remaining US\$ will be repaid for two years.

During the signing, the representative from Investec, Leanne Large said high turnout of investors to invest on CRDB Bank facility is a testi-

mony the strength of the bank and its advocacy on the economy of Tanzania.

The Intesa Sanpaolo syndicated credit director Gustaaf Eerenstein said strong growth of CRDB Bank since its establishment in 1996, including raising its balance sheet to a total assets amounting to 12trn/- or US\$ 4.9 billion, has been the main

criteria that has attracted many investors to inject their funds.

"This syndicated loan shows the strong management and staff commitment in a time when the global economy is facing many challenges due to various reasons. We are very happy to be part of stakeholders of this largest institution in Africa," he said.

The CRDB Bank director of communication Tully Mwambapa said the raised facility are available and she invited business community seeking financing to use this opportunity in order to stimulate the growth of the economy.

"Our bank is giving priority to women and youths, these funds will be available for these groups of our economy. I would like to assure you that we are here to serve you at an international standard so that we can build our economy together," she said.

The bank's board Chairman Ally Laay said the bank was ready to serve any business depending on the deeds.



**This syndicated loan shows the strong management and staff commitment in a time when the global economy is facing many challenges due to various reasons**

## Govt urges stakeholders to empower women, youths to invest in ICT sub-sectors

By Carlos Banda

THE government has called on development stakeholders to work with women and youth groups to enable them to take on opportunities available in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector citing that women and youth are the key foundation towards bringing economic changes.

It has been emphasized that

the group should be properly prepared since it holds a special role in educating the public concerning new technologies in the digital era and safe and beneficial use of ICT to bring forth an inclusive digital economy.

This was revealed by the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology, Selestine Kakele, as he officiated

the start of the 7th Tanzania Women's ICT Conference Forum prepared by the ICT Commission.

"The government through the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology, would like to thank all development stakeholders in the ICT sector for recognizing this special group and for continuing to support women and youth to take up opportunities in ICT," he said.

He said the government has placed friendly conditions to promote and foster creativity in order to stimulate investment and development of modern technology by establishing and overseeing the implementation of policies, laws, procedure, principles and various guidelines.

He also noted that the foundation for an inclusive digital economy is intended for decreasing and totally removing

the existing digital divide, adding that, doing so lays the foundation for addressing the bottlenecks against ICT knowledge and training to the members of the society regardless of the background of physical location. "In this context, in order to achieve sustainable development, the use of ICT as an enabling tool must be used to reach all groups without bias. You will all agree with me that for development to be realized

and meaningful, such pursuit must involve people who are an important aspect and reaching out to all groups," he noted.

Kakele further urged women to use the conference as a platform to raise their voice and discuss as a nation on the setbacks facing women impeding their capacity to grab hold of the opportunities in the ICT sector in their daily endeavors, citing that women and youth play key roles in prohibiting the

misuse of ICT.

"As the Ministry responsible, we would like to hear your thoughts as you highlight the present opportunities and challenges in ICT. I would be happy to hear your opinions and expectations from the government on what should be done to continue preparing the conducive and friendly environment for women to use emerging technologies," he said.

## Foreign investors' share selloff continues at DSE

By Guardian Reporter

FOREIGN investors' shares selloff trend continues at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) with a net outflow amounting to 6.7bn/- being recorded during first 16 days of the current quarter.

The amount is equivalent to total outflows recorded during the fourth quarter of last year, and nearly half of the outflows recorded during the third quarter of this year ended in September.

However, all shares sold by foreign investors during the first 16 days of this quarter were bought by local investors, which indicate their high absorption capacities among both individual and institutional.

The DSE market report shows during the first 16 days of the current quarter, foreign investors have so far sold shares valued 6.8bn/-, which is 86 percent of total value of shares sold, against the purchase of shares amounting to 45mn/- or 0.57 percent of total value of shares bought.

Foreign investors' selloff is at-

tributed to the continued rise of interest rates in advanced economies, which has seen foreigners preferring to invest in their home markets which offer comparatively higher returns.

Market analysts say they expect similar trends of foreign investors exit, specifically bluechips counters.

"We expect this trend to persist in future, but this will depend on US inflation trend and monetary policy," said an analyst.

While the US Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged in its September meeting, it indicated interest rates would hold up for longer than previously indicated in addition to signaling a further interest rate increase before 2024.

"Foreign investors continue to remain generally cautious across Sub-Saharan African markets, turning bearish to key bluechips stocks," Raphael Masumbuko, Chief Executive Officer, Zan Securities Limited, broker and member of DSE told The Guardian last month.

Other blue-chip companies which recorded similar trend

during the last quarter were Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL), Tanzania Cigarette Company (TCC) and Vodacom Tanzania.

According to the DSE market reports, half of the outflows during the last 16 days were recorded by banking counters transactions through block trade pre-arranged market boards by CRDB Bank Plc and NMB Bank Plc.

On Thursday last week, NMB Bank counter, the second largest at DSE in terms of market capitalization, recorded the turnover of 1.65bn/-, following transactions of 350,000 shares through block trade and 6,014 shares through normal trade at a price of 4,660/- per share in four deals.

The market report for Monday this week show, CRDB Bank Plc counter recorded a turnover of 2.89bn/- following the transaction of 6.5 million shares, of which 6.3 million shares were traded through bloc trade pre-arranged market board and 201,318 shares through normal board at a price between 440/- and 445/- per share in 45 deals.

During the day, the market re-



During the first 16 days of the current quarter, foreign investors have sold shares valued 6.8bn/- . File Photo

port shows NMB Bank Plc counter also traded 8,587 shares valued 40mn/- at a price ranging from 4,660/- and 4,680/- per share in five deals.

Since July this year, market reports show that foreign investors have so far sold shares valued 21.4bn/-, against the purchase of shares valued 981mn/-.

In neighbouring Kenya, foreign-

ers shed shares worth Ksh1.1 billion (\$7.41 million) last month, according to market data, marking a renewed selloff from the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE).

About \$688 billion in shareholder wealth in emerging-market stocks including Tanzania was erased in September, bringing the total wiped out since July 31 to \$1.54 trillion, according to an analysis of data compiled by Bloomberg.

The cash flow that was meant for emerging markets likely stayed in US large cap stocks, according to Sylvia Jablonski, co-founder and chief investment officer at Defiance ETFs.

Meanwhile, the domestic market capitalization has continued to increase after gaining by 45bn/- over the last 16 days, following the appreciation of share prices among local firms' counters.

### NEW YORK

STOCKS edged lower and bonds dropped as investors kept a close eye on diplomatic efforts to contain the Israel-Hamas war, including a planned visit to the region by US President Joe Biden (pictured).

Futures contracts for US equities slipped by about 0.3 percent as traders assessed a flurry of major earnings. Bank of America Corp. advanced in premarket after its net interest income beat estimates. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. fluctuated as its results showed a beat in trading revenue and a drop in profit. Johnson & Johnson rose after increasing its revenue outlook.

Yields on the US 10-year

## Stocks, bonds slip before Biden's Israel visit

benchmark climbed six basis points to 4.8 percent. The dollar steadied, while the pound fell after cooling UK wage growth reduced pressure on the Bank of England to raise interest rates further. Israel's shekel gained after weakening past 4 against the greenback on Monday. Brent crude oil traded near \$90 a barrel.

Biden is set to travel to Israel Wednesday, aiming to show solidarity with the US's closest ally in the Middle East and prevent the conflict from engulfing the wider region. He'll then be in Jordan for talks with King Abdullah II and Egyptian and Palestinian Authority leaders.



"Markets fear a ground offensive by Israel that could ignite a larger and more com-

plicated regional conflict that risks regional supply chains, energy output, economic

growth and financial stability," said Kyle Rodda, senior market analyst at Capital.com. "The presence of President Biden in the region potentially lowers the odds of such an offensive in the coming days, providing markets with some breathing room, if only for a small window."

Investors are closely assessing the health of this batch of corporate results, after Wall Street strategists warned that the outlook for earnings is weakening. An update is also due Tuesday from United Airlines Holdings Inc. before Netflix Inc. and Tesla Inc. kick off tech-related earnings on Wednesday.

Elsewhere in stocks, Ericsson AB slumped more than 9% after the Swedish 5G-equipment maker warned of persisting weak demand. Rolls Royce Holdings Plc rose after the jet engine maker announced plans to cut jobs and streamline its business. Europe's Stoxx 600 Index saw modest losses. Poland's stocks and currency extended gains following Sunday's elections, which gave pro-European Union parties a majority in parliament.

On top of geopolitics and earnings, traders are tracking comments from a slew of Federal Reserve speakers this week before a blackout period in the lead-up to the central bank's November rate-setting meeting. Philadelphia Fed

President Patrick Harker on Monday repeated comments he made last week asserting the central bank can hold its benchmark rate steady as long as there is not a sharp turn in the economic data.

Pessimism around the economic outlook is driving investors to cash, according to BofA's global fund manager survey.

The broadest measure of sentiment – based on cash positions, equity allocation and economic predictions – fell in the October poll after showing an improvement in the summer months. BofA strategists led by Michael Hartnett wrote in a note. Cash levels as a percentage of assets under management have climbed above 5 percent.



## National parks earn 463.3 billion/- from visitors in 2022/23

By Guardian Reporter

NATIONAL parks in Tanzania earned a total of 463.3 billion/- during the financial year 2022/2023, an increase of 43.4 percent compared to 323.2 billion/- earned in 2021/2022, provisional data by Tanzania National Parks Authority (Tanapa) and Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) has said.

The amount was four times higher than 108.1 billion/- earned in 2020/2021 during the pandemic and more than eight times of the earnings reported during 2019/2020, when the world was at a standstill due to lockdowns and travel restrictions.

The increase of earnings resulted from an increased number of visitors by 17.9 percent to 2.2

million last financial year from 1.8 million visited in 2021/2022 and 815,740 during 2020/2021.

The highest revenue growth was recorded in Lake zone of Tanzania mainland, with 99 percent to 169.4 billion/- during the financial year 2022/2023, compared to 84.75 billion/- recorded during previous financial year.

The report shows, Lake Zone accounts for 36 percent of national parks' revenue and 23.8 percent of number of visitors.

However, northern zone still dominates national parks tourism activities as it accounts for 65 percent of total visitors and 58.7 percent of revenue.

During the financial year 2022/2023, number of visitors to zonal parks increased by 7.9 percent to 1.4



Tourists visit the Serengeti National Park. File photo

million in 2022/2023 from 1.3 million in 2021/2022, while earnings from visitors jumped by 20.9 percent to 271.98 billion/- compared to 224.99 billion/- respectively.

Number of visitors to central zone was second highest with 54 percent to 115,443 in 2022/23, compared with 74,977 who visited in 2021/2022, while revenue was third highest with the growth of 74.7 percent to 5.08 billion/- compared with 2.9 billion/- respectively.

According to NCAA and Tanapa data, southern highlands zone recorded the highest growth of number of visitors with 97 percent to 44,175 visitors during the last financial year, compared to 22,424 in 2021/2022.

However, southern highlands accounts for only 2.7 percent of visitors and 0.9 percent of total revenue from national parks.

In south eastern zone of Tanzania, which accounts for 3.9 percent share of visitors and 2.7 percent of revenue, num-

ber of visitors went up by 45.7 percent to 86,722 in 2022/2023 from 59,511 in 2021/2022 while revenue jumped by 98 percent to 12.6 billion/- compared with 6.6 billion/- respectively.

Likewise, the number of visitors and earnings from museums improved relative to the preceding year.

The number of visitors to museums increased by 6.3 percent to 78,946 in 2022/23 from 74,267 registered in the preceding year.

Accordingly, earnings rose by 64.8 percent to 892 million/-. Dar es Salaam zone continued to account for the largest share of both the number of visitors and earnings at 63 percent and 79.5 percent, respectively.

South eastern zone museums recorded the highest growth of visitors with 70.3 percent to 7,448 during last financial year from 4,374 visitors in 2021/2022, while revenue growth by 1.2 percent to 53.8 million compared to 53.2 million/- respectively.

Provisional data for 2022/2023 show number of visitors to Dar es Salaam museums slowed by 8.7 percent to 49,762 compared to 54,504 who visited in 2021/2022 while revenue went up by 72 percent to 709 million/- compared to 411.1 million/- respectively.

## Koreans invest in cashew nuts shell liquid extractions

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

SOUTH Korea based company-Tan-Ko Mirae Green Co. Ltd has built two state-of-the-art manufacturing factories worth US\$ 5 million at Dundani village in Mkuranga District, Coast Region to produce eco-friendly Cashew Nut Shell Liquid (CNSL) oil that has huge market in South Korea for power plant and cashew kernel for export in other countries.

Youngwoong Kim, Tan-Ko Mirae Green Co.Ltd, managing director named two factories as Cashew Nut Shell Liquid (CNSL) manufacturing factory and cashew processing fac-

tory, all these factories is located at Dundani Industrial Park of Mkuranga District.

CNSL manufacturing factory has capacity to produce 3,000 tons of CNSL oil per year, while cashew processing factory has capacity to produce 3,500 tons of cashew kernels per year.

"We are exporting CNSL oil to South Korea, this oil is used for power plant for producing electricity," he said.

CNSL manufacturing factory was officially established in June last year and has managed to create employment for 50 people in the processing facility.

While construction work of cash-

ew processing factory is underway at Dundani industrial park, will start operation at the end of December this year to produce cashew kernels for export market in abroad.

The plant will assist farmers in Mkuranga District and other parts of the country to have a reliable market for their commodities and the company will access the raw materials from farmers.

In a bid to meet the market requirements in abroad and South Korea, the company has brought a sample of Nousbo's Controlled Released Fertilizer (CRF) from South Korea to Tanzania as well as show Cashew Nut Board of Tanzania (CBT)'s management and TARI-

Naliende, center director to see how farmers can utilize the fertilizer to increase their income and cashew nut production.

Also the company is now looking for 30,000 hectares of land from CBT to enter into cashew nut plantation to meet the market demand.

So far they have been able to meet with Francis Alfred, Cashew Nut Board of Tanzania (CBT)'s director general with whom they discussed about what they are doing, Nousbo Controlled Released Fertilizer (CRF) and how can secure 30,000 hectares of land for investment to enter into cashew nut plantation in Tanzania to increase cashew nut production.

"As company we are very glad for what has been achieved so far because CBT's management is now looking for 30,000 hectares of land so that we can enter into cashew nut plantation and were also impressed with the fertilizer," he said.

CBT has agreed to support them to secure land because they want to boost cashew nut industry, boost Tanzanian economy, help farmers move from traditional farming to modern farming, raise their income and strengthen the business links between Tanzania and South Korea.

He named advantages of using Nousbo CRF fertilizer as yield increase more than 40 percent com-

pared to conventional fertilizer, reducing dosage per tree by more than 70 percent, reducing labor cost and reducing dosage per tree it will be reducing shipping cost.

"Before the construction of the factories we carry out an in-depth feasibility study of cashew- value chain in Mtwara Region, Mkuranga District and other regions to see how we can contribute to Tanzania cashew nut industry," he said.

Also they had a meeting with Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in South Korea in 2017 and have a face-to-face discussion about what we are doing and plans they have and he said, he will provide full support to them.

## WFP challenges Tanzania to boost sorghum production

By Correspondent Valentine Ofori, Dodoma

THE UN Agency has challenged Tanzania to increase production of sorghum, in order to cater for the skyrocketing demand of the grain and pro-planet crop in the world market.

The Monitoring Officer at the UN's World Food Programme (WFP), William Lasway unveiled that demand by the world's largest humanitarian organization was to purchase at least 200,000 tons of sorghum from Tanzania each season but the country has failed to cater the demand.

He said WFP has been purchasing a huge volume of sorghum for humanitarian support to the population in need into different countries across the continent, especially in Sudan,

Somalia and Burundi.

He raised the concern during a special forum which attracted the stakeholders in the country's sorghum crop, including the farmers, buyers, seeds producers as well as those involved in the fertilizer sector.

Convened in Dodoma Capital City, the forum tailored to provide a useful podium for the participants to brainstorm over the development of the vital agricultural sub-sector.

"Tanzania has been endowed with a favourable agroclimatic zone and suitable soil for the cultivation of the crop, but many efforts are needed to assist the farmers to engage into vast and professional production of sorghum," he observed.

Lasway however revealed that WFP has for a long time been working



collaboratively with the government to assist the local farmers to increase production and productivity, being in efforts to enable them getting the needed tonnage in each season.

"Most of the involved growers are still far from reliable access to improved seeds varieties, the existing gap which needs to timely be contained, as well

as improving interventions towards the value addition to the crops produced," he urged.

Speaking for his part, the Project Officer at the Farm Africa, Meshack Panga said that the international organisation was running a specific project to scale up production of sorghum among the farmers in all districts of Dodoma Region.

"Through the robust project, we have so far managed to reach out to a total of 30,000 farmers across the districts and the initiative continues to support the farmers until 2028 where it will phase out," he expressed.

"When we started the project the price of sorghum ranged between 200/- and 250/- per kilogram but we sensitized and assisted the farmers to improve their production quality to the good extent that currently, the prices have substantially increased to 800/- per one Kg," he informed.

Patric Byeshulilo, an officer from Apeck International Limited told the

forum that his company was working to search for vast markets for the crop in different countries, saying they have so far managed to get a market for at least 6,000 tons in Burundi.

The Quality Assurance Officer at the Cereals and Other Produce Board of Tanzania (CPB), Mwanahamisi Msangi said the state-owned Board is the major buyer of the sorghum produced by the local farmers.

She briefed that during the 2020/21 season CPB bought a total of 1,000 tons, while in the 2021/22 season they purchased at least 3,000 tons.

"During 2022/2023 we purchased a total of 3,000 tons and our expectation is to purchase at least 10,000 tons come next season," she expounded.

Agricultural and Marketing Officer at the Tanzania Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA), Ezekiel Noah said for the current season, the Agency has in stock a total of 200 tons of improved seeds for assisting the farmers.

## Airtel Africa unveils affordable 4G smartphones for Rwandans

KIGALI

AIRTEL Africa, a leading provider of telecommunications and mobile money services with a presence in 14 countries across Africa, has today launched the most affordable 4G smartphone in Rwanda, in partnership with the Government of Rwanda, under the ConnectRwanda 2.0 initiative.

In partnership with the government of Rwanda, the digital inclusion and empowerment initiative by Airtel Africa aims to provide over 1 million people in the country with high-speed, cutting-edge LTE smartphones by 2024.

Speaking at a press conference in Kigali to unveil the initiative ahead of the 2023 Mobile World Congress, the Group CEO of Airtel Africa, Segun Ogunsanya said: "We are proud to be part of this transformative initiative that promises to rewrite Rwanda's digitization story and give

more Rwandans a reason to imagine.

This partnership demonstrates our unwavering commitment to the Rwandan government's digitization drive and our belief that digital empowerment is vital for socio-economic progress.

As this affordable smartphone enters the market, new opportunities for learning, business, and connection will emerge, ultimately driving economic growth and innovation".

The affordable smartphone will be available at a price of 20,000 Rwandan Francs (US\$16.5) with a monthly fee of 1000 Rwandan Francs (US\$0.8). In addition to the smartphone, subscribers will also enjoy IGB of data daily and unlimited calls to any network in Rwanda, making connectivity more accessible than ever.

Also speaking at the press conference, Rwanda's Minister of ICT, Hon. Paula Ingabire represented by the

Director General of Digital Transformation in the Ministry, Mr. Gordon Kalema, stated that: "All government agencies have a target of 2024 to digitize their activities. So, this initiative is aimed at enabling the realization of that ambitious target".

He congratulated Airtel Africa for the successful launch of the 4G smartphone offer and for believing in Rwanda and the government's digitization vision. He also thanked Mr. Reed Hastings, the co-founder and Chairman of Netflix, whose generous contribution made the initiative possible.



**This partnership demonstrates our unwavering commitment to the Rwandan government's digitization drive and our belief that digital**



Photo: Group CEO of Airtel Africa, Segun Ogunsanya



# Access to capital now mining's second-biggest risk after ESG

By Mariaan Webb

WHILE environmental, social and governance (ESG) remains the biggest risk to mining companies, executives are now ranking capital as the second-biggest risk as the sector grapples to fund the expansions required to meet increasing demand for minerals crucial to the energy transition.

This is according to EY's recently published 2024 top ten business risks and opportunities for mining and metals report.

Capital has moved up to number two in the latest ranking, up from number eight last year.

EY notes that the sector will require access to significantly more capital if it is to mitigate the looming deficits of minerals needed for the energy transition. Yet, capital raised through debt and equity has remained steady at \$178-billion in the first seven months of the year.

Global mining and metals leader Paul Mitchell says it appears that capital is moving to new commodity markets rather than solving what is already a significant risk.

Iron and steel, gold and coal companies have attracted the most capital since 2022, but investment is increasing



lenges.

Forty-one percent of miners surveyed said their digital priority was a platform to track and report ESG metrics. "To avoid disclosure missteps and make the best use of resources, miners will need a better view of high-quality ESG data, with strong governance and controls in place to ensure appropriate sign-offs and processes," says Mitchell.

Licence to operate (LTO) is the third biggest risk for miners, with mining and metals companies facing higher expectations than many other sectors. Miners typically operate on land that is licensed, not owned, and navigate a range of formal and informal conditions around how minerals are extracted.

EY says that in the past, LTO was focused on Indigenous trust and reconciliation. Today, its scope has expanded to encompass trust at a societal level.

Sixty-four percent of survey respondents said community impact was the top ESG issue facing scrutiny from investors in 2024. Executives say their understanding of sustainability-related matters has increased significantly over the years – but now they realise they cannot tackle all matters at once. The big question is what to prioritise to create real and lasting impact.

"Licence to operate is increasingly challenging, with a broadening range of stakeholders and issues – creating a long-term focus on value beyond life-of-mine and working with communities to co-develop solutions is key," says Mitchell.

Following ESG, capital and LTO, the list of top-ten risks is completed by climate change, digital transformation and innovation, cost management and productivity, geopolitics, cybersecurity, new business models and workforce dynamics. Cybersecurity has re-entered the ranking for the first time since 2020, as companies experience increased attacks due to a more complex threat landscape that spans both information technology and operational technology. The survey also highlights a growing concern from miners around intellectual property, as they broaden their thinking from cyber threats being a technology problem to a business risk. With only 40% of mining and metals boards confident they understand the biggest cyber threats facing their organisation, it is clear that cyber requires greater attention.

## Dollar mixed vs major peers; UK pounds slips

LONDON

THE US dollar swayed in a tight range on Tuesday as traders took stock of developments in the Middle East and braced for speeches this week by central bank officials, while the pound dipped as data indicated a softening labour market.

The yen briefly surged but quickly trimmed gains after a media report that the Bank of Japan was considering raising its core CPI forecast for the 2023 and 2024 fiscal years but maintaining the inflation outlook for 2025.

The yen last fetched 149.47 per dollar, having risen as high as 148.75 after the report, as analysts said the kneejerk reaction to higher inflation forecasts in the near term was negated by the longer-term projections.

"Central banks are not trying to hit the CPI targets in the near term," said Colin Asher, senior economist at Mizuho.

"For my part, I see a decent risk that the BoJ is underestimating the risks of the CPI remaining elevated into FY25, which is one reason why I expect that the BoJ will be forced to tighten policy in the New Year," Asher added.

Investors were also on edge for any signs of intervention by the Japanese authorities as the yen traded close to the 150 level that prompted officials to step in to buy the currency in 2022.

Japan's top financial diplomat Masato Kanda said the yen was still perceived as a safe haven asset like the dollar and the Swiss franc despite its recent weakness, and was benefiting from demand due to the conflict in the Middle East.

Valentin Marinov, Credit Agricole CIB global head of GIO FX research and strategy, said the main drivers in broader currency markets continued to be tensions in the Middle East and elevated global bond yields.

"The key question for the markets remains the scope for further escalation," Marinov said.

"As long as oil prices remain well behaved in the face of geopolitical tensions, that will mean that cost-push inflation may not re-accelerate and, by implication, the Fed could stick to its recent more-dovish rhetoric ruling out further rate hikes."

The dollar index, which measures the US currency against six peers, fell 0.1 percent to 106.13, after dropping 0.4 percent on Monday.

Investor attention will firmly be on Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell, who is due to speak on Thursday, during a busy week of speeches by regional bank heads. Fed officials will enter into a blackout period on Oct. 21 before the central bank's Oct. 31-Nov. 1 meeting.

Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia President Patrick Harker said on Monday the central bank should not create new pressure on the economy by increasing the cost of borrowing.

Fed funds futures traders are pricing in around a 7 percent chance that the Fed raises rates at its November meeting, with around a 35 percent chance of a hike by December, according to the CME's FedWatch tool.

The pound dipped after growth in British workers' regular pay slowed from a previous record high and job vacancies also dropped, although the publication of some labour market data, including the unemployment rate, was delayed until next week.

"The slimmed down version of the data highlighted that the labour market is cooling down," CA CIB's Marinov said.

"It corroborates the view that the Bank of England is done hiking rates."

Sterling was last at \$1.2174, down 0.4 percent on the day, after jumping 0.6 percent on Monday.

The New Zealand dollar fell 0.6 percent to \$0.5898 after data on Tuesday showed consumer inflation hit a two-year low, reducing expectations the central bank will hike the cash rate further in November.

Meanwhile, the euro was up 0.1 percent at \$1.0569 as German investor morale improved by more than expected in October, according to the ZEW economic research institute.

The Australian dollar rose 0.2 percent to \$0.6357. Australia's central bank considered raising rates at its recent policy meeting but judged there was not enough new information to warrant a move, minutes of the Reserve Bank of Australia's Oct. 3 policy meeting showed.

in nickel and lithium.

EY states that investment in mining equipment is coming from within the energy ecosystem, including automotive and battery manufacturers, and the impact of incentives such as the US Inflation Reduction Act is expected to make this more attractive.

Mitchell says: "The race to support the energy transition is accelerating, with the surge in demand for critical minerals underscoring the mining

sector's pivotal role. The intertwining of sectors, such as automotive and battery manufacturing with mining, signals a transformative phase where collaborative efforts will be the cornerstone of sustainable progress."

Meanwhile, ESG remains the top risk for miners and although the risks raised in the latest survey are not new, what is changing is a growing degree of complexity and investor attention.

"We believe this will spur more innova-

tion, more ambitious targets and greater transparency in reporting," says Mitchell.

Much of the challenge of ESG is the diversity of risk and opportunities. He notes that companies are grappling with issues ranging from water stewardship to ethical supply chains and mine closure – all while trying to navigate what respondents describe as an "alphabet soup" of regulations and with ongoing data integrity chal-



## MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM



THURSDAY 12 Oct		FRIDAY 13 Oct		SATURDAY 14 Oct		SUNDAY 15 Oct	
5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:30	Uwariya wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwariya wa Mazoezi
5:30	Uwariya wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwariya wa Mazoezi	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI
6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha
6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari
7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu
8:55	Habari za saa	8:55	Habari za saa	10:00	Shamba lulu	10:00	Shamba lulu
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	10:30	Habari za saa	10:30	Habari za saa
9:25	Habari za saa	9:25	Habari za saa	10:55	Habari za saa	10:55	Habari za saa
9:30	Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon	9:30	Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon	11:00	Ripoti maalum rpt	11:00	Ripoti maalum rpt
9:55	Watoto wetu	9:55	Watoto wetu	11:55	Habari za saa	11:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Shamba lulu	10:00	Shamba lulu	12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera
10:30	Habari za saa	10:30	Habari za saa	12:30	Jiji Letu	12:30	Jiji Letu
10:55	Habari za saa	10:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT	12:55	Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT
11:00	Ripoti maalum rpt	11:00	Ripoti maalum rpt	13:00	Our Earth	13:00	Our Earth
11:55	Habari za saa	11:55	Habari za saa	13:30	Habari za saa	13:30	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera	13:55	Shamsham za pwani rpt	13:55	Shamsham za pwani rpt
12:30	Jarda la wanawake rpt	12:30	Jarda la wanawake rpt	14:00	Habari za saa	14:00	Habari za saa
12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Meza huru	14:55	Meza huru
13:00	Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT	13:00	Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT	15:00	Watoto wetu	15:00	Watoto wetu
13:30	Our Earth	13:30	Our Earth	16:30	The Base	16:30	The Base
13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa	17:00	Jiji Letu	17:00	Jiji Letu
14:00	Shamsham za pwani rpt	14:00	Shamsham za pwani rpt	18:00	Magsi	18:00	Magsi
14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa	18:15	Makoko ya wizi	18:15	Makoko ya wizi
15:00	Meza huru	15:00	Meza huru	18:30	Igizo: Slay Queen	18:30	Igizo: Slay Queen
16:30	Watoto wetu	16:30	Watoto wetu	19:00	Habari	19:00	Habari
17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	19:30	Kipindi maalum: Kumbukizi Mwi. Nyerere	19:30	Kipindi maalum: Kumbukizi Mwi. Nyerere
18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari
18:15	Magsi	18:15	Magsi	20:30	Al Jazeera	20:30	Al Jazeera
18:30	Jagina	18:30	Jagina	21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka	21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka
19:00	Uwariya Wako	19:00	Uwariya Wako	21:15	Igizo: Slay Queen	21:15	Igizo: Slay Queen
19:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon	19:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon	21:40	Kipindi Maalum: Kumbukizi Mwi. Nyerere	21:40	Kipindi Maalum: Kumbukizi Mwi. Nyerere
20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	22:10	ITV Top 10	22:10	ITV Top 10
21:05	Malumbano ya hoja	21:05	Malumbano ya hoja	22:50	Hawurumi lakini wamo	22:50	Hawurumi lakini wamo
23:00	Habari	23:00	Habari	23:40	Soap: Uzalo rpt	23:40	Soap: Uzalo rpt
23:30	Music: The Base	23:30	Music: The Base	00:30	Al Jazeera	00:30	Al Jazeera
00:30	Al Jazeera	00:30	Al Jazeera				



## WORLD

## Xi: Boost BRI cooperation to achieve more results

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping yesterday called for more cooperation in the Belt and Road Initiative, as he met with various international leaders, who are in Beijing to attend the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation.

Xi held meetings with Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Chilean President Gabriel Boric, Indonesian President Joko Widodo, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orba, Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Papua New Guinean Prime Minister James Marape.

During his meeting with Tokayev, Xi said he is very happy to meet his old friend again. A sound, stable and vibrant China-Kazakhstan relationship is conducive to the development and revitalization of both countries as well as to regional peace and stability, Xi said.

China supports Kazakhstan in safeguarding its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, Xi said.

No matter how the international situation changes, China and Kazakhstan should pass on the concept of good-neighborliness and friendship from generation to generation, and promote further development of China-Kazakhstan permanent comprehensive strategic partnership, Xi said.

Xi called on the two sides to strengthen cooperation, promote the Belt and Road cooperation to achieve more results, and deliver more benefits to the people of the two countries.

China is willing to continuously facilitate trade and investment with Kazakhstan, expand imports of high-quality and green agricultural products from Kazakhstan, and broaden green energy cooperation with the country, Xi said.

The two countries should promote exchanges in digital technology including cross-border e-commerce, artificial intelligence, big data and blockchain, Xi said.

He also called for stronger people-to-people and cultural exchanges and closer cooperation at the local level, noting that a mutual visa exemption agreement between the two countries will take effect and that the Kazakhstan tourism year will be launched in China next year.

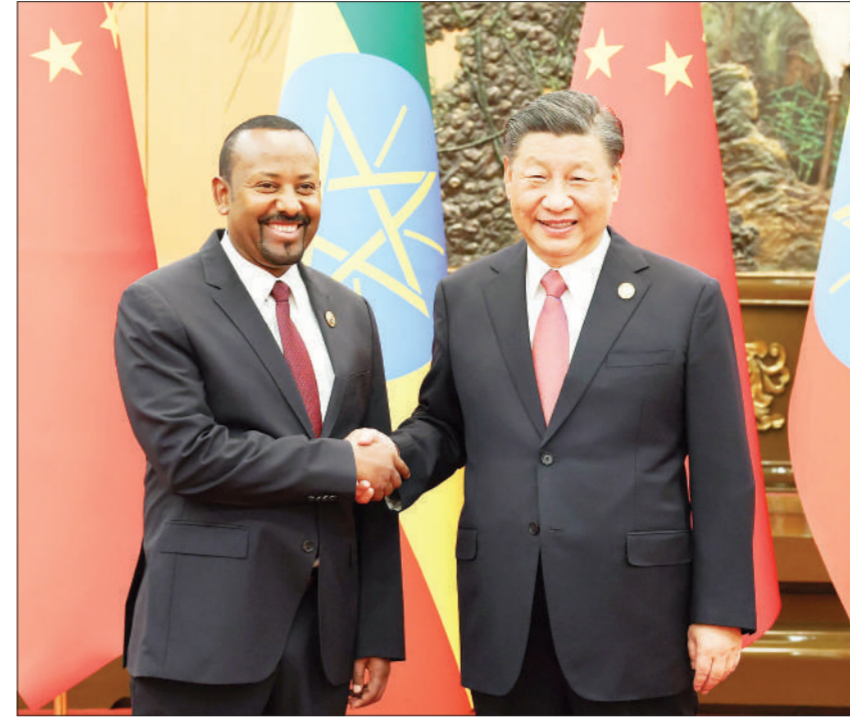
He noted that China is ready to improve connectivity with Kazakhstan and increase the transport capacity, scale and efficiency of China-Europe freight trains.

China firmly opposes external forces interfering in the internal affairs of Central Asian countries, and supports Kazakhstan in performing its duties as the rotating presidency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Xi said.

For his part, Tokayev said from day one, Kazakhstan has firmly supported and actively participated in the Belt and Road Initiative.

Over the past decade, China has become a leading country in the world, and the Belt and Road cooperation has yielded remarkable achievements, Tokayev said.

Noting that China is Kazakhstan's forever trustworthy friend and partner, Tokayev said Kazakhstan speaks highly of China's just position and positive role in international affairs, including its efforts to promote the settlement of the Ukraine crisis, and is willing to strengthen



Chinese President Xi Jinping (right) meets with Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing yesterday. XINHUA

multilateral communication and coordination with China.

The two heads of state witnessed the signing of multiple bilateral documents on cooperation in areas including connectivity and economic development.

Senior Chinese officials including Cai Qi and Wang Yi were present at the events.

#### Xi: Chile a BRI cooperation pioneer

While meeting his Chilean counterpart Boric, Xi said Chile is a pioneer in the Belt and Road cooperation between China and Latin America. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations more than half a century ago, China-Chile ties have maintained stable and sound development.

The bilateral cooperation in various fields has promoted the development and revitalization of the two countries and delivered tangible benefits to the two peoples, he said.

The two countries should take the signing of the Belt and Road cooperation plan as an opportunity to strengthen the alignment of their development strategies, he said.

Xi said China and Chile should deepen traditional cooperation in economy, trade and infrastructure, and foster new drivers of growth for cooperation on clean energy, digital economy, and scientific and technological innovation, to make Chile a leading country in high-quality Belt and Road cooperation between China and Latin America.

China welcomes more high-quality agricultural products and specialties from Chile to enter the Chinese market, he said.

Xi said that both China and Chile belong to the Global South. China is willing to strengthen communication and coordination with Chile to uphold solidarity and cooperation among developing countries, and safeguard true multilateralism and free trade.

China appreciates Chile's positive contributions to the development of China-Latin America relations and the China-CELAC (Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) Forum, and hopes Chile will continue to play its unique role in promoting China's cooperation with Latin America, he said.

Boric said the Belt and Road Initiative proposed by President Xi draws wisdom from Chinese traditional culture that has a history of more than 5,000 years, and is based on the principles of equality and mutual respect. It has become an important platform for mutually beneficial cooperation

and an important opportunity for countries around the world to achieve common development. Chile highly values and will continue to actively participate in the cooperation.

Chile supports China's efforts to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement, Boric said, adding that Chile hopes to become the hub of cooperation between China and Latin American countries and play an active role in promoting the development of the Latin America-China relations.

After the talks, the two heads of state witnessed the signing of a number of bilateral cooperation documents in fields such as Belt and Road cooperation, digital economy, scientific and technological innovation, customs inspection and quarantine.

A joint statement between the two countries was issued after the talks.

Prior to the talks, Xi held a welcoming ceremony for Boric in the Great Hall of the People.

#### Hungary firmly supports BRI

Xi said in a meeting with the Hungarian prime minister that China-Hungary relations have maintained high-level development in recent years, adding that Hungary has long been committed to friendly policies toward China and actively supported the Belt and Road cooperation.

"I highly appreciate Prime Minister Orban's attendance at the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation for three consecutive times," Xi said.

Xi said China is willing to continue to be good friends and partners with Hungary who trust each other and pursue win-win cooperation, and take the China-Hungary comprehensive strategic partnership to new levels.

Xi stressed China's commitment to promoting a deep synergy of the Belt and Road Initiative with Hungary's "Opening to the East" policy, and sharing development opportunities and achievements.

The two sides should work for the on-time completion and operation of the Budapest-Belgrade Railway, he said, adding that China is willing to increase imports of high-quality agricultural products from Hungary.

Xi also noted that China stands ready to work with Hungary to continue to lead cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European countries in the right direction and promote steady and sustained progress in China-Europe relations.

Xinhua

## Russia to retaliate if US deploys medium, short-range missiles to Europe – MFA

UNITED NATIONS

RUSSIA has made it clear that it will inevitably take retaliatory measures if the US deploys intermediate-and shorter-range missiles to Europe, Vladimir Yermakov, director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Non-Proliferation and Arms Control Department, said.

"Russia's unilateral moratorium on the deployment of land-based intermediate-and shorter-range missiles is directly linked to what the US does in this regard.

The unambiguous statements about the inevitability of our retaliatory measures that the Russian authorities made when announcing the aforementioned moratorium leave no room for any other interpretation," he noted in an interview with Russian reporters, when asked if Russia would deploy similar weapons in response to Washington's potential deployment of intermediate-and shorter-range missiles in Europe.

The senior Russian diplomat stressed that the current confrontation between Russia and the US had been triggered by Washington.

"In general, given the aspects of the current standoff between our countries, which was triggered by Washington, Russia has to take certain steps in the strategic field that remove, or at least reduce, the existing and emerging imbalances. In my view, such steps include the decision to deploy Russian nuclear weapons to Belarus in response to NATO's practice of 'joint nuclear missions,' as well as the potential withdrawal of our ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), aimed at mirroring the stance taken on the document by the US," Yermakov emphasized.

Earelier, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a plenary session of the Valdai Discussion Club that Moscow could revoke its ratification of the CTBT because the US had failed to ratify the document.

It is up to the State Duma (lower house of parliament) to make a decision, the president added. State Duma Chairman Vyacheslav Volodin, in turn, said that the move to revoke CTBT ratification was fully in line with Russia's national interests.

Agencies



**In general, given the aspects of the current standoff between our countries, which was triggered by Washington, Russia has to take certain steps in the strategic field that remove, or at least reduce, the existing and emerging imbalances. In my view, such steps include the decision to deploy Russian nuclear weapons to Belarus in response to NATO's practice**



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar addresses a gathering at the unveiling of the bust of Mahatma Gandhi, at Tao Dan Park, in Ho Chi Minh City yesterday. ANI

## Joe Biden visit won't delay Gaza ground operation - Israeli military

TEL AVIV

THE Israel Defence Forces spokesman said US President Joe Biden's visit to Tel Aviv will not affect or complicate the ground operation in Gaza, The Times of Israel reported yesterday.

"I think the president also said that ' Hamas needs to be destroyed,' and that is exactly our military aim," the publication citing a CNN report quoted the IDF spokesperson

Biden will make a wartime visit in the latest demonstration of Washington's overwhelming support for Jerusalem following the October 7 Hamas onslaught.

He will be the first head of state to visit Israel since the conflict began. He delivered a passionate speech last week in which he expressed his horror over the brutal Hamas assault, winning over Israelis across the political spectrum.

US President Joe Biden is set to visit Israel on Wednesday at a time when the country is facing its toughest battle with the terrorist group Hamas.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken while addressing a press conference here on Tuesday said that President Biden is coming to Israel at a "critical moment" and will reaffirm the US' solidarity with Israel.

"US President Joe Biden will visit Israel on Wednesday. He is coming here at a critical moment for Israel, for the region, and for the world. President Biden will reaffirm the United States' solidarity with Israel. President Biden will again make clear, as he's done unequivocally since Hamas's slaughter of more than 1,400 people, including at least 30 Americans, that Israel has the right and indeed the duty to defend its people from Hamas and other terrorists and to prevent future attacks," he said.

He further added by saying that President Biden will continue to coordinate closely with the Israeli partners to secure the release of hostages taken by Hamas.

"President Biden will underscore our crystal clear message to any actor, state or non-state trying to take advantage of this crisis to attack Israel, don't. President will continue to coordinate closely with our Israeli partners to secure the release of hostages taken by Hamas...The United States and Israel have agreed to develop a plan that will enable humanitarian aid from donor nations and multilateral organizations to reach civilians in Gaza," he said.

Blinken noted that President Biden will also receive a comprehensive brief on Israel's war aims and strategy. Meanwhile, the White House also issued a statement on President Biden's visit to Israel. President Joseph R. Biden,

Jr. will travel to Israel on Wednesday, October 18, to demonstrate his steadfast support for Israel in the face of Hamas's brutal terrorist attack and to consult on next steps," the White House said.

"President Biden will then travel to Amman, Jordan, where he will meet with his Majesty King Abdullah, Egyptian President Sisi, and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas. He will reiterate that Hamas does not stand for the Palestinian people's right to dignity and self-determination and discuss the humanitarian needs of civilians in Gaza," the White House added in its statement.

Earlier on Monday, Spokesperson for Israeli Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Tal Heinrich announced that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has extended an invitation to US President Joe Biden to visit Israel and hopes to host the president soon.

"Prime Minister Netanyahu invited US President Joe Biden to Israel, and we hope to host the president soon. We are truly grateful for the support of the united front against the commons," the Spokesperson for the Israeli PMO said.

She said the IDF continues to target those responsible for the massacre in Israel. "Over the last few hours, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) carried out dozens of airstrikes in the Gaza Strip. The targets included Hamas headquarters, mortar launching positions, and a number of terrorists at a military compound," she said.

She further said that the IDF had struck the command centre of Ali Qadhi, a commander in the Hamas commando forces who was killed in an Israeli strike two days ago. "As the IDF Chief of Staff told our frontline troops, 'attack them everywhere, every commander, every operative...'" She said Israel appreciates the unconditional and unwavering support of its allies. CNN recently reported that Netanyahu has invited Biden to visit Israel soon, and both countries are discussing the possibility, a source familiar with the matter revealed.

A Biden visit would also amount to a message to other players in the region, including the Iran-backed Hezbollah, that they should not escalate the conflict further, as per CNN.

Biden recently said that there is a "fundamental difference" between Israelis killed in the Hamas attack and Palestinian civilians and Hamas terrorists killed in Tel Aviv's counter-attack as the terrorist group Hamas has engaged in barbarism "that is as consequential as the holocaust."

ANI

## To raise extensive consultation, joint contribution, shared benefits to new heights

Only by placing the BRI under the grand coordinates of history can its significance for the times and the world be better understood.

In today's world, as technological revolution and productive forces develop, economic globalization has become a historical trend. However, the economic globalization dominated by a few countries failed to achieve inclusive and shared development.

The world is moving ever closer towards greater multipolarity, economic globalization, and cultural diversity, and becoming increas-

ingly information-orientated in the process. It is increasingly clear that humanity is a global community of shared future in which everyone's interests are inseparably entwined.

However, the deficits in peace, development, security and governance continue to grow rather than shrink. At the critical crossroads of history, building a global community of shared future is where the hopes lies for the progress of human society. The BRI takes the building of a global community of shared future as its overarching goal, creating a platform for action and of-

fering approaches to realizing this goal. It turns visions into reality, and is an important public good for improving global governance.

In the 10 years that have passed since the launch of the BRI, cooperation under the BRI framework has brought remarkable and profound change to the world and become a major milestone in the history of humanity. The BRI has boosted China's development and benefited the rest of the world. The initiative boosts development and builds poverty reduction capacity in participating countries. It deliv-

ers notable results in projects that improve people's lives, bringing tangible benefits to participating countries.

The BRI boosts the momentum for global development, encourages deeper regional economic cooperation, promotes global trade, and maintains the stability of global supply chains, thus adding vitality to economic globalization.

It follows the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, promotes and activates authentic multilateralism, and strengthens

the position and role of developing countries and emerging economies in the world market system. It marks a significant improvement in global governance.

The BRI boosts people-to-people exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations, garnering strength for the progress of human civilization. Facts have proven that BRI cooperation responds to the call of the times and benefits the peoples in participating countries. It thus enjoys popular support. It is a path for all participating countries to achieve modernization and

a path of hope leading to a bright future. It is resilient and vigorous, and offers broad prospects.

The reason for the BRI to have gathered world-changing strength in the past decade is that it always adheres to the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, and advocates win-win cooperation in pursuit of the greater good and shared interests. It emphasizes that all countries are equal participants, contributors and beneficiaries, and encourages economic integration, interconnected development, and the sharing of achievements.

People's Daily



# Türkiye proposes guarantor formula for Palestine-Israel peace

TEHRAN/CAIRO/MOSCOW/NICOSIA/TUNIS/LUANDA/OTTAWA/CANBERRA/ANKARA/CAIRO

TÜRKIYE has put forward a guarantor formula to end the new round of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and is seeking to turn the crisis into an opportunity for peace, the state-run TRT broadcaster reported yesterday.

The parties in the conflict should have guarantors for permanent peace, TRT quoted Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan as saying yesterday.

The idea had been conveyed to the interlocutors, the report added.

Fidan said the international community should take an attitude that forces Israel to accept a two-state solution, and Türkiye shared its views on this issue with relevant parties.

The Turkish side has presented the main idea about guarantors and said that its mechanism should be discussed separately, he stated.

Multiple countries including Türkiye should act as guarantors once both parties reach an agreement, with the responsibility to ensure its implementation, he explained.

Fidan on Monday discussed the possibility of the release of hostages during a phone call with Ismail Haniyeh, the head of the political bureau of Hamas.

**Presidents hold phone talks**

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi on Monday highlighted the necessity of making immediate efforts to put an end to Israeli attacks against Gaza in separate phone calls with his Russian and Turkish counterparts, according to statements from the Iranian president's office.

In a phone talk with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Raisi warned of the possible expansion of the conflict, calling on the Muslim world to "make efforts to end Israel's brutal attacks against Gaza and lift the siege on the enclave."

Erdogan, for his part, said measures such as the US aircraft carrier's presence in the region and bombardment of airports in Syria's Aleppo and Damascus could expand the Israel-Hamas conflict to broader parts of the region.

He noted that Türkiye is trying to assist the people in Gaza, adding that the achievement of a cease-fire, ceasing attacks on Gaza, and lifting the city's



Humanitarian aid convoy for the Gaza Strip is parked in Arish, Egypt, on Sunday. AP

siege are three important and fundamental priorities to control the escalation at this critical point.

Speaking to Russian President Vladimir Putin, Raisi blamed Israel's intensification and continuation of military operations in Gaza, which were "supported by Western states, especially the United States."

"The major disaster that is occurring in the region is an outcome of the policies of the US and Israel's other Western supporters, which are doomed to failure," Raisi stressed.

For his part, Putin said the large-scale Israeli attacks against a densely populated region, where more than 2 million defenseless people live, "are in no way justifiable and must be immediately stopped." He warned that carrying out ground operations in Gaza would have very heavy human and military costs and consequences, stressing that the US sought to proceed with its desired approach toward the resolution of the Palestinian issue alone, but it has ended in failure.

Putin also discussed with Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi over Gaza during a phone conversation.

The two leaders reviewed diplomatic efforts underway to contain the situation and agreed on the importance of restoring calm and stability in the region, the Egyptian Presidency said in a statement.

They stressed the protection of civilians, warning of the gravity of the humanitarian conditions in the Gaza Strip. Both sides underscored the urgency to provide safe access to humanitarian assistance to the Gazans.

The two sides also highlighted the

importance of addressing the causes of the crisis, particularly the continued absence of political prospects to settle the Palestinian cause and establish a Palestinian state in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions.

Meanwhile, Putin said that Russia is ready to coordinate efforts with all constructively minded partners to bring an end to the violence in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and stabilize the situation.

The Russian leader made the statement during separate telephone conversations with Raisi, Sisi, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, in which the leaders discussed the recent escalation in the conflict between Israel and Palestine.

He noted that Russia's draft resolution, recently proposed to the United Nations Security Council, calls for the implementation of an immediate humanitarian truce, adding that the resolution is not politicized in any way.

Putin reiterated that a long-term fair solution to the conflict should provide for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state coexisting in peace and security with Israel.

The leaders further expressed extreme concern over the escalation in hostilities between Palestine and Israel, particularly the "catastrophic increase" in the number of civilian casualties and the deepening humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip.

All presidents agreed on the need to implement an immediate ceasefire and humanitarian truce to provide assistance to those in need, particularly considering the serious concern that

the conflict could escalate into a regional war.

**Humanitarian aid**

Tens of trucks loaded with humanitarian aid, medical supplies, food and blankets are lining up on Tuesday at the Rafah crossing, waiting for access to the coastal enclave of Palestine from the Egyptian side.

"Trucks moved from Arish city in north Sinai in the early hours of Tuesday to the Rafah crossing," Shihata Saber, a truck driver told Xinhua.

"I'm proud to be part of the covey. We are ready to enter aid to our brothers in Palestine," said Saber, who had waited for nearly four days after loading the aid in Arish.

After crossing Rafah, the trucks will head to the Kerem Shalom border crossing to be inspected by the Israeli side before moving to Gaza, an Egyptian security official told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Shipments of aid from Jordan, Türkiye and the United Arab Emirates had arrived at the Arish airport, 50 km west of Rafah, together with medical supplies provided by the World Health Organization.

"Since the beginning of the conflict, Egypt attempted to keep the Rafah crossing bordering with Gaza open to deliver aid in coordination with the United Nations," said Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry in a joint press conference with his French counterpart on Monday.

"(However) The Israeli government has not taken any measure from the side of Gaza to allow access," he said.

**Civilian evacuation**

Also on Monday, twenty-six countries have requested Cyprus' assistance in repatriating their nationals from both Israel and the Gaza Strip, said Konstantinos Letymbiotis, spokesman for the government of Cyprus.

"We are responding to the best of our abilities," Letymbiotis said.

Earlier on Monday, Cyprus' National Council examined the situation in the region and possible developments that could affect Cyprus.

Cyprus has activated a national emergency plan and mobilized government services and non-governmental organizations to provide assistance to thousands of people who are expected to arrive in Cyprus. Portugal, the United Kingdom and Denmark have already evacuated aboard military transport planes from Tel Aviv to Cyprus around 600 people, of whom 447 have already departed from Cyprus on commercial flights.

The Royal Australian Air Force has joined the effort to repatriate Australian citizens stranded in Israel.

Richard Marles, the minister for defense and deputy prime minister, Penny Wong, foreign affairs minister, and Bill Shorten, the minister for government services, on Monday evening announced that two Air Force aircraft joined a government-supported charter to fly 255 Australian citizens from Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport to Dubai on Monday.

Cypriot authorities have also provided assistance to another 2,500 people, mostly Israelis, who arrived on commercial flights.

# UNGA President calls for 'immediate release' of hostages, aid to civilians in Gaza

NEW YORK CITY



UNITED Nations General Assembly (UNGA) President Dennis Francis (pictured) on Monday called for the release of hostages taken from Israel and providing uninterrupted access of civilians to humanitarian aid in Gaza.

In a post on X, Francis has echoed the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' appeal for the "immediate release" of hostages from Israel.

"I join the @UN Secretary-General @antonioGuterres in his appeal for the immediate release of all hostages taken from Israel & for the unimpeded access of humanitarian aid to civilians in Gaza in line with international law," posted the UNGA President on X.

"Civilians have been suffering the horrific consequences of violence since the attacks by Hamas against Israel on October 7. I join the Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in his appeal for the immediate release of all hostages taken from Israel and for the unimpeded access of humanitarian aid to civilians in Gaza in line with international law," the post added.

Earlier in the day, Secretary General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres called on Hamas to immediately release the hostages without keeping any sort of conditions.

In a post on social media platform X, Guterres made two humanitarian appeals amid the present situation in the Middle East.

"As we are on the verge of the abyss in the Middle East, I have two humanitarian appeals: To Hamas, the hostages must be immediately released without conditions," he posted.

"To Israel, rapid & unimpeded access for humanitarian aid must be granted for the sake of the civilians in Gaza," he added.

"Each one of these two objectives is valid in themselves. They should not become bargaining chips and they must be implemented because it is the right thing to do," Guterres said in a statement, adding that "Gaza is running out of water, electricity and other essential supplies." The Times of Israel reported.

According to the latest update, 1300 people have been killed, with over 3600 injured, reported The Jerusalem Post.

Defence Minister Gallant said that on an estimate, 150-200 Israelis are being held hostage by Hamas in the Gaza Strip, adding, "We are making every effort to locate them even in this great complexity."

According to the latest update, 1,300 people have been killed and over 3600 injured in the Hamas terror attacks, reported The Jerusalem Post. As Israel continues to retaliate against Hamas, Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday said that Hamas thought Israel would break, but "We will break Hamas," reported The Times of Israel.

During the weekly cabinet meeting, the Prime Minister along with ministers stood in silence for a minute and paid tribute to those who lost their lives in the deadly Hamas attack.

"Hamas thought we would break; we will break Hamas," Netanyahu said.

He further stressed that Israel is working in unity and it conveys a clear message to Hamas and to the world.

"We are working around the clock as a team, with a united front," he says. "Our unity conveys a clear message to the people, the enemy, and to the world," he added.

The ministers shared a moment of silence, during which, Netanyahu said, "In memory of our brothers and sisters who were murdered in cold blood, and our heroic warriors who fell in battle."

Netanyahu noted that it was the first meeting of the emergency war government and that five members of the National Unity Party were present Benny Gantz, Gadi Eisenkot, Chili Tropper, Gideon Sa'ar, and Yifat Shasha-Biton.

Moreover, he emphasized that the entire nation is behind the front-line warriors of Israel.

"I saw our wonderful warriors who are now on the front line. They know that the entire nation is behind them," he said.

**Agencies**

# Russian President Vladimir Putin arrives in China

BEIJING

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday arrived in Beijing for a two-day visit to China.

Putin who flew into the Beijing Capital International Airport today is in China on the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping. He is set to participate in the third 'Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF)' and hold bilateral meetings with world leaders, Russian news agency TASS

reported.

The Russian President will also meet with his Vietnamese counterpart Vo Van Thuong, Thailand Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin, Mongolian President Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh and Laos President Thongloun Sisoulith who are all participating in the forum.

Furthermore, Putin on Tuesday will attend the official meeting ceremony with Chinese counter-

part Xi Jinping and his wife Peng Liyuan, heads of delegations participating in the 'Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF)'. The main events of the forum will take place on October 18. Putin will attend its opening ceremony of the forum.

On Wednesday, Putin is scheduled to hold talks with his Chinese counterpart on the sidelines of the One Belt, One Road forum

in Beijing, Russian President's advisor Yuri Ushakov said, TASS reported. Putin had also attended the two previous forums in 2017 and 2019.

According to Ushakov, the meeting between two leaders will be held in a friendly and frank manner. He said that Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin will discuss "current problems of bilateral practical cooperation and the international agenda, including issues of forming a more equitable polar multipolar world order."

Previously, the two leaders had met in Moscow during Xi Jinping's visit to Russia in March. Earlier in 2022, Russian President Vladimir Putin visited China to participate in the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympic Games, TASS reported.

# Police shoot dead attacker who killed 2 Swedes in Brussels

BRUSSELS

A 45-year-old Tunisian gunman suspected of killing two Swedish football fans in Brussels died yesterday after being shot by police in a cafe, Belgium authorities said, while Sweden's prime minister called for stronger EU border security.

The attacker, who identified himself as a member of Islamic State and claimed responsibility in a video posted online, is suspected of killing two Swedish nationals and wounding a third in central Brussels on Monday night.

"The perpetrator of the terrorist attack in Brussels has been identified and died," Interior Minister Annelies Verlinden posted on X, hours after Prime Minister Alexander De Croo called Monday's shooting a brutal "terrorist attack".

The shooting came at a time of heightened security concerns in some European countries linked to the Israel-Hamas conflict, though a Belgian federal prosecutor said there was no evidence that the attacker had any link to the renewed conflict between Israel and Palestinian militants.

In August, Sweden raised its terrorism alert to the second-highest level and warned of an increase in threats against Swedes at home and abroad after Koran burnings outraged Muslims and triggered threats from jihad-

ists.

Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson told a news conference on Tuesday that security should be beefed up and Sweden and the EU needed better border controls.

"I understand that many Swedes are afraid and angry," Kristersson said, adding: "This is a time for more security, we can't be naive."

The suspected attacker, who unsuccessfully sought asylum in Belgium in November 2019 and was living in the country illegally, was known to Belgian police in connection with people smuggling, Justice Minister Vincent Van Quickenborne said earlier on Tuesday.

In a video on social media, the suspected gunman called himself Abdesalem Al Guilani.

Belgium's Verlinden said earlier that she could not rule out that he had had accomplices.

The gunman fled the scene after the shooting on Monday as a football match between Belgium and Sweden was about to start, triggering a massive manhunt and prompting Belgium to raise the terrorism alert in its capital to its highest level.

"The perpetrator targeted specifically Swedish supporters who were in Brussels to attend a Red Devils soccer match. Two Swedish compatriots passed away. A third person is recovering from severe injuries," de Croo



Belgian police officers from the forensic service search for evidence in a street after two people were killed during a shooting in Brussels on Monday evening by a suspect who is on the run, the Belgian capital's prosecutor's office said. AFP

said.

Belgium was hosting Sweden in a Euro 2024 qualifying match. The match was abandoned at halftime.

**Security alert**

Belgium has increased the police presence in

the capital, particularly for Swedish people and institutions, and warned the public to be extra vigilant and avoid unnecessary travel.

"Let's stay united in this terrible challenge of these terrorist attacks. We will never be intimidated by terrorism," De Croo said.

Armed police stood guard on Tuesday outside

the suspect's apartment in the Brussels suburb of Schaerbeek while investigators gathered evidence.

De Croo posted on social media that Belgium was "now making sure the Swedish soccer fans can travel back home safely".

Sweden's Sapo security police said they were in contact with international counterparts.

"We are in a serious situation ... Sweden has (over time) ended up in an increasingly clear focus of violent Islamist extremism," a Sapo spokesperson said in a statement.

French President Emmanuel Macron said on Monday that Europe was "shaken". France is deploying 7,000 extra troops on to its streets after a teacher was fatally stabbed on Friday in an attack Macron condemned as "barbaric Islamic terrorism".

Video footage of the Brussels attack posted on the Het Laatste Nieuws newspaper website showed a man in an orange jacket on a scooter at a street intersection with a rifle first firing five shots, then following people fleeing into a building before firing again.

The newspaper said on Tuesday that police were looking for an accomplice who filmed the attack.

According to a media transcript of the video message recorded by the self-declared perpetrator, the attacker said he had killed Swedes to take revenge in the name of Muslims.

The European Commission, which is based in Brussels, has urged staff to work from home. Some schools were closed.

Belgium has been the target of several Islamist attacks over recent years, the deadliest being the 2016 attack on Brussels airport and the city's metro, in which 32 people died.

Several of the Islamist gunmen who targeted Paris in a 2015 attack that killed 130 people were Belgian or living in Brussels.



# SPORT

## Sauti za Busara announces artists' line-up for 21st edition

By Guardian Correspondent

ORGANIZERS of Sauti za Busara, the globally renowned African music festival that takes place in Stone Town, Zanzibar each February, have announced the line-up for what promises to be a memorable 21st edition slated for February 2024.

The exciting line-up features a diverse array of renowned and emerging musicians hailing from various corners of the African continent and the diaspora.

This year's musical selection is a musical journey across Africa, spanning from the vibrant rhythms of the East to the soulful melodies of the North, the energetic beats of the South, and the captivating sounds of the West.

Mádé Kuti (pictured), a Nigerian artist, and his band, The Movement, will take the stage in the coming Sauti za Busara festival.

The artist, the son of Femi Kuti and grandson of Fela Anikulapo Kuti, was surrounded by music early on and took to the alto sax at five years old, started touring with his father at eight years old and wrote his first song at 10 years old.

Continuing with the Kuti legacy of speaking up for the everyday Nigerian folks, Mádé Kuti and his father took to the streets to partake in the 2020 #ENDSARS protests, which denounced police brutality in Nigeria.

Mádé Kuti has truly inherited the sound and power of his grandfather, on his recently released album, titled For(e)ward, he played every single instrument on the record, now performing it with a 14-piece band.

Said to be one of the next big names on the international radar, music lovers cannot wait to welcome him in February next year.

Zoë Modiga is a fast-rising star in South Africa and, no wonder, she is a talent brimming with blessings, a virtuosic voice, a charismatic stage presence, and instrumental skills (she plays piano, clarinet, and guitar).

Zoë possesses a knack for composing songs with hooks and texture, and for penning lyrics that embrace, in her mother tongue of isiZulu, ideas around identity, spirituality, and self-discovery.

After performing at the Cape Town Jazz Festival, Afropunk, and all other big festivals in her country, she recently wowed audiences at one of the most iconic stages in Europe - the North Sea Jazz Festival.

The Brother Moves On, also set to take part in the festival, is part of a powerful lineage of South African protest music - the 'most important band in the country' according to the SA publication platform.

The internationally acclaimed outfit's genesis as a DIY (Do It Yourself) collective of visual and performance artists shines through in the creative way they draw from past, present, and future, in their phenomenal live shows, and in masterful resistance music that heals and challenges in equal measure.

Their sound is a tradition-trouncing trans-Atlantic Afro-centric futuristically ancient fusion that jack knifes between off-world spectral dub-metal, hyper rhythmic rock psychedelia, indie-township, and afro-free-jazz.

This year's Singeli genre's representatives will be Sholo Mwamba and Tamimu, who also promise outstanding performances.

Other Tanzanian artists to be featured include Siti & The Band, Wakazi, Warrior from the East, Africulture, Lwendo Afrika, Brain Boy, and Mubba.

Stewart Sukuma and his group, Banda Nkhuvu, will entertain attendees at the festival. Sukuma is a gifted musician, singer, and composer from the small village of Cuamba in the Mozambican state of Niassa and one of the legendary singers in Mozambique.

Sukuma, performing with Banda Nkhuvu - an 8-piece Afropop Jazz band, combines traditional and contemporary Mozambican music styles and instrumentation to create an energetic fusion of Jazz and Afropop. Selmor Mtukudzi is a top-class musician from Zimbabwe also slated to stage show in the next year's Sauti za Busara.

Her musical journey started at the age of 10 when her father, the late Zimbabwean superstar Oliver Mtukudzi, took her to her first studio recording session for the movie soundtrack, I Am The Future.

She has won numerous awards in her home country and abroad, including the USA, and nominations in Nigeria and the United Kingdom.

Adding her fresh twist to her late father's sound, Selmor transcends the past and the future, a pure treat for all 'Tuku Music' lovers.

The festival will also have Muhonja, a Kenyan singer, songwriter, actress, guitarist, percussionist, and social activist.

Hailing from a family of musicians, her first inspiration was from her parents, who taught her how to play the guitar, further growing to become a self-taught player of the Kalimba and Udu drums.

Deep into her music, she incorporates African chants, folk songs, and prayers fusing African music with genres



like jazz, blues, reggae, etc. She writes mostly from her own life experiences as a woman and delivers powerful messages on and off stage.

The 2024 Sauti za Busara also promises outstanding performances from Francesco Nchikala, a singer, solo guitarist, and composer, his sound incorporates elements of smooth jazz, blues, rock, folklore, and rumba.

Aliddeki Brian, a Ugandan multi-instrumentalist and an undergraduate student at the African Institute of Music, specializing in Contemporary Music, will as well grace the festival.

Zimbabwean group Flying Bantu, which offers a contemporary, genre-blending African sound that combines funk, rock, and reggae is another group bound to stage a show in the festival. The group's music transcends borders, creating a universal African musical experience.

The festival's other performer, Mary Anibal, the Afro-fusion artist, is a voice for the voiceless who inspires people from all walks of life through world music that blends folk and traditional music.

Set for greatness, the young Zimbabwean singer offers astounding vocal, instrumental, and dance skills to leave the audience in awe.

Afropentatonism, the musical artistic challenge by two world-renowned musicians, desert bluesman Alhousseini Anivolla from Niger and jazz guitarist Girum Mezmer from Addis Ababa, will also take the stage.

After years of international touring, these musicians created this project together to show the potential of music in a changing world.

ITA & MEHDY, a group that will also perform in Sauti za Busara, has crafted an extraordinary and eclectic musical project.

Their inspiration draws deeply from the traditional music of the Maghreb, with a particular focus on the rich heritage of Bedouin, Chaoui, Maalouf, and Ahellil.

Dogo Fara, meaning 'little rock' in Bambara - one of the languages spoken in West Africa by the Mandingue people - is also in the list of the festival's performers. The artist will entertain the revellers with a joyful and original mix of Reunionese, African, and Western instruments and rhythms.

Anuanga & Maasai Vocal, a Kenyan multidisciplinary group made up of musicians known for their exceptional talent in dance choreography and music, Sibumana - a singer and songwriter from Reunion Island - also makes the list of entertainers.

The theme for this year's festival is 'Moving Diversity'. As Journey Ramadhan, the festival's Director mentions, 'our spotlight shines brightly on quality and diverse live music from across Africa, especially female musicians, young and emerging talents with unique sounds, powerful messages, excitement and energy on stage'.

Visitors to the festival's website can already watch videos and learn about all groups which will be performing in February at the special 21st edition.

Sauti za Busara is hailed by BBC, CNN, OkayAfrica, Afropop Worldwide and others as 'one of Africa's best and most respected music events'.

The 21st edition will take place at Stone Town, Zanzibar from February 9-11, 2024, with all-festival passes for Tanzanians costing 45,000/- each (three days), or 15,000/- each for single-day tickets.

The 2024 Sauti za Busara is powered by Fumba Town, a project by CPS, Ignite Culture, Zanlink, Alliance Français, Emerson Zanzibar, and more to be confirmed.

## SPORTS

## Simba SC with a mountain to climb in African Football League

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipoke

THIS Friday will see the much awaited debut of the highly touted new competition in continental football, the African Football League (AFL) in Dar es Salaam, where Simba SC will attempt to provide an inhospitable welcome to Egyptian giants, Al Ahly, in the first leg of their quarterfinal tie.

In what is a marked departure from the norm, the inaugural AFL this year will not feature a group phase and it will instead kick-off straight from the quarterfinal stage, where a select eight African clubs were picked to battle it out against one another.

Indeed, apart from Simba SC and Al Ahly, other handpicked quarterfinalists include Wydad AC, Mamelodi Sundowns, and Nigerian outfit Enyimba FC.

But let us return to Simba SC's first-leg mouthwatering tussle against Al Ahly, which will take place at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium this Friday.

Admittedly, the face-off will be a tall order for Simba SC as the Egyptian juggernauts have a trophy cabinet that is chock-full of seemingly countless pieces of silverware.

As ever, when faced with such daunting obstacles, the mindset of the underdog, which in this case happens to be Simba SC, is all-important.

Indeed, it is crystal clear that Simba SC will need to have a steely resolve to oust perennial title contenders Al Ahly from the inaugural AFL.

It is hoped then that the football gods will be on Simba SC's side as the Msimbazi Street side tries to obtain a result that would unquestionably thrill an army of local football aficionados.

Let us now leave continental club football behind and consider the Taifa Stars, who were recently making the headlines for all the right reasons after securing qualification for the 2023 AFCON finals in Ivory Coast early next year.



Simba SC players are pictured participating in training in Dar es Salaam recently in preparation for various tournaments including the maiden African Football League. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

It should be noted that this is the third time that the Stars have qualified for the AFCON finals following earlier appearances at the showpiece event in 1980 and 2019.

Drawn in Group F, Taifa Stars will lock horns with the likes of Morocco, DR Congo, and Zambia, who are all three sides with a rich pedigree in continental football.

Indeed, DR Congo magnificently clinched the AFCON finals title twice in 1968 and 1974, while Zambia memorably claimed their first-ever AFCON finals trophy in 2012 after getting the better of Ivory Coast in a nail-biting penalty shootout.

As for the Atlas Lions of Morocco, they need no further introduction, especially, after sensationally becoming the first African team in history to progress to the World Cup semi-finals last year in Qatar.

Indeed, in the immediate aftermath of the 2023 AFCON finals draw last Thursday, a few notable stalwarts in our national football team have emphasized

the necessity of thorough preparations for continental football's most unique spectacle.

It is obvious then that dragging our feet where preparations for the 2023 AFCON finals are concerned will result in us being left with eggs on our faces.

Let us hope then that our football tacticians can pull out all the stops to ensure that Taifa Stars are fully prepared for the one-of-a-kind football extravaganza that is the AFCON finals.

## Miquissoine needs to win supporters' trust at Simba SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S football, unfortunately, suffers from fans' lack of patience and that situation has become a habit that everyone else lives in.

It is free to dream but there are times when good dreams are extinguished by noise, a person might wake up and he/she can no longer head back to bed to continue with his/her dream.

Mozambican winger, Luis Jose Miquissoine (pictured), has not had a strong start to his second spell at Simba SC, he has so far managed to register assists in all competitions he has played for the outfit this season.

A section of Simba SC supporters have begun to worry whether they will ever see the first version of Miquissoine when he was in his first spell at the club, such a concern comes with the reference to many players who have experienced the same fate.

Sometimes a person has to move elsewhere because things do not go the way such a person expects, he/she attempts to put things back in order but such an attempt is no longer possible.

It happened to Belgian winger, Eden Hazard, during his spell at England's Chelsea and, thereafter, the winger left for Spanish football giant, Real Madrid.

Hazard is a winger who has left many debates on how best he was in comparison with various great players including Messi, Neymar, and Mohamed Salah.

Things, though, have fallen apart for the Belgian winger and now he has retired at 32 years old after Real Madrid terminated his contract.

It also happened to Brazilian midfielder, Philippe Coutinho, during his breakout year at English outfit, Liverpool.

He was regarded as the next breakout star behind English midfielder, Steven Gerrard, and Uruguay's forward, Luis Suarez, but he left for Barcelona without reaching his pinnacle at the English club.

As Andres Iniesta's successor at Barcelona, it did not go as planned for Coutinho, he was loaned to Bayern Munich where he struggled for game time despite winning the Champions League with the German side.

Bayern did not exercise the loan clause for teh Brazilian and he returned to Barcelona which made his services available on the transfer market.

Aston Villa signed Coutinho from the Catalans. A few years ago, it was Aston Villa's dream to sign the Brazilian but now the outfit effortlessly landed the former



Liverpool man and, yet, he failed to break into the English outfit's first team.

Once a soccer lover reflects, he/she might wonder what would have happened if both Coutinho and Hazard never left Liverpool and Chelsea respectively. Is this what is happening to Miquissoine?

I know Simba SC fans wish he never left the outfit in 2021 but nothing could stop him as he was quite popular in the transfer market and top clubs in Africa were after his services.

The sign-on fee for the winger was huge and his salary was expensive for any club to afford. Above all, he joined CAF Champions League winners, Egypt's Al Ahly.

After several loan spells, while playing for Al Ahly, Simba SC has retained Miquissoine from the Egyptian football powerhouse and he has turned out to be a player who is a different version of the footballer the Tanzanian club sold to Al Ahly.

He was said to be fat, once he made his way back but later he was said to be not physically fit and, thereafter, he worked on his weight and became slim.

Was the weight holding back his prowess? Such a question comes about because even after being in good shape, some of the Msimbazi Street club's fans have not seen the prowess and impact he is known to have brought to the team.

In the past NBC Premier League game, which saw Simba SC take on Singida Fountain Gate FC, the Mozambican winger came off the bench and, a few minutes later, Singida Fountain Gate FC right-back, Nicholas Wadada, attempted to set up an offside trap for him.

Miquissoine left Wadada 20 meters from the center of the pitch and was one against one with goalkeeper Beno Kakolanya.

What happened in Wadada managed to run back and keep Miquissoine in check, the former felt the Mozambican winger had the pace but, in the eyes of the fans, he lacked the pace he has been known to have.

Miquissoine, again, was a substitute in the tie, at his best, he was the first XI player - the kind of a player that a football enthusiast would think of when lining up Simba SC's starting line-up.

No Simba SC fan has raised his/her voice over Miquissoine sitting on the bench, because they have seen his recent form and are convinced that he is not their trusted performer, especially in a tough match like the one against Singida Fountain Gate FC.

Some are optimistic that the winger will return to his best while others believe he will never gain his impact back. Players define systems and systems determine how players can impact the team.

Some clubs might pursue a footballer because of his competence but such a player may never get to gain his form back again.

I used to think that after Miquissoine had reduced his weight he would get back to his best but it has been different at the moment.

During this season's transfer market, he was a player that was awaited the most by Simba SC fans compared to other new signings - Willy Onana, Che Malone Fondoh, and many others including Congolese midfielder, Fabrice Ngoma.

Simba SC broke the bank to land the Mozambican winger back from Al Ahly, expecting he will bring the impact he is known for.

If Simba SC wishes to reach the semi-finals of this season's CAF Champions League, then the club needs Miquissoine to be at his best.

Sometimes it is all about how teams are structured on the pitch and the quality surrounding the particular player allows an individual to shine, feel important, and have the need to step up every time.

Switching teams means a player has to adapt to everything new in his outfit and this may affect his prowess.

Players admit at the end of their careers how a certain move destroyed their careers and reasons why they would not have taken such a move.

It can happen to anyone in the world as it did to Spanish attacker Fernando Torres, who left Liverpool for Chelsea.

The attacker failed at the London club and went on loan to Italy's AC Milan, he was sold back to Spain's Atletico Madrid and thereafter went to Japan before retiring at 35 years.



## Long wait for fans held in stadium after Brussels attack

BRUSSELS

WORRIED, but relieved, spectators at the Belgium-Sweden Euro 2024 match left the Brussels stadium shortly before midnight after being held there for two-and-a-half hours following the killing of two Swedes in a nearby attack, with the gunman still at large.

"I was stressed, I wondered how we were going to get back, because we came by metro," Manon Antoine, 21, told AFP, accompanied by her brother.

The Swedish supporters were the last to leave the King Baudouin Stadium, where some 35,000 fans of the two teams had turned out for the Euro 2024 qualifier.

Manu Leroy, CEO of the Belgian football association, said police had escorted the Swedish fans and players to "go straight to the airport and leave" because the perpetrator, who was said to be inspired by the Islamic State group, was still on the run and being sought by police early Tuesday.

According to investigators, the Swedish nationality of the victims was a "probable motivation" of the attacker, according to his video claim.

Several Belgian media outlets said the two individuals killed were wearing football shirts belonging to the Swedish national team.

The area around the stadium, located about five kilometres (three miles) from the scene of the attack, was being monitored by police, and traffic past the ground had been halted.

- 'The safest place' -

About 10 minutes before kick-off, match organisers learned that "something serious had happened", Leroy said on RTBF.

"At first it was decided that the match should go ahead because the stadium was the safest place for the fans, especially the Swedish fans so that they would be safe," he said.

But at halftime, the match was halted with the score at 1-1 and did not restart.

UEFA said the decision to abandon the game was taken after consultation with both teams and the Belgian authorities.

"I am terribly sad. We agreed 100 percent not to play the second half because of the conditions and out of respect for the victims and their families," said Sweden coach Janne Andersson, quoted by the Swedish news agency TT.

Held inside the stadium as a security precaution, the fans braved the cold and the anxiety by singing songs in honour of Sweden and chanting "All together, all together!".

"I think that we all tried to keep our spirits up. We also sang little songs for the Sweden supporters because it is especially for them that it is a very sad evening," said football fan Jacques Decoq outside the stadium.

"We tried to stay warm with a little bit of atmosphere."

Applause also punctuated the long wait.

Finally, shortly before midnight, Red Devils fans began to leave the stadium, the authorities having chosen to evacuate the Belgian supporters stand by stand to avoid crowds.

"Everyone remained very calm, the supporters started singing, there was an atmosphere, even if we were a little worried," said Karen, who came from Limburg with her family.

Meanwhile, French prosecutors on Monday launched a preliminary investigation into a top-flight footballer on suspicion of "glorifying terrorism" after he reposted an allegedly anti-Semitic message on social media relating to the Israel-Hamas conflict.

Youcef Atal, an Algerian international who plays for Ligue 1 club Nice, is suspected of sharing a video from a Palestinian preacher on Instagram purportedly calling for violence against Jewish people.

Football officials, politicians, a Jewish group and the mayor of Nice have all condemned the message, which Atal deleted before apologising.

AFP has not been able to independently verify the content of the original post.

France, which has large Jewish and Muslim populations, ramped up security after Hamas launched a massive attack on Israel on October 7.

And officials put the country on high alert for potential attacks after a teacher was stabbed to death on Friday by a former pupil, in what politicians have said was Islamist terrorism.

The Nice prosecutor's office confirmed in a statement it was investigating Atal under laws covering the "glorification of terrorism" after being notified by local politicians.

The prosecutors said police would also assess if the post amounted to incitement to religious hatred or violence.

The French Football Federation (FFF) said on Sunday its ethics committee would investigate the player, with FFF president Philippe Diallo denouncing the contents of the post.

OGC Nice "is taking the situation very seriously and plans to meet with Youcef as soon as he returns from international duty," a club source told AFP.

Atal responded to the criticism on Sunday, telling his Instagram followers he would "never support a message of hate", without explaining why he had shared the video.

The 27-year-old won the Africa Cup of Nations with Algeria in 2019. On Monday, he played for his country in a friendly against Egypt in Abu Dhabi.

AFP

## Liverpool's ill-discipline and sleepy starts

LONDON

"THEY never do things the easy way."

Fans of all teams will have uttered these words at some point, but this season for Liverpool supporters it perhaps rings truer.

Sitting fourth in the Premier League table - three points off top - the Reds have had a positive start to the season, but could it have been better?

With the four red cards picked up before their last match against Brighton, Liverpool became the first side to receive that many in their first seven Premier League games.

Jürgen Klopp's side have spent 192 minutes playing with fewer than 11 players this campaign - more than double that of the next nearest team Wolves on 70 minutes.

They have conceded the fourth most fouls of any team in the league this season and the ill-discipline is a stark contrast from the rest of Klopp's time in charge, with the four red cards as many as in their past 178 league games.

What will leave fans sanguine about the situation is how the team hasn't largely let it hinder results - beating Bournemouth and Newcastle with 10-men and losing to Tottenham with nine men in a match marred by VAR controversy.

It's not just the red cards that have made life difficult for the Reds, but their remarkable regularity of conceding first to go 1-0 down in games.

In fact, since the start of last season, Liverpool have conceded first in 21 of their 46 league games (46%). In this campaign alone they have gone behind in five of their eight league games - only Sheffield United and Luton have done so more.

But much like with the discipline issues, they continue to get results despite giving the opposition a head start.

## Marcel Sabitzer's penalty sends Austria to European Championship in day overshadowed by Brussels shooting

BRUSSELS

SUBSTITUTE Marcel Sabitzer scored from the penalty spot shortly after entering the game to secure a 1-0 win for Austria at Azerbaijan and send his country to next year's European Championship in a day overshadowed by a deadly shooting in Brussels which saw Belgium's game against Sweden halted at halftime.

"Due to the incidents in Brussels earlier tonight, play is suspended. Our thoughts are with all those affected," a post from the Belgian national team read on X, formerly known as Twitter.

European soccer governing body UEFA confirmed the Group F match had been called off following consultation with both teams and local police.

The score was 1-1 at the time. Viktor Gyokeres gave Sweden a 15th-minute lead, but Romelu Lukaku had Belgium level just after the half-hour.

Belgium had already qualified for Euro 2024 while Sweden's chances of a top-two place had been ended by Austria's victory earlier.

AUSTRIA ADVANCES

After losing 3-2 to Belgium in Vienna last week in the fight for Group F supremacy - Austria's only defeat in seven qualifying games so far - Sabitzer and his teammates knew a win in Baku would secure a spot at the tournament hosted by Germany.

With several key players sidelined because of injuries, Austria struggled to create real chances in the first half.

It was awarded a penalty just minutes into the second half after a hand ball. Sabitzer was clinical in converting



Sweden supporters react on stands during the Euro 2024 group F qualifying soccer match between Belgium and Sweden at the King Baudouin Stadium in Brussels, Monday, Oct. 16, 2023. Two Swedes were killed in a shooting late Monday in central Brussels, police said, prompting Belgium's prime minister and senior Cabinet minister to hunker down at their crisis center for an emergency meeting. AP

with a strike into the corner in the 48th.

Sabitzer, who plays for Borussia Dortmund, recently returned to competition after recovering from an adductor injury he picked up last month in a Champions League match against PSG.

Austria finished with 10 men after striker Guido Burgstaller was sent off in stoppage time for a second yellow card.

Austria became the seventh team to qualify after Belgium, France, Portugal, Scotland, Spain and Turkey, along with host Germany.

RONALDO SCORES 2

Cristiano Ronaldo scored twice for Portugal in a 5-0 demolition of host Bosnia in Group J.

Bruno Fernandes, Joao Cancelo and Joao Felix also scored with all goals coming in the first half.

Iceland routed Liechtenstein 4-0 and Slovakia won 1-0 at Luxembourg in the same group.

Netherlands came away from Greece with a 1-0 win in Group B to revive its hopes. Virgil Van Dijk's penalty in second-half stoppage time sent the Netherlands above their opponents and into second in their group. Both

have 12 points.

Wout Weghorst earlier failed to convert his penalty.

"We do not have a specialist for penalties, corners and free kicks," said Netherlands coach Ronald Koeman. "When Virgil was behind the ball for the second one, I suddenly thought 'Surely it won't be one of those evenings when this one goes wrong too.' But Virgil took it well and decided the match."

Ireland thrashed Gibraltar 4-0 in the group's other game.

France has already qualified from Group B.

AP

## Man United Sale: Ratcliffe bid, Sheikh Jassim withdrawing, Glazers could remain in control

MANCHESTER, England

NEARLY a year after Manchester United was put up for sale, the storied English soccer club could still remain in the hands of the Glazer family - much to the dismay of the team's most fervent supporters.

News on Saturday that Qatari banker Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad Al Thani was withdrawing from the bidding process appeared to leave the door open for British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe. However, the owner of petrochemicals giant Ineos is reportedly only looking to buy a minority 25% stake in United, which would leave the Glazers as majority shareholders.

"Someone coming in as a minority partner and propping up the Glazers indefinitely is a nightmare scenario," Manchester United Supporters Trust spokesperson Chris Rumfitt told The Associated Press. "What the club needs is real change and it needs real investment and we struggle to believe that can happen whilst the Glazers own the majority of the shares permanently. Twenty-five percent for Ratcliffe could be OK, but only if it was the start of a clear path to 51%."

The Glazers, an American family that also owns the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers, announced plans last November to seek new investment and instructed U.S. merchant bank Raine to oversee the process, which included the potential of a full sale.

Raine had previously conducted the sale of Chelsea to Todd Boehly and Clearlake Capital for 2.5 billion pounds (\$3 billion) plus a commitment of 1.75 billion pounds (\$2 billion) of further investment.

While the Glazers were prepared to consider offers for an outright buyout, United said at the time it planned to "explore strategic alternatives," which always included the possibility of taking on new investment without the owners ceding control.

The late tycoon Malcolm Glazer bought United in 2005 for 790 million pounds (then about \$1.4 billion). United supporters have been critical of the leveraged nature of the Glazers' buyout that loaded debt onto the club, as well as a perceived lack of investment and the dividends taken out by the owners.

The team still had a series of successes on the field. Under the Glazers, United won the Champions League title in 2008, five Premier League titles, one FA Cup, five League Cups and the Europa



Football supporters show a banner before the start of the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester United and Brentford at the Old Trafford stadium in Manchester, England, Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023. AP

League.

INTERESTED PARTIES

Ratcliffe, who was born in the Manchester area and has been a United fan since childhood, has long-harbored ambitions to buy the club. Through Ineos, he initially planned to buy out the Glazers' share of about 69% and spoke of a "modern, progressive, fan-centered approach to ownership."

He was also focused on helping United win the Champions League for the first time since 2008 and making it the "No. 1 club in the world once again."

Sheikh Jassim is the chairman of Qatar Islamic Bank and the son of a former Qatari prime minister. He was bidding to take 100% ownership of United, which appealed to fans who are desperate to rid the club of the Glazers.

He also vowed to clear the team's debt, while investing in the stadium, training center and playing squads in a bid to "return the club to its former glories both on and off the pitch."

Ratcliffe and Sheikh Jassim were the only two bidders to publicly declare their intention to take control of United, while other minority investors were also reported.

DELAYS

It was anticipated the process would be concluded in time for the off-season transfer window, which opened in June, after a series of rounds of bidding.

It appeared to be a straight battle between Ratcliffe and Sheikh Jassim over who would be chosen as the preferred bidder. But as the process dragged on, fans became increasingly impatient and staged protests outside Old Trafford, while chants of "Glazers out" are regularly heard at games at the stadium.

News of Sheikh Jassim's plans to withdraw came after months of silence and uncertainty around the process, which raised questions about whether

the Glazers intended to sell.

BREAKDOWN

On Saturday, the news came that Sheikh Jassim was withdrawing from the process. While the size of his bid was not confirmed, a person with knowledge of his proposal told the AP it was almost double United's current market valuation of \$3.2 billion.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because of confidentiality restrictions around the process.

While concerns had been raised about Qatar's human rights record and the potential that United could be used as a "sportswashing" project, fans wanted to see the club compete with the exorbitant spending of Abu Dhabi-backed Manchester City.

RATCLIFFE'S CREDENTIALS

Ratcliffe is one of Britain's richest people and is said to be worth \$15.1 billion.

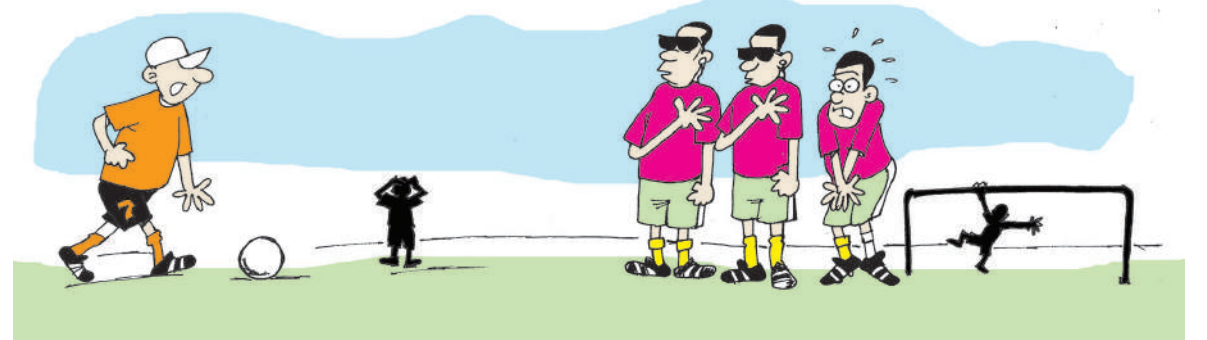
He previously tried to buy Premier League club Chelsea and already owns French club Nice, cycling franchise Team INEOS, is one-third shareholder of the Mercedes-AMG Petronas Formula One team and competes in the America's Cup with sailing team INEOS Britannia.

Reports say he would seek to take over soccer operations at United after a sustained period of decline since the retirement of former manager Alex Ferguson. United has not won the Premier League since Ferguson's last title in 2013.

Over the past decade, the club has been overtaken by City, which won three trophies last season - the Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup. Liverpool has also won the Premier League and Champions League in recent years.

United has endured a turbulent period the post-Ferguson era. Erik ten Hag is his fifth permanent manager in that time.

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Sabitzer's penalty sends Austria to European Championship in day overshadowed by Brussels shooting**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Simba SC head coach, Roberto Oliveira. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

## Robertinho eyes new history for Simba SC in AFL

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

IN defiance of records held by Egypt's Al Ahly in CAF inter-club competitions, Simba SC's head coach Roberto Oliveira is confident of writing a new history of his own ahead of his outfit's double-header against the Egyptian club.

Tanzania's soccer big gun, Simba SC, will welcome Al Ahly for the first leg of the quarterfinals of the African Football League (AFL) slated to take place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Friday.

Talking about the game, Oliveira, nicknamed 'Robertinho', revealed that his side's opponents have various great records in African football, an aspect which boosts the morale among his charges to write a history.

Robertinho noted he is preparing his team well, especially in defense and attack, to ensure that he handles his opponents well in both transitions.

"Now we are preparing our team for the game against Al Ahly, we know the quality of our opponents but they also have their weaknesses. We look forward to capitalizing on them and make sure we succeed in both legs," he said.

"Even though we have better chances and players in every position, we have to increase our focus on defense by avoiding repeating the mistakes we made in previous matches and also the attackers ought to use the opportunities they create, convert chances into goals so that we can win," he said.

Tanzania's AFL envoy, Simba SC, is peacefully shaping up for the competition at Mo Simba Arena at Bunju in the city.

The Msimbazi Street outfit seems eager to garner a positive result at home ahead of the return fixture against the record African champions, Al Ahly.

It should be recalled that on February 23, 2021, Al Ahly suffered a 1-0 defeat to Simba SC at the same stadium courtesy of a marvelous strike by Luis Miquissone from outside the box.

The goal was Miquissone's ticket to play for the African giants before being released to rejoin his former club and what he is up to on the day, if he gets playing time, is still a secret.

In the build-up to Friday's game, Simba SC is conducting campaigns in various areas across Dar es Salaam to entice people to flock to the stadium in large numbers and be part of history.

In another development, leaders from different parts of the world are expected to arrive in Dar es Salaam today for the AFL opening ceremony ahead of the first leg of the quarterfinal match slated to take place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium on Friday.

The expedition led by FIFA president Gianni Infantino and CAF president Patrice Motsepe will involve the heads of various departments of the two bodies as well as the presidents of the associations and all federations in Africa and other parts of the world.

In addition to seeing the guests, Simba SC's opponents in Friday's match, Al Ahly, are expected to arrive today.

The AFL is held for the first time whereby the champion will receive four million dollars while the runner-up will get three million dollars and 1.7 million dollars will go to the semi-finalists. The team that will end up in the quarterfinals will get a \$1 million prize.

## TP Mazembe to host Espérance in AFL clash in Dar

By Guardian Correspondent

PARTICIPATION of Congolese football big gun, TP Mazembe, in the inaugural African Football League (AFL), is no longer at risk after the government tampering had put it in jeopardy.

A statement released by Tunisia's Espérance de Tunis has revealed that the first leg of the outfit's AFL quarterfinal clash, which was set to see it play against TP Mazembe in Lubumbashi, will be held at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam at the end of this week.

TP Mazembe, the five-time CAF Champions League champion, was poised to take on Espérance de Tunis in Lubumbashi.

However, the DR Congo club revealed on Sunday that the country's authorities had seized all necessary broadcast equipment from CAF for the encounter and also failed to issue the appropriate visas for the confederation's dignitaries.

TP Mazembe is believed to have even asked the Congolese Association Football Federation for assistance but to no avail.

It seems that with CAF's assistance, TP Mazembe, nicknamed 'The Ravens', has now found a solution for the matter.

The Congolese side will, in this case, host the first leg in Dar es Salaam, with Espérance de Tunis, alias 'The Beast of Africa', set to host the decisive encounter in Tunisia.

The AFL is set to kick off this Friday with Simba SC (Tanzania) and Al Ahly (Egypt) set to get the proceedings underway before the TP Mazembe versus Espérance de Tunis match.

In the tournament's other fixture, the third quarterfinal clash, Enyimba FC of Nigeria will meet Wydad Casablanca of Morocco.

The fourth of the last-eight fixtures in the showpiece will see Petro Atletico of Angola lock horns with Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa.

The newly established eight-team competition is happening for the first time on the continent and will be launched in Dar es Salaam on Friday.

This is another privilege for Tanzania to be in the spotlight for becoming the first country to stage the opening match of the palatable contest.

The 60,000-capacity Benjamin Mkapa Stadium is currently undergoing final touches of rehabilitation ahead of the commencement of the AFL and the opening ceremony rehearsals are also underway.

## Gamondi elated with NBC PL schedule changes ahead of Azam FC duel

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans SC head coach, Miguel Gamondi, has been elated with the schedule change for the outfit's 2023/24 NBC Premier League fixture against Azam FC that was slated for October 25 and has now been slated to take place on October 22.

Gamondi said the change in dates for the NBC Premier League clash will boost his charges because he has great confidence that his players, who went on international duties, have acquired enough minutes to play and get physical fitness that will help them in their game against Azam FC.

Young Africans SC, also known as Yanga, heads into the home fixture at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam boasting of a good run of four victories and one loss in the league while Azam FC has four wins and one draw.

"Djigui Diarra, Stephane Aziz Ki, and Khalid Aucho are playing their respective countries' national teams' last friendly matches, while others continue with our programs here at Avic Town to keep our fitness level high for the coming match against Azam FC," the tactician said.

The Argentine added: "I am happy with the changes in the schedule because I was thinking of how to get a friendly match to build competitive fitness for my players who have been out of the pitch for a while without playing."

Talking about the preparations for the game against Azam FC, he said that all players are in the camp except those who were selected for their respective countries' national teams.

The tactician insisted that he needs the quality and competition of the players in his squad for tough upcoming fixtures.

The tactician noted: "Many of the first team players have been called up to their national teams, that doesn't stop me from continuing to prepare the existing players, they also have a contribution to the team."

Dickson Job, Bakari Mwamnyeto, Ibrahim Hamad alias 'Bacca', Metacha Mnata, and Mudathir Yahya were also called for Tanzania's Taifa Stars friendly tie against Sudan.

Gamondi revealed: "Yanga does not depend on one player, they all depend on each other, so the re-



Yanga's head coach, Miguel Ángel Gamondi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

turn of the players is a good start to prepare them for the game ahead of us."

"It will not be easy as we meet a team that is yet to lose in the league and that is the right measure of competitive matches," the Argentine said.

The yellow and green boys have a tough

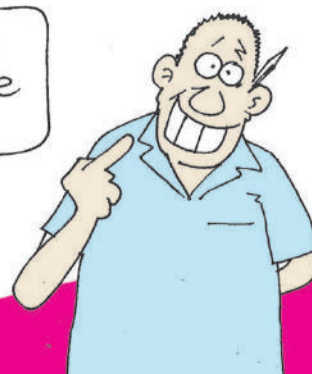
NBC Premier League schedule against their fellow top-four contenders.

After honouring the Azam FC duel, the Jangwani Street club will, on October 26, play against Singida Fountain Gate FC and, on November 5, the squad will face age-old rival Simba SC.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

THE SOLE PURPOSE OF HAVING A MIDDLE NAME IS...

...SO YOU KNOW WHEN YOU ARE REALLY IN TROUBLE!



“

In another development, leaders from different parts of the world are expected to arrive in Dar es Salaam today for the AFL opening ceremony ahead of the first leg of the quarterfinal match slated to take place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium on Friday

**EATV WEDNESDAY**

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**UJENZI**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 M.JADALA (I)  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
14:00 Mpera Mpera  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kali Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (I)  
21:00 UJENZI  
21:30 Mid week Movie  
21:00 UJENZI  
21:30 Mid Week Movie  
23:00 KURASA  
23:05 EATV SAA 1

**UJENZI** provides information and ideas on residential construction, interior decor and residential appliance markets values. The show aims to enhance residential construction. It provides free expert advice, news and commentary.

**eastafrika RADIO**

05:00 Supa Breakfast  
09:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
19:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

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